

The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.
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THOUGHTS FOR THE NEW YEAR

*If any little word of ours
Can make one life the brighter;
If any little song of ours
Can make one heart the lighter;
God help us speak that little word,
And take our bit of singing
And drop it in some lonely vale
To set the echoes ringing.*

*If any little love of ours
Can make one life the sweeter;
If any little care of ours
Can make one step the fleetier
If any little help may ease
The burden of another
God give us love and care and strength
To help along each other.*

*If any little thought of ours
Can make one life the stronger;
If any cheery smile of ours
Can make its brightness longer;
Then let us speak that thought today
With tender eyes aglowing
So God may grant some weary one
Shall reap from our glad sowing.*

Author Unknown

HAPPY NEW YEAR

"Happy new year!" These words are on everybody's lips at the dawning of a new year. In every walk of life these words will echo and re-echo, but only for a day or two.

The word happy is equivalent in meaning to the word blessed — that is, wishing someone only that which is good.

I wonder how many people will really have a happy and blessed new year? There is much sorrow and tension in our world, but we who have come to know Jesus Christ have His promise: "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." The 28th. verse of the 11th chapter of St. Matthew tells us how to be happy and blessed: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Perfect friendship can make us happy and blessed,

especially if that friend is Jesus Christ. We sing, "What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear; what a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer." Each line of this hymn presents the solution of every problem, sin, or grief that may keep us from having a happy new year. For in His arms He'll take and shield us; we will find a solace there. If God knows when a little sparrow falls from a tree, then how much more He knows about our cares. Doesn't Christ say that we are of more value than many sparrows? How marvelous and wonderful is our Saviour's love to us!

Mankind is vainly trying to secure peace, not in the ways of God but in the ways of man. Oh that the world could hear Him speak the words of comfort that men seek. To all, the lowly and unto the meek, Jesus whispers, "Peace." We, who have received that wonderful peace through obedience to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, are the happiest people in the whole world. This happiness is revealed as we listen to our brothers and sisters testify of their new outlook on life and their hopes for the future. We can sing, "Like a blind man who walks in the darkness, I was helpless and searched for the light. Then I met the Master; now I walk no more in the night." Christ himself laid the pattern, setting examples for our own happiness. Poets were inspired by God to illustrate this transition from darkness and sorrow to light and happiness in such hymns as "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart," "I Love Him," and "Oh Happy Day."

After Christ instituted the ordinance of footwashing, He told the disciples, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." Do we not experience a portion of this spiritual happiness when we bow in humility before our brothers and sisters and wash their feet? The Lord wanted people to be happy and joyful as they serve Him. The key or solution for obtaining complete happiness can be summed up in one verse from the Bible: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you."

Would you have a happy new year? Then tell others what the Lord has done for you and the perfect happiness that can be found in His fold. Let us all exclaim, "How lost were our days 'til we met with the Gospel." With Jesus Christ as our leader and friend, we will have many glorious and happy new years.

In closing, let the joy of the Restored Gospel shine forth in the words of this beautiful hymn: "Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost, but now am found; I was blind, but now I see."

by Rose Scaglione

FOR ME TO LIVE IS CHRIST

James Heaps

What a wonderful blessing our lives would be if all of us could say, "For me to live is Christ!" If we were to take upon ourselves His thoughts, His character, His life, we would not have to sing "Make Me a Blessing"; we would be a blessing to some one today. The man who wrote this title had two lives; one before he met Christ and one after. Before he met Christ he could only say, "For me to live is Saul"; but after he had met the Master he could say, "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." There never was a life so filled with anti-Christian thoughts and impulses, brought so completely to a halt. There never was such a total eclipse of the most brilliant worldly prospects, nor such an abrupt transition from a career of dazzling greatness to a humble and lowly life. He could say, "I count all things but loss that I might gain Christ." The stages by which this change comes about are now plainly before us. They are the discovery of self and the discovery of Christ. He was living the way of Saul, but now he can sing, "I've discovered the way of gladness; I've discovered the way of joy; I've discovered relief from sadness — 'tis a happiness without alloy. I've discovered the fount of blessing; I've discovered the living word. 'Twas the greatness of all discoveries when I found Jesus, my Lord." These two discoveries (discovery of self and discovery of Christ) fill the whole life, and until these discoveries are made no man truly lives. Some may discover themselves, but if they do not discover Christ their lives are still in vain.

That brilliant career of Paul's was a total loss. He had great character; he had a wonderful education which was never lost. But he was using it to persecute the saints; to put men and women in prison. But oh, the change when he met Christ! What a discovery! All that makes men true, pure, and godly goes with them everywhere. All that makes them false, impure, and wicked abides with them. Every man goes to his own place. A tree will not only lie as it falls, but it will fall as it leans. "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favor than silver or gold." Character is built out of circumstances from exactly the same material. One man builds a palace while the other builds a hut. The character that needs law to mend it is hardly worth tinkering with. There is a broad distinction between character and reputation, but if I take care of my character my reputation will take care of itself. Character will back up the sermon, the poem, the picture, or the play; none of them is worth a straw without it.

Paul's life is an example of people who are religiously brought up. Touching the law he was blameless. There was no stricter man as far as his religion was concerned. No man took his place more regularly in the temple or kept the Sabbath day more holy. He

was not far from the Kingdom of God, so they felt. There is no middle way in religion; it must be self, or Christ. Then look at a life like this I lived for myself; I thought for myself — for myself and none beside; just as if Jesus had never lived and had never died.

The thought comes to us — for me to live is business; for me to live is pleasure; for me to live is myself; or for me to live is Christ. Will Paul's sudden conversion show us anything about ourselves? Can we see that it takes a change if we are going to live for Christ? The old Saul thought of his ambitions, his seat of authority, his sitting at the feet of Gamaliel. But now he sees the foolishness of God is wiser than man; and the weakness of God (if there is any weakness) is stronger than men. Great principles are always best and freshest when studied from life. It so happens that Paul's life makes such study easy; he admonishes us to "follow me as I follow Christ".

MODERN PROVERBS

The wise and humble man looks into the mirror . . . and then calls for a magnifying glass. The proud, foolish man will not gaze into it until he first dons his rose colored lenses. Then he steps back a few paces, while he squints out of one eye.

Blessed is he who can take reproof as well as praise. The latter is given for encouragement, but the former is for his edification.

Shout out your words of praise, of another, if you must . . . but, when you reprove, speak softly.

Praise your brother in seriousness . . . but reprove with a smile.

My father used to say that a lie has short feet and soon stumbleth. I say: it has no feet at all, but is wafted on the short, vile breath of man, which is soon extinguished.

A wise man is grateful for the opportunity to look into his brother's heart, but the foolish man fears to do so, for fear of what he may see concerning himself.

My mother used to say: "Do no evil and fear no evil;" but I say: "Do good . . . and then, be on guard against Evil, for he will surely pinpoint you for persecution!"

Let not your brother's trust in you be shattered . . . or even slightly chipped . . . there is no glue invented which can securely hold trust together, once it is broken.

The Devil's greatest delight is in tempting people to commit sin. His second greatest joy is in later exposing them.

Catherine Vultaggio Poma

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Editorial Viewpoint



George A. Neill

True enough we cannot alter the past, but let us take the unalterable past and shape the future.

A few years ago a popular song came out (I never did know its title but I recall a few of the words), which went something like this: "The years go by quickly as a wink; enjoy yourselves, enjoy yourselves, it's later than you think." I remember Brother Furnier referring to this song in the opening of a Conference. He revised it somewhat by saying, "Prepare yourselves, prepare yourselves, it's later than you think." Those of us who have lived even half of our allotted time — three score and ten — are well aware of the fact that the years really do go by "quickly as a wink." A year ago in my editorial I stated I did not know what time it was on history's clock. However, I do know that some people believe we are living in the eleventh hour of time. The individual who has never given this much thought, and after doing so becomes convinced that this is the eleventh hour, will probably feel that it is later than he thought. Nevertheless, to me and perhaps to many others, the year 1964 has gone as the writer of the song says, "as quickly as a wink."

As we stand at the fast-closing door of another year we are reminded of God's words to Israel as they glanced back down the hard road they had traveled from Egypt, wherein He says, "Ye shall henceforth return no more that way." A more modern way of bringing out the same thought is that none of us shall ever again traverse the road we traveled in 1964. How true it is we cannot re-enter the past; on the other hand there are things of the past that we shall take with us as we step across another threshold, and while we may not be able to do anything about the past, we should endeavor to do something with it. We should recognize our mistakes and correct them; we should add to our achievements and by thus doing we shall improve the future by our lessons of the past. True enough we cannot alter the past, but let us take the unalterable past and shape the future. There are a number of people who get the feeling of turning over a new leaf; in other words, starting the year anew. Many of these people will make resolutions, and these resolutions may concern personal reformation which is good. However, what is most needed is spiritual regeneration and this can only take place by finding Christ. It is true the New Year is like a wrapped surprise package. We cannot know its contents, but I believe they can be changed by our personalities and characters. Let us take our personalities and make them radiate love, service, and concern for our fellowman. Let us take our character and develop virtue, honesty, meekness, trustworthiness; in so doing we shall find ourselves helping to build the Kingdom of God. Let us occupy this year of 365 days so it will be filled with delightful remembrances and memories of such worth that will want to pack them up and take them along when we move again. This is a year in which we prepare for eternal life. This year awaits, as others have, the manifestation of the sons of God.

I should like to pass along to you some excerpts from a memorandum by Lt. William G. Farrow of Darlington, South Carolina. The lieutenant gave his life for his country in April, 1942. He flew in the famous Doolittle raid on Tokyo but his plane crashed in Japanese-occupied territory in China. He was executed by the Japanese in 1943. While preparing to go into aviation in 1940 he wrote this memor-

andum entitled "My Future", in which he left a legacy of human gospel for the guidance of generations to come. It bears reading in these days of resolution-making, and is as follows:

"The time has come to decide what rules I am going to set myself for daily conduct. My aim is decided — I am going into some branch of aviation. I have only to apply myself daily toward this end to achieve it.

"First I must enumerate my weaknesses and seek to eliminate them. Then I must seek to develop the qualities I need for this type of work. It's going to be hard, but it's the only way. Work with a purpose is the only practical means of achieving an end.

"First, what are my weaknesses?

" 1—Lack of thoroughness and application.

" 2—Lack of curiosity.

" 3—Softness in driving myself.

" 4—Lack of constant diligence.

" 5—Lack of seriousness of purpose—sober thought.

" 6—Scatter-brained dashing here and there and not getting anything done—spur-of-the-moment stuff.

" 7—Letting situations confuse the truth in my mind.

" 8—Lack of self-confidence.

" 9—Letting people influence my decisions too much. I must weigh my decisions — then act.

"10—Too much frivolity—not enough serious thought.

"11—Lack of clear-cut, decisive thinking.

"Second, what must I do to develop myself?

"1—Stay in glowing health—take a good, fast one-hour workout each day.

"2—Search out current, past, and future topics on aviation.

"3—Stay close to God—do His will and commandments. He is my friend and protector. Believe in Him—trust in His Ways—not to my own confused understanding of the universe.

"4—Do not waste energy or time in fruitless pursuits—learn to act from honest fundamental motives—simplicity in life leads to the fullest living.

"5—Order my life—in order, there is achievement in aimlessness there is retrogression.

"6—Fear nothing—be it insanity, sickness, failure, —always be upright—look the world in the eye.

"7—Keep my mind always clean—allow no evil thoughts to destroy me. My mind is my very own, to think and use just as I do my arm. It was given me by the Creator to use as I see fit, but to think wrong is to do wrong!

"8—Concentrate! Choose the task to be done, and do it to the best of my energy and ability.

"9—Fear not for the future—build on each day as though the future for me is a certainty. If I die tomorrow, that is too bad, but I will have done today's work!

"10—Never be discouraged over anything! Turn failure into success."

PRAYER, WORKS AND FAITH

By Elmer R. LaRue

Prayer is the way we talk to God. But without faith our prayer is dead and God doesn't hear us. For

we know that prayer is the key to Heaven, and faith unlocks the door. When we open the door through prayer and faith in God, and we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, He will hear and answer. For prayer, works and faith are as one.

We must be believers and workers of God, giving our all unto the Lord and keeping ourselves unspotted from the world. We must also keep the commandments of the Lord. Two of the greatest commandments given us by the Lord are found in St. Mark 12:30, 31: "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these." If we do this, God will be with us and answer when we call to Him in prayer.

We know that through prayer and faith in God, through His servants the dead are raised, the lame walk, the sick are healed, the crippled made new, the deaf hear, the blind see, the afflicted made well, the dumb talk, the weak are made stronger and the strong made stronger still, the evil spirits are cast out, the Holy Ghost is given to men, and the sins of all are forgiven by Jesus Christ, our Lord, if they will come unto Him through baptism by submersion—the way our Lord came, Who had no sin, to set an example. If we will have eternal life, we must follow Him. All this and much more is given through prayer, works and faith in God.

Through prayer we find peace, salvation, hope and abundant life. Not here only, but with Jesus Christ, our Lord, forever. For it is written, we that endure unto the end shall be saved. Prayer is not something new. You find prayer being used all through the Bible: Abraham praying for Lot when Sodom and Gomorrah were threatened with overthrow, Moses praying for the people of Israel when God threatened to destroy them because of their sin, and Jesus Himself taught His disciples to pray. It is known as the Lord's Prayer.

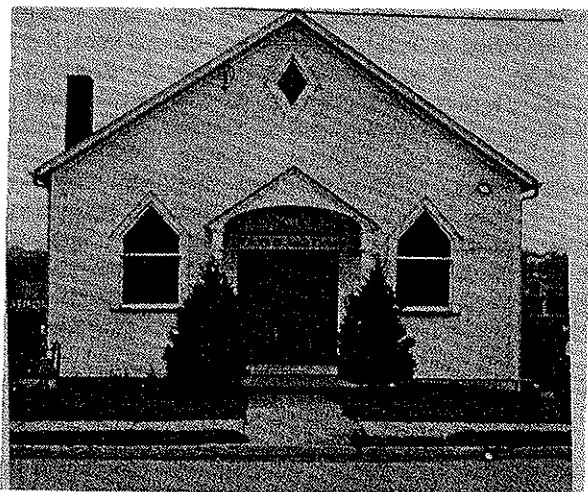
We find that Jesus often went alone up on the mountain, into the garden of Gethsemane and into the wilderness to pray to God, His Father. He prayed for His disciples—all that God would call to serve Him, His enemies and for the world. As He hung there on the cross being crucified by the very people He came to save, He prayed "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do." If we be followers of Jesus, we must follow His example that He has set before us. We must pray not only for ourselves, but for others also; not only looking at our own needs, but also looking and praying for the needs of all, like the centurion who came to Jesus not seeking anything for himself, but seeking recovery for his stricken servant.

When we pray, pray not only for our friends and loved ones, pray even for our enemies. Jesus teaches in Matt. 5:44, "Love your enemies, . . . and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you." Hard you say? No! Not if you have truly been converted in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Stephen prayed to God to forgive the Jews as they stoned him to death. (Acts 7:60)

Pray for others. The Elders of your Branch need

it; the saints of your Branch and throughout the Church need it; those sick, in sorrow, in trouble and faced with temptation need it; our missionaries need it; our President, Brother T. Furnier and his counselors need it; The Church of Jesus Christ needs it; our country needs it; this writer needs it—the scope of prayer is endless.

If we pray for each other, our Church and the world around us, and pray with faith, believing that God will and is able to give whatever we ask that is pleasing to Him, we will be a most blessed people and need fear nothing, for God will be with us and we shall walk in the light of the Lord, forever. My prayer is that these few words that I have written as moved by the Holy Spirit of God will be a blessing to you, the reader, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



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A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST SOUTH GREENSBURG, PENNA.

In 1923 two sisters from Glassport, Pa. came to the home of Patsy Fallavollita as friends. They knew each other from Italy. The sisters were Sister Dentino and Sister Dineno. They had come with the desire to introduce the gospel to these people, and, as our sisters were asked to stay for lunch, one of them inquired if they had permission to pray before eating. This prayer impressed these people so much that it was a blessing to all who sat at that table. The saints of Glassport then asked if they could send a few brothers to tell of the gospel to them. Brother Joseph Dulisse, Brother Peter DiPiro and Brother Anthony Battista came the following week. Yet, it took one year before any were baptized.

By 1924, we had 13 members. Brother DiCarlo was the first member and Brother Paul DeBaldo, the second. The Elders then went to the home of Brother and Sister Lavella who were not yet baptized. It made our sister very angry at first. She thought they were like other churches in this world, but a voice spoke to her saying: "These people will be your friends someday." How true these words were, for in just a few weeks

Brother and Sister Lavella joined the Church. God has blessed our sister so much! She was baptized when she was 44 years old, and she is now 84 and still serving God.

Brother and Sister Patsy Fallavollita were the next ones to join the Church, and for a long time Sunday meetings were held in their living room. God was always with us, just a handful of people.

Brother Paul DeBaldo lived not far away from Brother Anthony Todaro, so he invited him and his wife to come to our meetings. They only attended a few meetings and then asked for their baptism. Sister Mary Todaro said that this is the true church. God blessed them with visions and dreams. Brother Todaro, being a friend of Brother Fred Fair, told him of the gospel and within a month Brother Fred Fair and his wife joined the Church. These brothers and sisters were all baptized in Glassport, Pa. As the saints of Greensburg would stand at the water's edge there was always such joy and God always blessed us. As time went on many more members were added to our number and eventually we obtained a place of our own in Greensburg to baptize.

Brothers Fred Fair and Anthony Todaro were ordained as Elders, and Brother Fair was made Presiding Elder. Our meeting place was then moved to a schoolhouse. We would be in church all day and then go to visit with our brothers and sisters in their homes, always singing a hymn first and ending with a prayer. We always praised God for His wonderful blessings and were taught to pray all the time. On leaving our homes or going shopping we would always ask God to be with us. When someone was sick the blessed oil was used and God came to our rescue as He still does today.

As the membership increased the schoolhouse became crowded, and on June 7, 1942, a church was built on Broad St. in South Greensburg, Pa. We are still at this location with 54 members at the present time.

The Elders then started to preach the gospel out of town. Mt. Pleasant was the first place we went, baptizing a few there, and Sunday evening meetings were held. These faithful brothers and sisters have gone on to their reward leaving only one brother in Mt. Pleasant. This is Brother Leash who has lost one leg because of illness but he is still strong in the Church. As we go to visit him he gives us courage to carry on. This brother is 89 years of age, and we pray that God will be with him to the end of his days.

The Elders continued preaching the gospel, going to Etna, Derry, Herminie and Somerset, Pa., and some joined the Church in these places. Brother Alvin Swanson also went to Washington, D.C. to preach the gospel. Thank God we have members there who are serving God. We also have a brother who was blessed as a boy in Greensburg, and is now an Elder in Washington, D.C. He is Brother Aldo DiAngelo.

At one time we got a call to go to Greensburg Hospital to anoint a five-year-old girl. The doctor told the mother to buy her a wheelchair, as the girl was paralyzed from the hips down. Brother Fair and the girl's father were the only ones allowed in her room, and she was anointed with oil. In a few days she was

home walking again. This girl is now the mother of three children. She has never joined the Church but she knows God helped her, and we still have hope for her.

The first time a Church Conference was held in Greensburg three of our young sisters were in charge of the lunch and had plenty of food for the crowd we expected. However, a much larger group came and we were worried that we would not have enough to feed our brothers and sisters. God provided and we had plenty of food for the brothers and sisters and so much left over that all our members took home two or three loaves of bread, and meat was also left over. We will never forget this experience.

As time went on the saints of Greensburg had their children blessed, as the Lord said, "Suffer little children to come unto me," and He took them in His arms and blessed them. Most of these children have grown to be young adults and are now baptized and serving God. Some are Deacons, Teachers, and even Elders in the Church. We are so proud of our young people. We also have a wonderful choir and love to hear our young sing praises unto God. May God keep them always humble and faithful so we can be a light to the world and many more may come to obey this wonderful Gospel of the Lord.

Besides Brother Fred Fair, Brothers James Grazan and Alvin Swanson have also been Presiding Elders in Greensburg. Some have now moved on to other branches, and at the present time Brother Paul Gehly is our Presiding Elder.

Rose Nalevanko, Branch Editor

MISSION BOARD REPORT

The Board of Missions met on September 19, 1964 at the General Church building, Monongahela, Pa. We wish to submit the following report of the business transacted, etc., for your information and ratification:

In Africa, the activities and affairs of the church in Nigeria are going along very well. The President, E. U. A. Arthur and the entire Priesthood and teachers are doing well in taking care of our church there. They are anxiously looking forward to the arrival of Brother John Ross who will leave on October 7, 1964 for a stay of approximately seventeen weeks. Our people in Nigeria will soon have their own hymn book of approximately seventy hymns printed in Efik. The two Nigerian elders, authorized to visit the various Branches of the Church to make certain the order of the Church and faith and doctrines are being observed, are continuing to meet with much success. The Board recommended this program be continued. The secretary reported that the Mission Home and Secondary School Plan continues to grow with \$11,629.86 in the fund as of this date.

The Nigerian Secondary School Committee reported holding several formal meetings during the past six months and have made a very comprehensive study of all aspects of the project. They have obtained a more realistic estimate of the cost of this endeavor, and spread over a five year period covering the erection of the buildings, supplies, teacher salaries, etc., the total estimate is \$34,000.00 required from our Church in America. The Committee has reviewed the Educa-

tion Handbook of the Nigerian Government. They also reviewed and revised a draft of the School Constitution and By-Laws as prepared by Brother Moses Akpan to satisfy the requirements of the Nigerian Ministry of Education and to conform with the regulations of the church. The committee stated they already have a qualified teacher and a school administrator from our church in America, anxious to go to Africa to help in this school along with other competent persons who are or will soon be available both in this country and Nigeria. The Nigerian School Committee has authorized the filing of the formal application for the erection and operation of a Comprehensive Secondary School in Nigeria with the Minister of Education. Brother John Ross was authorized to make all necessary tentative arrangements, preliminary to construction of the school while he is in Nigeria. The Committee is continuing to work actively to recruit qualified persons in addition to those who have already pledged their services, to staff the school when it is completed.

A motion was passed by the Board to accept all reports and actions by the Nigerian School Committee. A motion was carried granting Brother John Ross a power of attorney. Brother Griffith will have our lawyer prepare this legal document. The secretary also prepared a letter to the Bank of West Africa Limited authorizing Brother John Ross to handle all financial matters through our account there. A motion was carried, at the request of the Nigerian School Committee, to add Brother Kenneth Yonkee as a member of the Committee.

Brother Bittinger reported a mission of thirteen members at Calabar. Brother Joseph E. Asuquo, who had been ordained a teacher by Brothers W. H. Cadman and Joseph Bittinger, was ordained an elder on July 26, 1964 in the Calabar Division.

Brother A. A. Corrado reported for the Italian Mission Committee that Brother Raymond Cosetti is in Italy as authorized by the Board and is visiting various places where the church is located. He is holding meetings and has baptized a few new converts. The need for competent church leaders from America is ever present.

The work in Mexico is progressing very well. Brother and Sister Perdue who are in charge of this work, report several baptisms the past six months and an ever increasing interest in the church. They are in need of a replacement for their old car and suggested Medical and Hospital Insurance for Sister Perdue. A motion was carried authorizing the purchase of another car to replace their old one at an approximate cost to the church of \$800.00 and that Medical and Hospital Insurance be secured for Sister Perdue if possible.

The Secretary read a report from the Michigan-Canadian District Mission Board which has been placed in charge of the missions at the Six Nations and the Muncey Reservations. It was reported Brothers Anthony Loyalvo (in charge) and Ralph Leet have been serving the Six Nations Mission during the past six months with Brothers John Veldtman and Jerry Benyola assisting them. Other Elders have relieved these brothers periodically. They have a membership of thirteen and a Sunday School of twenty to thirty

persons. Brother Joseph Milantoni with the help of Brothers Anthony Gerace and Anthony Sciaro, has been serving the Muncey Mission during the past six months. Other elders have helped these three brothers whenever it was necessary. As in the past, several brothers gave valuable assistance by driving the church bus and station wagon. The membership at Muncey is eighteen and the Sunday School attendance averages better than fifty persons. Brother Joseph Milantoni, who was serving the Mission full time for the past six months and was living close to the Reservation, has returned to Detroit to live. It was felt by Brother Milantoni and all others involved that this mission could be served very well from Detroit and thus not cause any undue financial spending by the church.

A complete report of the San Carlos, Arizona Mission Work was received from Brother Daniel Picciuto, who is in charge there. He stated that during the past six months they have continued to enjoy the blessings of God with two baptisms and seven children blessed. They always have many visitors attending their meetings and there is a need for additional room for Sunday School. Brother Picciuto reported receiving much help from the California District. A motion was passed to request the California District to review the building needs at San Carlos, Arizona Mission considering a 16' x 24' divided room addition to accommodate their large Sunday School. Cost of such an addition is estimated at \$800.00. If it is decided to construct this addition, the Board authorized that a financial request for the necessary finance be given to the Finance Committee and to construct same. The secretary read reports from Brother Gabriel Mazzeo and Brother Richard Christman who have been in charge of the Indian Mission Work in South Dakota. There were five baptisms, and four persons renewed. Also Brother Isaac Usefulheart has passed away. The church building at Wakpala, South Dakota has been repaired and painted. Brother Gabriel Mazzeo and his wife, who were sent to South Dakota after the April Conference, have returned to their home in Florida. This leaves Brother Richard Christman in charge of our work there. All our missionaries from time to time are faced with discouraging conditions which can always be expected where good is being accomplished. This gives much reason for all our people to support their efforts completely and as one in prayer and financial assistance. Much of the success of the church depends upon these. The church will continue to keep in contact with all the various General Church Established Mission Fields. When conditions arise that are not conducive to effective missionary progress, they will be corrected that the promotion of the Gospel of Jesus Christ shall not be hindered and peace and love can be brought to all people.

The Board of Missions wishes to commend all our Missionaries and their families in the field for their devotion and sacrifice in this great work. We gratefully acknowledge their priceless contribution to the promulgation of peace on earth, good will toward men, to which end our church is dedicated.

The Mission Board is continuing our program of trying to interest qualified people of our church to

secure positions on the Indian Reservations of our country, working for the Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs. We have representatives in South Dakota and would like to get our people on all reservations where an opportunity is present. The Secretary would like to be advised of all likely candidates, that he make contact and interest them in this possibility of serving the church and entering a promising field of endeavor for themselves.

The Secretary reported for Brother Bittinger and himself, who were elected as a committee to investigate the possibility of providing benefits or security in the present and later years of life for our full time missionaries, that they have not completed their study. The welfare of our missionaries is very important to our missionary program and has many aspects to be considered.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph Bittinger, Chairman
M. R. Griffith, Secretary

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT M.B.A. GATHERING

The Pennsylvania District Missionary Benevolent Association meeting was held in the Monongahela Church Building on Saturday, October 24. A large number of brothers, sisters, and friends gathered for the evening program. All of the locals represented sang selections, and the praises of God filled the building.

After the singing, testimonies were given by Sister Jean Pickford, and Brother Oscar Hagen from Greensburg; Brother Anthony Ross from Aliquippa; and Brother Paul Ciotti from McKees Rocks. These testimonies told of some being reared in the Church and baptized at an early age, while others knew the Church but weren't baptized until later in their lives. There were also those who never heard about the Church until later in life. These testimonies showed the need for obeying God's call the first time we receive it and the wonder of having God take charge of our lives.

Out guest speaker, Brother Joseph Calabrese, then spoke from the 7th Chapter of the Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 24th through the 27th verses, concerning being wise in the things of God and the importance of being grounded on that solid rock which is Christ. He urged us to be strong and firm in the faith. Although his talk was not lengthy, it was well seasoned with the Spirit of God.

A free-will offering for the Nigerian Secondary School was taken, and \$82.97 was donated for that purpose. We can truly say that it was an evening well spent in the service of the King.

Dick Lawson, Dist. Sec.

NOTICE

To those wishing to be placed on our mailing list for an index to The Gospel News each year, please send your name and address along with 25 cents for each year's index. The 1963 Index is ready and the 1964 Index will be prepared soon after the first of the year.

A complete Index from 1945 through 1962 will be available in the near future;



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow."

James 4:14

Dear Girls and Boys,

Since we are starting another new year, we no doubt are making many plans. We may say, "This year I would like to do this or that" and maybe we have left God out of our plans. In James' writings he tells us, "For we ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live and do this or that." (James 4:15) If we put our trust in Him, he will guide us. He is the Way, the Truth and the Life, yesterday, today and forever.

Moses, the great leader of the Israelites, assured the people from time to time, that God would go before them. He said, "The Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee." We can begin our new year with the same assurance.

It was a great day for the Israelites when they left Egypt. They had been in bondage for four hundred and thirty years. The Lord told Moses to tell Pharaoh, "Thus saith the Lord God of the Hebrews, Let my people go, that they may serve me." After God sent ten terrible plagues on the Egyptians they were willing to let them go. The Israelites had been slaves for hundreds of years and now they were going to a land where they would no longer be under bondage. God had chosen the land of Canaan to be their new home.

The Israelites were a large, mighty group of people. There were six hundred thousand men plus the women and children. Pharaoh had called for Moses and Aaron in the night to tell the Israelites to leave Egypt. He said to take their flocks and herds and be gone. The Egyptians hurried the people out of the land also. They feared they would all be dead. This last plague had been severe. In every Egyptian's house the death angel had been during the night. The Israelites prepared to leave at once. The women took their kneading troughs and their dough before it was leavened. They had no time to put yeast in it. Moses told them to borrow silver and gold jewels and raiment from the Egyptians. They were glad to give the Israelites these things. It was a night long to be remembered. Moses told the people, "Remember this day, in which ye came out from Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand, the Lord brought you out from this place; there shall no leavened bread be eaten." Even the Jews today observe this event.

The people went as far as Etham at the edge of the wilderness. Here they set up their tents. The Lord went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud to show them the way. At night he gave them light in a pillar of fire. The pillar was always before them. God never took it away.

After the Israelites left Egypt, God hardened Pharaoh's heart. Pharaoh and his people were sorry they had left the Israelites go. They had lost their

slaves. Pharaoh got the chariots and horsemen ready. He took six hundred chariots, the captains and his army and started after the people of Israel. As Pharaoh came near, the Israelites looked back and saw them. They were afraid and cried out to the Lord. They blamed Moses for bringing them here in the wilderness by the Red Sea. They said, "It would have been better to stay and serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." Moses was not afraid. He trusted God. He said, "Fear not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will show you today; for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more. The Lord shall fight for you and ye shall hold your peace."

Pharaoh and his army were coming closer! Then a wonderful thing happened. This cloud that had gone before the people now went behind them. It stayed between the camp of Pharaoh and the camp of the Israelites. It was a cloud of darkness to the Egyptians and a cloud of light to the Israelites. Moses stretched out his hand over the Red Sea. The Lord sent a strong east wind that night which blew the water back and made the sea, dry land. The waters were divided like a great wall on each side. The people of Israel passed safely over to the other side on dry ground.

When Pharaoh saw that the Israelites were gone, he and his horsemen followed them. He thought they could pass through too. The Lord looked through the pillar of fire and cloud at them. He made the wheels of their chariots come off. They were troubled and feared the Lord. They knew the Lord would fight for the Israelites. Before they had time to turn back, the Lord told Moses to stretch forth his hand over the sea. The great walls of water came together and covered the Egyptians. Not one of them was spared. Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the seashore. They feared the Lord and Moses. They sang a song of praise to God for saving them from the Egyptians.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

1. Read their song of praise found in Exodus 15:1, 19
2. What did Miriam, Moses' sister, and the women do? Ex. 15:20, 21
3. After they had traveled three days, what happened? Ex. 15:22, 26
4. What was Elim like? Ex. 15:27

Sincerely,
Sister Mabel

TO THE SAINTS OF THE ATLANTIC COAST AND THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

As I compose this tribute to a worthy servant of the Lord, I feel very humble and desire that it be in the form of a testimony. First I ask myself this question: How can I ever forget?

Today as I recollect my memories and set aside a moment to write what is within me, I hope it will be for the good of those who never had the opportunity that I had to know Brother Joseph Benyola. He and I were nearly the same age. It was he who took me to the waters of baptism in the year of 1951. The first time I met Brother Benyola a powerful voice told me, "Here is one of My true servants." I was then a poor, lost sinner, a man in distress, without hope; and above all, a man without the Lord. It was at our

brother's home that my family and I first visited as friends in this blessed land of America. How surprised my family and I felt when we found that in his home was the genuine love of God! I can never forget how he received us, especially me; how kind, sweet, and soft his words were. They began to circle me in the form of a wave. This was something that suddenly opened my heart; his words began to penetrate my mind, and I felt so happy because I found in him a friend. The kindness of his words was decorated with the melody of truth which was the authority that the most high God had entrusted upon that servant. For this reason, as he finished talking to me, for the first time I saw something glorious in that great servant. I stretched forth my hands, asking him this question: "May I call you brother?" How can I forget that moment? As Brother Benyola looked at me I was so happy. I had tears in my eyes; my heart was beating hard, my voice was lost, and I looked at him just as if I were a baby with no power within me. His face was red, his eyes were smiling as he pulled me toward his chest, and very softly and sweetly (with a very clear and heavenly voice) he answered me, "Yes, my friend, you may call me Brother Joseph Benyola; this is your home and God bless you, Brother Frank Rivera." How could I ever forget?

In Brother Benyola I found the type and shadow of an Apostle, of a man who, though living in the world and serving it, was not of the world. It was Brother Joe who first told me about the Restoration. He was the servant that the Lord used to introduce me to the most marvelous of all books, the Book of Mormon. How can I ever forget the day of my baptism? The next day in the evening hours, he stopped at my house. After greeting me he waited in a corner until I asked him to sit down. At this time Brother Joe had two books with him. After we talked for about half an hour I asked him if there was something important that had brought him to my house. He looked at me as if something were burning inside of him. He said something like this: "Brother Rivera, we haven't told you all about the Church. Tonight I have come to let you know that we are not common Christians; we are pure saints. We believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and also in the Bible." I asked him, "But what makes you so different? What is there in you that I don't know?" He then smiled and said, "This is the point I'd like to bring forth. We believe in the Book of Mormon. Have you ever heard of this book?" I answered, "No, I have never heard about it." At this moment the power of the Holy Ghost fell upon us, and just as if we were commanded we both stood up, and I said, "Brother Benyola, give me the book. I'd like to read it." Then I saw in his face a new smile, the smile of victory that is so sweet in the face of those who are true servants of the Lord as was Brother Benyola.

As I continued to read the Book of Mormon and learned more about the Restoration movement, I worked closer with Brother Joe. We gave our testimony to many Puerto Ricans in the Perth Amboy, New Jersey area. Some of them have returned to Puerto Rico and I am sure his name is known there and that they too would declare he was a true servant of the

Lord. Today as I write, I remember he told me one day, "Brother Rivera, we are now in the same tree. In this tree we are the branches and the trunk is the Lord Jesus Christ." I also remember that one night he stopped at my home where I now live. It was midnight and how surprised I was! It was the last time he visited me. He knew me better than anyone else because he met me when I was a poor, lost sinner. So how can I forget Brother Benyola! It is my personal hope that not one of the Atlantic Coast District saints can ever forget the qualities of that great servant of the Lord.

Today I might say, even though my branch is dry and broken on the ground where only the good memories, the joy, and happiness of the past keep me alive, I have one satisfaction: his branch is not seen in the tree but it is there. I know his branch is there, and I also know that his branch is blooming as it was before. I know that it will bloom in spring, in summer, and in autumn. I also know that today I am very far away, alone, forgotten, and poor; but my beloved Brother Joseph Benyola is up there where there is no cold, no dust, no poor, and no rich, but only those true servants of the Lord. As I close my words and continue on my lonely way I testify with words of truth: My brother, the first one I had in this blessed land of America, is in Heaven. I close saying that Brother Joseph Benyola, that true servant of the Lord, is living today in the Paradise of God. This is my testimony in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Francisco Rivera
Painesville, Ohio

OBITUARY MICHAEL FIORI

Brother Michael Fiori passed from this life on November 13, 1964 following a prolonged illness. He was born on December 2, 1880 in Italy. He was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on March 13, 1938 and was a faithful and devoted member of The Church. He was loved by all, both young and old.

Brother Fiori is survived by his wife Elizabeth, five children and eleven grand-children.

Services were conducted at The Church of Jesus Christ Detroit Branch No. 2 by Brother Reno Bologna, assisted by Brother Anthony Lovalvo.

May the Lord comfort and bless the bereaved.

* * * * *

ANNA CERAME

Sister Anna Cerame died on November 1, 1964 in Trinidad, Colorado. She had been instrumental in bringing The Church of Jesus Christ to Sopris, Colorado. She was a very firm believer in her religion, and was kind, charitable, and very considerate of all.

She was well known in Detroit, Michigan as she was baptized there in The Church of Jesus Christ in 1927. There was no Church of Jesus Christ in Sopris until Anna Cerame moved there from Detroit in late 1927 or early 1928. There were a few members, and Brother Paul Costa was then baptized and later made an Elder. When he died, the Church was left without an Elder except for some brother who was sent from Detroit for a while. Brother Ishmael D'Amico

was sent to Sopris and stayed for some time as well as others who came and went.

Surviving are her husband, John Cerame; three daughters, Mary A. Skinner and Sally Howell of Santa Fe, and Frances Wade of Denver; two sons, Joseph of Detroit, and Frank Cerame of Sopris.

Sister Cerame was born in Italy, but came to the United States as a very young girl and much praise must be given to her because of her great belief in the Church and her efforts to bring others into the fold in Sopris. We know God has prepared a place for her, for certainly she was most deserving.

* * * * *

LIBERA ROMANO

Sister Libera Romano, mother of Brother John Romano of Dearborn, Michigan passed away on October 26, 1964. She was baptized in The Church of Jesus Christ on July 16, 1939. Sister Romano was a faithful and devoted member of the Church and will be sadly missed by all.

Sister Romano is survived by five sons, one daughter and six grandchildren. Services were conducted at The Church of Jesus Christ, Detroit Branch No. 2, by Brother Reno Bologna.

May God bless and comfort the bereaved.

BLESSINGS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS HIGHLIGHT GMBA CONFERENCE

Spiritual blessings and required organizational accomplishments highlight the semi-annual General Missionary Benevolent Association Conference held in Aliquippa, Pa., on Saturday, November 14. The climax to the entire weekend's activities occurred the next day when two new souls were baptized into the Church.

The two new members, Sister Patricia Checchi of Greensburg, Pa., and Brother Virgil Costarella of Youngstown, Ohio, made their decisions after the Sunday morning service, which was officially under the jurisdiction of the Aliquippa branch. Speakers at this meeting had been Brothers Thurman S. Furnier, Dominic Thomas, and Dominic Moraco.

The topic discussed was the spiritual "House of God," and scriptural direction as to how it should be built were presented. In addition, historical and personal experiences emphasizing the satisfying rewards from working on "God's House" were recalled.

Revision Ratified

In the Saturday Conference sessions, the new MBA By-Law Revision was officially ratified. General Church approval for the revision had been given previously, and the MBA local organizations had accepted its adoption. A two-thirds majority of the local groups had been required.

To more smoothly incorporate the revision, the Conference voted to continue with the existing area and local structures until the changes and additions in their compositions can be put into practice. The current Area Committees were empowered to function as before, and additional officers as required to complete the expanded structure will be appointed to serve with the Committees on a "pro-tem" basis until the permanent election of officers in the respective Area Conferences on July 17, 1965. No alterations will be made at the local level until they can be incorporated at

that unit's next Business and Organization meetings prior to the GMBA Conference in May, 1965. The revision took effect immediately at the GMBA level.

Major Revision Items

One of the major items in the revision was the expansion of the Area Organizations. This enlargement, made along the lines of the General Church Districts, had been requested by the GMBA By-Law Delegate Conference held in McKees Rocks, Pa. last January so that the Area Organizations could perform a more useful function. Also, additional offices at all levels were included to more fully service the entire organization.

The revision has been in process for two years. During this time, several drafts by the By-Law Committee had been presented to the member locals for their consideration, comment, and correction.

Election of Officers

Most GMBA officers were reelected for a one-year term. Among the newly-elected officers were five Organizers. They were Brothers Charles Curry, California Area; Frank Mazzeo, Atlantic Coast Area; James Cadiou and Raymond Cosetti, Ohio Area; and Leonard A. Lovalvo, Michigan-Canadian Area.

Under the new GMBA structure, a permanent three-member Relief Committee to help needy individuals was authorized. Brothers Gorie Ciaravino, Joseph Calabrese, and Joseph Milantoni were elected to form this group.

Gratitude Expressed

A motion was passed to acknowledge officially the valuable work rendered by our late Brother Joseph Benyola who had labored faithfully on behalf of the Association for many years. At the time of his death, he was an Organizer in the New Jersey-Washington, D.C. sector. A letter, detailing this tribute, was requested to be sent to his surviving wife, Sister Margaret.

A vote of thanks was also extended to the host Aliquippa local. The efficient handling of lodging accommodations, meal services, and required transportation, as well as the attention to other Conference arrangements, were gratefully recognized.

Two More Locals

Among the reports presented was the information that two more MBA locals have been organized within the last six months. One is in Ft. Pierce, Fla., where Brother Frank Rogolino is the Organizer. The other one is in Cumberland, Md., where Brother John Ahlborn is the Organizer.

The financial status of the GMBA, after discharging the obligations and donations from the Conference, reflected a balance of \$479.97 in the General Fund and a total of \$3,434.14 in the Land Purchase Fund. Donations granted by the Conference included \$500 to the General Church Missionary Fund and \$300 each to the African Secondary School, Indian Missionary, and GMBA Land Purchase Funds.

Area Next Host

The next GMBA Conference, on May 15, 1965, was appointed for Detroit, Michigan under the auspices of the Michigan-Canadian Area. This will be the first time an area will host the Conference.

Until now, the individual member locals had spon-

sored these gatherings successfully. It has been widely thought, however, that this kind of joint venture may prove even more satisfactory. The reasoning is that it will allow more locals who are located geographically close together to unite and participate more actively in the sponsorship of these meetings.

Evening Program

The host Aliquippa local presented a program on Saturday evening entitled "Men Are That They Might Have Joy." This presentation, based on the portion of scripture found in **II Nephi 2:25**, depicted the roles of man and woman in this life and God's expectations of them. Various musical selections and recitations were offered to exemplify God's plans, precepts, and promises.

In addition to adult participation, the small children of this local took an inspiringly leading part. They recited seemingly endless scriptural passages and references they had learned in their MBA classes and sang appropriately related hymns. Their contribution characterized one of the most genuine "joys of men" — observing youngsters giving honor and glory to God.

Carl J. Frammolino, GMBA Editor

CONCEPTS OF GOD

by: James Curry

Mysticism

I recently asked a brother how much mysticism he thought had carried over from the dark ages to the Church of today, to which he replied: "Oh, about seventy-five percent." He was jesting, of course. He exaggerated the figure merely to show his concern for a brand of mysticism which afflicts the Church of these latter years.

The dictionary defines the word mysticism as meaning: "1—The belief that divine truth or the soul's union with the Divine is attainable by spiritual insight or ecstatic contemplation without the medium of the senses or reason. 2—Any theory advancing intense meditative or intuitive method of thought or conduct. 3—Vague or obscure speculation involving confused or fanciful thinking."

We might do well at this juncture to establish the fact that Christianity is, and has always been, a mystical religion, having a spiritual character or reality beyond the comprehension of human reason. Christ expertly illustrated that point when He told Nicodemus: "Marvel not that I said unto thee, 'Ye must be born again.' The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is everyone that is born of the Spirit." Henry Drummond inferred from the foregoing that one of the tests of spirituality is its mysteriousness. He wrote: "If you can tell, if you can account for it on philosophical principals, on the doctrine of influence, on strength of will, on a favorable environment, it is not spiritual. It may be so far a success, it may be a perfectly honest, even remarkable and praiseworthy imitation, but it is not the real thing. The fruits are wax, the flowers artificial — you can tell whence it cometh and whither it goeth."

The conclusion is, then, that the Christian is a unique phenomenon. You cannot account for him. And if you could, he would not be a Christian. The mystery

of the soul's union with God is of course a temporary thing. In that day when "we shall know even as we also are known," when we shall see eye to eye and face to face, "the mystery of God shall be finished," and the word mysticism shall cease from the vocabularies of the redeemed.

Those of us who have had heavenly experiences have recognized, with William James, their ineffability — "That they defy expression; that we cannot transfer the quality of our experience to another." Nor can we convey to another the excellent quality of the fruits of Christ's spirit. "Tongue cannot express the sweet comfort and peace of a soul wrapped in Jesus' love."

When we are born of the water and the spirit we are placed in a position between the two great powers of the universe — God and the devil, each of which works in us a kind of warfare for the possession of our soul. If the newborn soul will exercise his talent, he will soon learn that the works of the devil are no less mysterious than the works of God; that it is the devil's business, in fact, to imitate and duplicate the works of God so closely that, in the words of — Jesus, even the elect (Christ Himself) should be deceived if that were possible. Subsequent events of the early Christian era proved His words to be all too true.

The word mystic is derived from the word mystery. Paul made frequent use of the word in his epistles, and had a great deal to say about the "mystery of Godliness." He also observed an evil mysticism at work in the Church which he named the "mystery of iniquity," the duplicity of which would one day cause the Church to slide back into misery and ruin. Jesus had hardly taken His last sad farewell of His disciples when the distortion began. In the name of that Jesus who ate and drank well, and loved to mingle with the crowd, his followers began to scourge their skins with harsh garments, made vows of poverty, subsisted upon the meanest and most inadequate diets of food, and, quite forgetting that "character is formed in the stream of life," sought to divorce themselves from the natural world by hiding away in caves and isolated monasteries, where they could be free to contemplate the nature of their mystic union with the Eternal. The result was devastating. Their denial of the natural alienated them from God as effectively as if they had crept into the natural to deny the spiritual. In **The True Believer**, Eric Hoffer says that "The fanatic's disdain for the present blinds him to the complexity and uniqueness of life." Thus it was that the early Christian fanatic overlooked the unique fact that as far as the destiny of man is concerned, the natural and spiritual, like the male and female in the marriage state, are each useless without the other. In disrobing the natural, he isolated and rendered impotent the spiritual.

In **The Greatest Thing in the World**, Drummond says that "Souls are made sweet not by taking the acid fluids out, but by putting something in — a great love, a new spirit, the spirit of Christ. Christ, the spirit of Christ, interpenetrating ours, sweetens, purifies, transforms all. This only can eradicate what is wrong, work a chemical change, renovate and regenerate, and rehabilitate the inner man."

Does this same truth not apply to the whole creation? Paul used the same positive approach when he intimated that we desire not to be "unclothed," but, to

be "clothed upon." The burning bush was clothed upon, as was the spot of holy ground upon which Moses stood. To enlarge upon the idea, might we not say that when the earth receives its paradisiacal glory, every bush will flame with the fire of God's spirit, and every spot of ground will be holy ground?

OTHER PARTS OF THE VINEYARD

By Domenic Giovannone

In July, 1963 my son, Frank, and his daughter, my son, Jerry, my wife and I left our home in Warren, Ohio to visit the saints in Florida for the first time. Our first stop was in North Carolina where we spent the night with Brother Molinatto and his family. The following day we proceeded on our journey to Florida where we visited Brother Sirangelo in West Palm Beach for three days. We attended services on Sunday night, and felt the peace and blessings of God in talking to our saints there. While my son, Frank, was speaking there on Sunday night my younger son, Jerry, came and told us that my wife was ill; he wanted to take her to the hospital. I told him to wait while I got the elders together. After we prayed for her she recovered quickly and was not taken to the hospital.

On Monday morning we left for Fort Lauderdale to visit my daughter-in-law's aunt who was eighty-six years old. After dinner Frank, Jerry, and my granddaughter went out to look Fort Lauderdale over while my wife and I remained at home with the older folks. Our friends began to question me concerning my new religion, being surprised at the change we made from the Catholic Church to our Church. I began to explain the great blessings of God which we have found and told them of some of the experiences that we have had. My son's aunt asked me to pray for her because of the long-suffering illness which she had. I suggested that if she didn't mind I would like to wait for my son to return. When he came I told him of her request. We gathered together and sang a few hymns, then knelt in prayer after which we anointed her. After the prayer we all began to cry for joy because we had felt a great blessing. They wanted us to remain there but our time was limited and we wanted to meet with the brothers and sisters in Fort Pierce. While visiting there both my son and I received a great blessing in speaking to the saints. Brother Patsy Rogolino invited us to stay at his home that night because we were going to leave the next day for home. Our trip to Florida was safe and successful.

In January, 1964 my family and I again went to Florida. My son, Jerry, found a job in Fort Pierce so we decided to make our home there. We visited West Palm Beach a few times but most of our time was spent in Fort Pierce. Brother Patsy Rogolino told me that he had prayed a long time for God to send someone to help him with this work in Fort Pierce. About twelve years ago I had an experience that my work was finished in Ohio, and I had wondered all this time where God would send me. After I retired in June, 1961 my daughter and her husband, along with my wife and myself, made a trip to California spending a few weeks among the brothers and sisters. We stopped in

San Diego, San Fernando Valley, and the Bell branch vicinity. I enjoyed speaking to the saints there very much, but I felt that this was not the place to start my spiritual work.

In January, 1964 I had an experience, in the way of a dream, that I was repairing a bridge. At this bridge there were a few saints and I felt that they had a great love for me. My son, Jerry, wanted to visit Florida, so he took my wife and me along with him. I had no desire to go with them due to the fact that I was elected Presiding Elder of the Warren Branch in the September District Conference; however, after having this experience, I went along with them with the hope that I might be a blessing to others. A few days after we arrived in Florida I took a walk to the river which was near our home; there to my surprise I saw the bridge which I had seen in my dream. I was then convinced that this was the place where God wanted me to be. We spent four months in Fort Pierce, enjoying the blessings of God. We were granted permission from the General Church to erect a building. A few weeks before Easter Brother Patsy and I went to visit a woman who wanted to hear about this wonderful Gospel; she was baptized two weeks later. Sister Lola Saunders' son had fractured his arm last January just before we came to Florida; then, three months later, he fractured it again. His mother attended the Wednesday night meeting and told us that her son's arm would have to be operated on in the morning. Brother Patsy and I, along with a few sisters, went to the hospital that night to anoint her son; we surely felt the blessings of God in that room with us. The next day the doctor called and told our sister that an operation was unnecessary.

In May, 1964 we had to return to Ohio to attend to some business, leaving the brothers and sisters here to take care of the work. We thank God they began to hold meetings in our new church building in the second week of July. While I was in Ohio I heard that the saints in Fort Pierce were having some trouble. Some neighbors near our new building resented having the colored people meet with our saints. When I heard this I had a strong feeling to go back to Fort Pierce that I might help. On August 6th, after returning to Fort Pierce, Brother Rogolino and I talked to the Judge and the Marshall. They told us as long as we preach the word of God they could see no reason why they couldn't meet with us. I will try, with the help of God, to go to the District Conference in New Jersey, and after the General Conference we plan, with the help of God, to return to Florida where we will make our home with our son, Jerry, and his wife in Vero Beach.

A NOTE OF THANKS

I would like to express my appreciation in The Gospel News to all the saints who remembered me in prayer during my recent illness; also my thanks for all the beautiful cards, flowers, and gifts.

"O give thanks unto the God of heaven; for His mercy endureth forever." Psalms 136-26.

Elizabeth M. Parlor

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**The Church of Jesus Christ
2750 Gibson Street — Youngstown, Ohio**

HISTORY OF THE YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO BRANCH

The Youngstown Church was one of the early Italian missions of the Church. Two Italian missionaries who had been recently ordained Elders of the church, Brothers Joseph Corrado and Peter Garafola came to Youngstown in the summer of 1919. The first families to embrace the church were Brother Carl Damore and his wife, Brother Archangelo, Brother and Sister Marchionda (Marks), Brother Rocco Berardino, and in December 1919 Brother and Sister Antonio Bucci, and Sister Minnie Bucci DePiero.

In the January conference of 1920 Youngstown was made a mission in the charge of Brother Joseph Corrado.

In early 1920 Brother and Sister Giovanone, and Brother and Sister Capots were baptized into the Church. Later several other families came into the Church. At this present time Brother Rocco Berardino, Sister Minnie DePiero, and Sister Giovanone are still with us while the others have gone to their reward. In those early days this Italian mission grew rapidly. In the April conference of 1921, the Youngstown Mission

reported seventeen baptisms with a membership of fifty-nine.

During this period there was some persecution against the Italian brothers and sisters who embraced the Church. An incident that I remember very vividly happened when I was about ten years of age. In the latter part of April 1920 the brothers and sisters were having a meeting in the home of Sister Giovanone. Three men came to our home which was across the street from Sister Giovanone's home and asked me where the meeting was being held. Though I was a boy, I was afraid to tell them, realizing that they were evil men and belonged to a secret Italian society. They found the meeting place and entered, brandishing revolvers and fired several times. One went to Brother Peter Garafola and poked two fingers into his eyes. This caused a fearful scene, especially among the sisters. Brothers Garafola and Frank Nastasio were ordered to leave the city. Later Brother Caesar Talimonti was sent to Youngstown to be in charge of the mission. Brother Talimonti was killed at work on the railroad in November 1923.

In July conference of 1920 held in the Jefferson church building the following brothers were ordained Elders, Carl Damore, Dominick Nastasio and Antonio Bucci. After the death of Brother Talimonti in 1923, Brother Carl Damore was made presiding Elder of Youngstown branch. Brother Antonio Bucci passed away to his reward in November 1921. Not long after Brother Nastasio went to Italy where he remained for many years. He has now gone to rest.

Some of the families that came into the church in 1920 are the Andrews, Petoscias, and Wooleys, all of whom have now gone to their reward. Possibly there were a few others which I don't recall. In March 1921 came the Theodores and Pastuccis; also Sister Musolino and Brother John Verardi who is now about eighty years of age.

In the middle and late 1920's the following brothers and sisters came into the church: Margarette Masette, Rose Rand, Cosettis' who are still with us, Manes, Lacivitas, Scarcillas, Santillis, and possibly a few others. Brother George Manes and Sister Lacivita have gone to their reward.

For a little while meetings were being held in

the homes of the Saints. Later a church building was rented on the corner of Rayen and Walnut St., until 1929 when they purchased a church building at 328 South Forrest Avenue, remaining there until the erection of our present church building at 2750 Gibson Street in 1956. Brother A. A. Corrado who was baptized in the church in January 1923, was ordained into the ministry July 1923. He married Angeline Damore and was elected presiding Elder of Youngstown branch at the death of Brother Carl Damore in 1929, which office he held for about thirty years.

Down through the years since the establishment of Youngstown branch, many wonderful experiences have been given to the Saints. There have been visions, heavenly dreams, gifts of healing, and many wonderful blessings. Our present membership is about one hundred and five.

Ohio District Editor,
T. D. Bucci

I HAD AN EXPERIENCE

Dear Editor,

Recently in the Edison Branch, we have had some wonderful encouraging experiences given to us by our God. Since God was so good to allow us the blessings of these occurrences, I felt to share some of them with you who are readers of The Gospel News. Following are three of the most recent happenings.

Edison Branch Editor,
August D'Orazio

Sister Jennie Micale — June, 1964

One morning I turned on the radio to listen to a minister. He was telling of an experience how God had spared the life of his son. As I had been laid up for six months with a broken hip, I was very discouraged, knowing that as yet I wasn't able to take a step. I cried in prayer unto my Maker. I said, "Oh Lord, I know I belong to the true Church of Jesus Christ, and I have faith that you will make me walk." As I was saying these words, a voice kept saying to me, "Get up and walk". It was repeated three times. Praise God, I got up and walked from my bed and went into the kitchen. Praise His name is my prayer. He has been a good Maker.

*In His steps, how sweet to follow;
In His steps, through joy or sorrow;
In His steps, today, tomorrow,
Ever in His steps.*

* * * * *

Mary Mantz — August, 1964

A month ago I discovered a growth on my body and felt it necessary to have it checked by a doctor. He was concerned about this and sent me to a specialist. After examining me he discovered the growth to be a tumor. Before leaving his office he had made arrangements for me to enter the hospital for surgery. On the 17th of August, 1964 I was to report to his office for a final examination before entering the hospital on the 19th for the operation.

Although I am not a member of this Church, I was brought up by Godly parents. Therefore I had confidence and trust in the Lord, so on Sunday I went to Church and was anointed by the Elders. Two days

before the expected operation my father, Brother J. Contamessa, a faithful Elder who has since passed away, appeared before me smiling. This gave me courage that everything would be fine.

When the doctor examined me on Monday, he discovered the tumor was gone, so the operation was cancelled. The doctor could give me no explanation. I asked him if he believed in miracles and his reply was, "It must have been a miracle." I thank God from the bottom of my heart and hope that some day I will become a member of The Church of Jesus Christ.

* * * * *

Sister Ivy Fisher — July, 1964

On Monday evening, July 20, 1964, I was standing in my backyard when my niece by marriage called and said, "Ivy, are you going to church tonight?" I said, "No, I was there last night." I then went into her home and asked, "What is the matter, Beatrice?" She was sitting in her front room crying. Her mother who has been very sick since last March, was in a coma and was being sent home from the hospital, given up by the doctors. For weeks the sick woman just moaned and moaned.

My niece then arose, took a cigarette and started to smoke. I sat there with my mind turned to the Lord. I then arose, pointed my finger at her and with a commanding voice said, "Beatrice, put that cigarette down!" She asked, "Why?" I replied, "Do as I tell you. Put that cigarette down." Taking her by the hand I ordered her to come with me. She asked, "Where are we going?" I answered, "Come with me." We went into the bedroom, after which I closed the door and said, "Kneel, for we are going to pray." I felt her mother wouldn't get better for she was seventy-six years old, but my prayer was that God would stop her moaning and ease her pain if it be His will; also to comfort her family and give them strength, for they were taking turns sitting up nights.

After the prayer my niece went to visit her mother. When she returned home I went to inquire as to her condition. She threw her arms around my neck and kissed me and exclaimed, "Ivy, the Lord answered your prayer!" Her mother had her eyes opened and a smile on her face and had stopped moaning. They told her the time and she said, "That was the time Ivy was praying for our mother." My niece told everyone she came in contact with how God answered my petition. I thank God from the bottom of my heart for hearing and answering my prayer. Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

PRAYER

*Prayer makes the darkest cloud withdraw,
Prayer climbs the ladder Jacob saw,
Gives exercise to faith and love,
Brings every blessing from above.*

*Restraining prayer we cease to fight,
Prayer makes the Saint's armour bright,
And Satan trembles when he sees,
The weakest Saint upon his knees.*

Ravia De Carlucci

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Editorial Viewpoint



George A. Neill

If these so-called peacemakers that assemble at the United Nations (and I am sure they all consider themselves as such) were to discover the real meaning in Christ's great words, "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God," they would have the formula for a lasting peace among nations.

Our world has a severe case of the jitters, and why not? The world is torn with strife; the cold war could burst into a hot one overnight. We wonder sometimes just how long the nations can go on astride this sharp precipice between cold and hot war. United States and Russia, as well as some smaller nations, are glaring at each other from behind their stockpiles of nuclear weapons. Just how long will this last, or can peace be achieved and maintained with weapons of war?

Not too many years ago I remember reading in my newspaper an article telling a little story which could be referred to as a parable, in which all the animals in the zoo met in conference to decide the matter of disarming. The rhinoceros said that the use of teeth in war should be strictly prohibited but the use of horns should be allowed because they were mostly defensive weapons. All the other animals that had horns voted with the rhinoceros. However, the lion and tiger took a different view; they thought that teeth should be used. Then the bear spoke up; he proposed that teeth and horns be banned, suggesting that if you have a quarrel with any other animal just give him a good hug. He contended that this would be a great step toward peace. One might think that all the animals would have agreed; in other words don't hurt the enemy, just give him a good hug. But this brought the conference to a panic.

The reason man has failed to establish an enduring peace in the world is because he is not going about it in the right way. Mighty missiles are not the answer to the problems that confront the nations today. History has taught us this truth. Sometime after the close of World War I, a cartoonist pictured world leaders seated at a conference table. Each leader had his portfolio. Also seated at this table was Christ with His Portfolio, the Bible; but the leaders of these nations would not let Him speak.

The greatest need at the United Nations is the seating of Christ, for He alone has the plans for peace. If these so-called peacemakers that assemble at the United Nations (and I am sure they all consider themselves as such) were to discover the real meaning in Christ's great words, "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God," they would have the formula for a lasting peace among nations. The peacemaker of whom Jesus was speaking does a constructive work; he is obedient to the divine law and will of God, and his life bears the fruits of the Spirit. The individual or nation who possesses the fruits of the Spirit will find the forces of hate, enmity, and war destroyed. The Spirit of Christ puts love rather than hate into a person's heart.

The real peacemakers are those who are at peace with God themselves, who love peace as God loves peace, and are endeavoring to project this peace into various areas of life. Peace means molding into one. War divides individuals and nations whereas peace restores them to the state of unity — all for each and each for all — and so the world is in great need of peacemakers. The world needs more peacemakers because strife, envy, and hate are so costly. I am sure you will all agree hate is the most expensive thing in all the world. Think of its cost to those who hate

and to those who are hated. There could be nothing more harmful. Hate between nations causes war; it is the most deadly foe of mankind; it kills bodies and destroys souls.

Do we realize peace will not come of its own accord? Peace must be made. Therefore it takes peacemakers to bring it about, and how are we to become peacemakers? We must bring ourselves into the right relationship with Christ Who is the Supreme Peacemaker, and, as Isaiah says, is the Prince of Peace. Not until man catches up with the real meaning of Jesus' words, "Blessed are the peacemakers," can peace be experienced in our world.

THE VALUE OF HISTORY

by Donald J. Curry

In my last article I stated that we can gain a better understanding of freedom by studying history. Actually we may profitably apply the study of history to any field of thought or endeavor. Let us use the study of religion to substantiate our point.

More than once I have heard the expression, "The Bible isn't history. It's the word of God." Of course it's the word of God, but does this mean it can't be history? Certainly not! It is, indeed, one of the greatest histories ever written. The Old Testament, which is a vivid history of the Hebrew people, tells about their origin as a people, their formation and development as a nation, their conquests and achievements, and their failures and defeats. It is a history of their relationship with God and how they developed a great moral law. The New Testament is certainly a history of the life and teachings of Christ and of the establishment of the Church by His disciples.

Here is the clearest kind of evidence that history teaches us. Through studying the Bible, which is a history as well as the word of God, we have learned most of what we know about religion. It is in fact impossible to study any phase of history without confronting religious history. And when we learn about other people's religious ideas and practices down through the centuries in various parts of the world (just as we have learned about the Israelites from the Bible), we can gain a clearer understanding of our own religious thoughts and practices.

Studying the Ancient Near Eastern civilizations, of which Israel was one of the chief actors, we learn that they laid down the foundation for our modern religions. Most of these cultures played a role in the Old Testament drama: Egypt, Babylonia, Persia, Assyria. From them, as well as from the Israelites, emerged such religious concepts as life after death, the worship of one God, God as a moral and loving God, etc.

Next we take a look at Greece who, though she did not contribute any great religious ideas, contributed something just as important. The nature of most of the Ancient Near Eastern religions was such that they had a deadening effect upon progress because the people were only allowed to think what the priests told them to think. The Greeks, to the contrary, were not governed by a traditional and extremely fixed body of religious thought and because of this they were able to give to the world the gift of critical thinking. For the first time man really began to seriously question

the mysteries of his earth and the universe, not in a spiritual or otherworldly sense, but in an objective scientific way. Hence was established the basis of scientific thought or method which was to help men to search out natural as well as spiritual truth.

The study of Rome, the civilization that flowered after Greece, certainly has much to offer to the student of religion as well as to the student of history in general. Rome was the power that ruled the world during the time of Christ. Remember how Jesus' disciples wondered if He would deliver Israel from the Roman power? When the apostles established and spread the Church throughout the Empire, including Rome, the Roman government became alarmed at this threat to the established religion and tried to stamp out Christianity by killing and persecuting the Christians. The more the Christians were persecuted, however, the more they seemed to prosper, until finally in the year 325 the Emperor Constantine decided the best way to control them would be to incorporate Christianity as the official religion. From that time on the Roman Catholic Church has stood as a great power in the world, one which has had incalculable influence upon Western Culture.

With the disintegration of Rome about 450 A.D. began the rise of European or Western Culture. It would be impossible to study the history of Western Civilization without studying the history of Christianity. All through the Medieval Period the Church loomed as the most powerful single force. She crowned and dethroned kings, dictated policy to the growing nations, gained a vast wealth in land and money, and demanded and received, as the sole means of salvation, obedience to her spiritual doctrine. Aside from this she kept much of the old learning alive in her monasteries during the Dark Ages when the knowledge that was the glory of Greece and Rome had all but sunk into oblivion.

A fascinating study of one great religious movement during the Middle Ages is the story of the Crusades. Our modern standards of Christian conduct make this singular human drama appear incredible to us today. The story of how the First Crusaders, men encased in iron astride great chargers, marched across Europe to wrest Jerusalem from the infidel is one that strikes us with a sense of utter amazement. Nothing could stop them! On one occasion a group of Crusaders, weak from starvation marched out to meet a vastly superior force of Saracens. Fully expecting annihilation, they had chosen to fight rather than to starve. When they marched out, however, they were moved with a fanatical religious zeal and miraculously set the enemy to route. During the Crusades many a Saracen lost his head or was cut in two with a swipe of a mighty broadsword that the average man of today could hardly lift. Upon triumphantly entering Jerusalem, the Crusaders set to work slaughtering the infidel inhabitants—men, women, and children. The streets ran with blood, and few were spared. After this bloody business they gave thanks to God for delivering the Holy City into their hands. Strange Christians!

Perhaps not as fascinating, but certainly just as important in our study of religious history, is the study

of the Reformation. Who has not heard of Martin Luther and his ninety-five theses for debate which he nailed upon the door of the Wittenburg Church in 1517? Little did he realize the sparks these struck would flame into a conflagration that all the power of the Church and the nations could not extinguish. These were times when expressing the wrong religious beliefs could place one in the very literal flames of the wrath of condemnation. Europe became divided into two camps, Catholic and protestant, and to this day the force of this movement has not seen its end.

Space will not permit us to continue this journey through time, but let us be reminded that history can be a great teacher if we will expose ourselves to its lessons. No matter what may be our sphere of interest, be it religion or any other, if we search into history we may find the key to a better understanding of these interests and, above all, to a better understanding of ourselves.

LORAIN, OHIO NEWS

On Sunday, November 22, we had visiting with us Brother Rocco and Sister Angeline Biscotti. Brother Rocco opened our morning service using for his text the 19th chapter of Acts, the first six verses. He read where Paul asked certain disciples if they had received the Holy Ghost and they answered that they did not know there was a Holy Ghost. So Paul laid his hands upon these disciples and they received the Holy Ghost and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. Brother Rocco brought forth the importance of the Holy Ghost which will guide and direct us in the pathway of Christ after we are baptized for the remission of our sins.

Brother Alfred Dominico then followed pointing out what the Holy Ghost does for us. He also stated that when he was a small boy, he used to attend conference and would look forward to hearing Brother John K. Penn preach, as he could feel the power of the Holy Ghost guiding him. Brother Penn used to comment on the Holy Ghost saying that you can't buy it with money, nor can you pick it off a tree.

Brother Joe Calabrese opened our afternoon testimony service. Brother Joe had been ill three weeks previous and on Wednesday evening, Nov. 18, he was anointed for this affliction. Since the anointing his affliction has left him, and he was grateful to the Lord for answering the prayers offered in his behalf.

Many wonderful testimonies were given in honor and glory to God and a humble feeling was felt throughout the service. Before the closing of the service, Brother Biscotti commented on how wonderful he felt in the service. Hymn #13 "The Spirit of God Like a Fire is Burning" came to him as he listened to the testimonies. He felt especially good in our Spanish brothers and sisters. He gave them words of encouragement and also admonished the priesthood and all to care for them and help them. At this moment Brother Rocco spoke in the gift of tongues. Immediately Brother Frank Altomare arose and gave the interpretation: "God will soon call them!"

It was a day well spent in the House of the Lord and we can repeat again the words of the song: The Spirit of God like a Fire is Burning, The latter day

glory begins to come forth; the visions and blessings of old are returning: The angels are coming to visit the earth.

Lorain, Ohio Branch editor
Betty Alessio

MISSIONARY TRIP TO ITALY

By Raymond Cosetti

This is an account of the trip made to Italy by Brother Raymond and Sister Mary Cosetti, as told by Brother Raymond.

We left Youngstown, Ohio on Monday evening, August 4, 1964, stopping in Pittsburgh to visit our son. On Tuesday we visited Brother Alma Cadman and had a very nice visit with him. Our son drove us to the Greater Pittsburgh Airport where we boarded a plane for New York. This was our first experience on a plane and I did enjoy it. We left New York at ten o'clock for Rome, Italy and arrived there at Fucicino at 11:45.

My brother met us at the airport and we had a happy reunion. I had not seen him for forty-four years. I did not know my sister as she was born while I was in America. Our visit with them lasted nine days.

The day before we planned to leave for Reggio Calabria, my wife had a bad attack from her back. She could not move and we had to help her turn. This was one of the worst she ever had. I anointed her that night and would have had to go on alone the next day if she had not been better. I can surely say that God heard and answered our prayers and the next morning we were ready to leave.

We took a plane from Rome and stopped in Naples for fifteen minutes, then on to Reggio Calabria. To our surprise we were met by five brothers and one sister. We went to Brother Fuoto's home, then on to Cantello where Brother and Sister LoRico live. We held one Sunday meeting there with ten people. We left Reggio for Fonza, traveling all night by train. We then boarded a boat and spent five and one half hours on a very rough sea. My wife and Brother and Sister Ricco were very sick. The Sister was at the port to meet us.

The next morning we planned a meeting with all the brothers and sisters on the island. Later we visited in the homes of many of them. On Saturday we had the baptism of Francis Roma. The walk to the ocean was a long and rough one. Sunday we confirmed him, had washing of feet and communion. There was a nice group here. The following Monday a former brother who had been suspended came over and stated his desire to come back to the church. We reinstated him by laying on of hands. We had communion with a few that were present and left by boat on a calm sea.

We then went to Buccino by train and bus. We visited a sick brother in Teglia. We held a meeting there in the morning with thirteen present. In the afternoon we went to Buccino and held a meeting there. We found the brothers and sisters are poor, but they are good hearted.

We left here, traveling from eight in the morning 'til seven-twenty that evening to get to St. Demetrio Carone where Brother Buouofiglio lives. They were very happy to see us. In the morning he took us to

see our church building. The building made me think of the West Elizabeth church. We visited the brothers and sisters around there and had a Sunday service with twenty-four people present. They all gave thanks to God and we felt good hearing them. There were a brother and sister formerly from Detroit, who retired in Italy, visiting that Sunday.

We then left for Naples where we spent a day, and then on to Rome to get the plane for Sardinia. We had a very nice flight. We took a bus for St. Teresa Gallura to visit a sister. She was waiting for us. Her husband was fishing. That is the way they make their living. He asked to be baptized. The sisters were very happy and wanted me to read the Bible and explain it to them. We would spend several hours in the afternoon talking to them about the Bible and church. I baptized her husband and we held a little meeting. I confirmed the new brother and we had the Lord's supper and washing of feet. I blessed three children here.

We left for Cola Ganone by bus. They were waiting for us here and we had a very nice welcome. The son and the husband of a sister here asked to be baptized. I baptized them on Sunday morning and we had a little meeting confirming them. We did enjoy taking the Gospel to different ones here. They did not want us to leave.

We left here for St. Lucia by bus, traveling all day. To our surprise the people we were looking for had moved during the week. The city was a very small place and we could find no hotel or police station. There was no transportation and the only way we could get anywhere was to walk. I tried to get someone to drive us but they all refused. My wife said she was afraid and felt the evil one was working hard so we would be discouraged. But I said I was not afraid and we would get back on the highway and try to find someone to take us. As we were walking an old woman came up to us and asked if we had found anyone to take us and we said no. She asked the man who had refused us if he would take us. He said he was afraid of the police but decided to take us anyway. He took us to the people we were looking for. When we got out of his car the woman we had come to see asked where we had met him and we told her our story. She said this man and his wife were in jail for three years. She told us the city we were in was a bad and evil place. We want to thank God that He took care of us. We baptized both husband and wife here and blessed seven children.

We left here for Roma and while in Roma visited with a brother who lives here. I washed his feet and had the Lord's supper with him. I enjoyed seeing our brothers and sisters of the church very much. We spent one and a half months going to these places. We want to thank God for our safe return home. He was good to my wife and me while in a strange land. It was the prayers of our brothers and sisters back home that kept us going. It was very rough traveling from one place to another with suitcases and baggage. We changed busses seven times in one day to get places.

We are grateful for the United States of America. It is blessed above all other lands. You can't believe it 'til you see how the poor people have to live in other countries and compare it with how we live here.

HOW TO ACT IN CHURCH AND WHY

You shouldn't talk in Church. The little children are not excused from this. You shouldn't run around and disturb the meeting. Being downstairs during the meeting is wrong. We all should listen to the Word of God.

I think we can set aside one day to worship God. He's watched over us six days, at least we can thank Him for keeping us in good hands. We remember the times we were sick or had some injuries, God healed our body and made us healthy once again. God knows if we appreciate it or not, by going to Church and thanking Him by prayer. God knows if we are faithful in Church, or anywhere. So let's go to Church as much as we can to praise and thank God. There is no better place to be than in the House of the Lord.

by Patty Nerone, age 13
Youngstown, Ohio

NEWS FROM YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

On Wednesday evening, December 30, 1964 our New Year's services were held in the church building in Youngstown. Warren, Niles and Fredonia branches had been invited to participate and we were happy to see the nice groups representing their branches of the Church.

Each branch sang two selections and in between, prayer was offered by our visiting Elders. A social followed. A fine evening of fellowship was enjoyed by all and it seemed to get our New Year off to a pleasant start.

We want to say "thank you" to the various Brothers and Sisters who have visited our branch in recent months. It is always uplifting when we fellowship with those from other parts of the vineyard.

Mary Santilli,
Assistant Editor

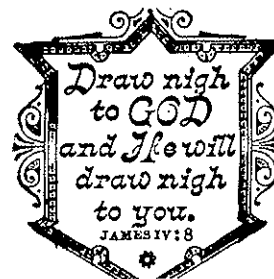
IMPORTANT!

If you have a change of address please send a card giving both your old and new address. Each old or incorrect address costs us 10c of the Lord's money.

NOTICE

To those wishing to be placed on our mailing list for an index to The Gospel News each year, please send your name and address along with 25 cents for each year's index. The 1963 Index is ready and the 1964 Index will be prepared soon after the first of the year.

A complete Index from 1945 through 1962 will be available in the near future; the price of this is not known at present.





The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you," Joshua 3:5

Dear Girls and Boys,

I want to tell you a story about a river which was divided like the Red Sea. This happened in the days of Joshua. God had chosen him to lead the Israelites after Moses died.

God had given the Israelites the land of Canaan for their new home. There were other nations living there who were wicked. God said they must be destroyed. One of their cities was Jericho. To get into this city the people had to cross the River Jordan. Joshua sent two spies to Jericho to see how they could enter it, as it was surrounded by a strong wall. At the gates of the city, the people watched to keep strangers out, but somehow the spies managed to get in. God was with them. They went to the house of a woman named Rahab. Soon the king of Jericho heard they were there. He sent messengers to Rahab. They asked where the men were. Rahab protected the spies. She hid them on the roof of her house where she had spread flax to dry. The roofs of the houses in Jericho were flat, so that people could walk up there. She told the messengers, the men had come there but she didn't know where they were from. She said they were not there now and had gone out the city gates when it was dark. Maybe they could catch them if they hurried. The king's men believed Rahab and hurried away. Of course they did not find them because the spies were still at Rahab's house.

Rahab went to the rooftop and told the spies the reason she wanted to save them from the king. She said, "I know the Lord has given you this land. The people are afraid of you." They remembered how the Lord dried up the Red Sea and destroyed the Egyptians, when the Israelites left Egypt. Rahab asked the spies to promise to protect her and her relatives when they came to destroy Jericho. The men promised. This was to be her reward for saving them from the king's messengers. They asked her to keep all this secret. They told her to hang a piece of scarlet cord in the window of her house, then they would know not to destroy it. Her house was beside the city wall. It was now time for the spies to return to Joshua. Rahab lowered them from a window by a cord to the ground outside of the wall. For three days they hid in the mountain before returning to Joshua.

After Joshua heard the spies' report, he told the people to get ready to leave. They were to leave within three days. The officers went among the tribes telling them to follow the ark of the covenant, which the Levites would carry before them. The Lord had said He would perform a wonderful miracle and they would know he had chosen Joshua to lead them as He had before chosen Moses. They were told that as soon as they reached Jordan and the twelve men, who were chosen to carry the ark, touched the water of the river,

the water would stand up in a heap. As the twelve men moved forward and stood in the river the water dried up just as Joshua had said. Now this was at the harvest time and the river usually overflowed its banks. This made the miracle more wonderful to them.

The priests stood in the middle of the river holding the ark, and waited until all the people passed to the other side. This was a great event and one to be remembered. Joshua commanded twelve men, one from each tribe, to take twelve stones from where the priests' feet had stood and carry them with them. When they came to their first lodging place they left the twelve stones there for a memorial. When in the future their children would ask, "What is the meaning of these stones?" they would be told, "That the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord; when it passed over Jordan, and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel forever." Through this wonderful experience the people knew God had provided a new leader to direct them.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

Let us see if we can find other wonderful things Joshua did.

1. What happened to the sun and moon? Joshua 10:12, 14.
2. What did Joshua do to the five wicked kings? Joshua 10:22, 26.
3. What did Joshua write on an altar of stones? Joshua 8:31, 32.
4. How old was Joshua when he died? Joshua 24:29.

Sincerely,
Sister Mabel

REFLECT ON THESE LITTLE THINGS

How far that little candle throws its beams, so shines a good deed in a naughty world. Sometimes you only get one chance to stand up and be counted where you don't agree with the crowd.

We build our character by the bricks of habit that we pile up day by day. Each seems a little thing, but before we are aware of it we have shaped the house we live in. Gather a little as you go of wisdom near and far, learning to know and understand all people as they are.

Swiftly pass the changing hours, we can hold them never, yet in one we may accomplish deeds that live forever. Just a little good goes a long, long way toward real happiness. A tender smile or a pleasant word is indeed a sweet caress. Just a little praise where it is well deserving can cement the bonds of love. Praise lights the heart of mankind like brilliant stars above. Just a little sincere handshake can begin a friendship true. It can open up a whole new world and help us start anew. A song cheers a weary heart more than we will ever know. Song is a tonic for mankind that eases away woe. Just a little prayer can give peace sublime with the faith and hope it brings; so much can be accomplished with these little things. If you will watch the small beginnings in life and keep an eye on the little temptations you will not fall before the large ones. (Gal. 5-9) "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump." Doing God's will in small things is the best preparation for doing it in great things. If you would do

the big things well, never perform the little things carelessly. Great men are sometimes great even in small things. It's the little things we do and say that mean so much as we go our way. A kindly deed can lift a load from weary travelers on the road, or a gentle word like summer rain may soothe some heart and banish pain. What joy or sadness often spring from just the simple little things.

*Happy is the heart that sings,
Thanking God for little things.
Finding courage where a hill,
Lifts it's every lasting will.*

A traveler through a dusty road strewed acorns on the lea, and one took root and sprouted up and grew into a tree. Just be faithful in the little things we do, performing all the homely tasks of every day with deep and loving gratitude, dear Lord, to you, with thankfulness that we can serve in this small way.

Muriel Miller

TO THE CHURCH AT LARGE

By James Heaps

After only having had about three hours sleep last night due to thinking about our Church I feel to write to the Church at large: We call Her our Church because we are a part of Her and have been born from Her. She is that woman that is clothed with the sun. We are Her seed, a royal priesthood. We are of the Household of Faith, adopted into Israel. By obeying the Gospel of Christ we claim the covenants and the blessings of God and we have a right to them. They belong to us as a part of the Gospel. "Know ye, therefore, that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham." And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the Gospel unto Abraham, saying, "In thee shall all the nations of the earth be blessed." So then, they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham. Abraham worshipped by faith, not by law. The law is only a reflected light, it is only a shadow. They did not need the law in Abraham's day because they worshipped under the perfect order of God, which was the Melchisedec Priesthood. Thus Abraham gave unto Melchisedec the tithes because he was greater than Abraham. When Moses wanted to get a little closer to God, God did not put him in the law; he just put him in the cleft of the rock which was Christ (or the spirit of Christ) and let him see His hinder parts, for "No man can see My face and live."

We have just elected a President. Sixty million people went to the poles, or to a closed ballot system, to cast their vote. It was a true vote; I did not know how my neighbor voted and it was none of my business. In choosing an apostle to fill the place of Judas it must be observed that, after Joseph, Barsabas, and Mathias were nominated for this position in the Quorum of Twelve, the apostles prayed saying, "Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whither of these two Thou hast chosen." They cast their lots and the lot fell upon Mathias. I believe it was a closed ballot although the Scripture does not say how they cast lots. We have accepted the closed ballot system; they chose two, we might say! What was wrong with

Barsabas? Nothing, we might feel, What was wrong with Goldwater? The people cast their lot. We are not living in the land of Russia where a few men put on or off whom they will. We are living in the land of liberty where men are put on or off by the voice of the people. The voice of the people should be the voice of God, and the voice of God should be the voice of the people. If we pray to that end He, God, which knowest the hearts of all men, shows us whom He hath chosen. David says, "God puts on and takes off whom He will." But He puts it in the minds of the people to do so. Lehi, in speaking to his sons, says, "Wherefore, this land is consecrated unto Him whom He shall bring. And if it so be that they shall serve Him according to the commandments which He hath given, it shall be a land of liberty unto them; wherefore, they shall never be brought down into captivity; if so, it shall be because of iniquity; for if iniquity shall abound cursed shall be the land for their sakes, but unto the righteous it shall be blessed forever." If we do things right we do not have to hang our heads. If we connive and lay a snare for our brother we shall be caught in the snare. The chief actor in Christ's crucifixion, Judas, died in the horrors of a loathsome suicide. Caiaphas was deposed the following year. Herod died in infamy and exile, stripped of his power. Pilate, wearied with misfortunes, died in suicide and banishment. The house of Annas was destroyed a generation later by an infuriated mob and his son was dragged through the streets, scourged and beaten, to his place of murder.

"Oh, Jerusalem, how oft would I have gathered thee as a hen gathereth her chicks under her wing, but ye would not. Your house is left unto you desolate. Not one stone shall be left upon another." One million, one hundred thousand died in the siege on Jerusalem; they said, "Let His blood be on us and on our children," and so it was; they asked for it. "As we sow so shall we reap." Thousands of Jews were cut to pieces; about one hundred thousand were taken captive. All the calamities predicted by Jesus befell the city Jerusalem. From that time she has been trodden down by the Gentiles. God did not let the saints suffer under this siege. According to Eusebius the Church was spared. A revelation was given to leave Jerusalem and they went beyond Jordan where they were secure. God is going to spare the righteous in these last days for all those who are in Zion.

When Brother W. H. Cadman and I were in San Carlos to dedicate their church building an Indian told us, "When the fullness of the Gentiles comes in we will go through them like a lion among the lambs." He said however, "We will spare you people." I asked him why and he said, "Because you have been kind to the Indian people." Jesus told His followers when that day would come to flee to the mountains. Read Luke 21:20, 21, 22. It is time to draw closer to God and to one another. Let us not permit the devil to divide us. We shall reap only what we sow. Let us be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love, in honour preferring one another. Charity suffereth long and is kind; it is better than hate. Put on, therefore, as the elect of God, bowels of mercy, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering; and besides

all this giving all diligence. Add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, and to knowledge temperance and brotherly kindness. I can say with the writers, "We shall neither be barren nor unfruitful." I send my love to all the saints for their kindness to me. May God bless you.

"ACKNOWLEDGMENT"

By Carl J. Frammolino
(GMBA Editor)

NEW MBA POLICY

In this issue, the Missionary Benevolent Association is starting a new policy of publishing a regular section devoted to its news each month in THE GOSPEL NEWS. Understandably, the entire MBA is grateful to The General Church for the official monthly publication. Likewise, it is thankful for the editorial policy which allows this regular coverage and for the cooperation of the paper's editors which affords this opportunity to present news of the Association.

To properly identify this monthly column, it has been suggested that a name, or a title, for it be adopted in keeping with THE GOSPEL NEWS' journalistic style. As a result, suggested names for this monthly space are being invited from all readers. Please forward any name ideas you may have to either THE GOSPEL NEWS Editors in Monongahela, Pa., or the GMBA Editor, 31329 Frank Drive, Warren, Michigan, 48093.

The most appropriate name will be chosen by THE GOSPEL NEWS Editors, in conjunction with the GMBA officials designated for this purpose. The deadline for receiving these suggested names will be February 27, 1965, and the chosen permanent name will appear in the April issue.

MICHIGAN-CANADIAN AREA PLANS FOR NEXT GMBA CONFERENCE

Plans are being made eagerly by the Michigan-Canadian MBA Area Organization for the General Missionary Benevolent Association Conference to be held in Detroit on May 15, 1965. Preparations were begun almost immediately after the area received permission from the last conference, held in Aliquippa, Pa. in November, to host the next gathering.

Much of the enthusiasm generated for this anxiously-awaited event has come from the realization that this will be the first time an Area Organization will sponsor a GMBA Conference. It has been reasoned that, even though the member locals have served successfully as hosts in the past, this kind of an undertaking will allow all the local groups within the Michigan-Canadian Area and all the people located therein to take a more active part in the effort.

Project Committees Formed

To begin work on the project, committees with distinct duties were established. They are the Central (Steering), Program, Food, Building Procurement, and Accommodations Committees.

Each of these groups has laid the groundwork for its specific function by useful and directive planning. All plans are being aimed at attempting to make the get-together the most enjoyable and the most edifying

possible.

Invite All to Attend

The request made by the area is that all people possible plan to attend this conference. It is especially noted that no one should stay away simply because he may think there will be an overflow crowd and that he may cause any inconvenience.

The Area President, Brother Joseph Milantoni stated the situation accurately. "Everyone will be accommodated by our Church people," he said. "No one will have to make outside arrangements. The only real assurance we want from everyone is that they will make every effort possible to attend. Then, and only then," he concluded, "will we know our work has been appreciated, and we can feel grateful that all possible have honored us with their presence."

Other Officers

Other officers who are serving along with Brother Milantoni on a "pro-tem" basis until this area's official July 17, 1965 conference are Brothers Dominic Moraco, Vice-President; Anthony Lovalvo, Chaplain; Louis Vitto, Treasurer; David DiBattista, Auditor; Paul Whitton, Editor; and Sister Gail Collison, Secretary.

Information about the Michigan-Canadian progress in their endeavor will be reported in the future.

News from Other Areas

News from the other four Area Organizations (Atlantic Coast, California, Ohio, and Pennsylvania) will be forthcoming in later issues. The names of the officers in these other areas, who will serve similarly on a temporary basis until their respective July conferences, will be presented as they are available. Also, any news about the plans and activities from the various sectors will be reported.

The Michigan-Canadian Area was fortunate to have had its first activity project, hosting the next GMBA Conference, sanctioned by the last general gathering, as previously mentioned. The other areas are now in the process of preparing and organizing for their activities, which have been authorized under the recently-adopted MBA By-Laws Revision.

Revised Structure

Under the revised structure, Activities Committees have been incorporated at both the GMBA and area levels of the Association. These committees have been added to allow, in the words of the By-Laws, "... activities and projects consistent with the goals of the MBA," to be undertaken.

The GMBA Committee, composed of various general officers and the Area Presidents, is basically responsible for working with the Area Activities Committees in carrying out the activities and projects for the local MBA groups. The Area Activities Committees are immediately responsible for the local units within their geographical boundaries. The area boundaries are the same as those of the General Church Districts.

Each Area Activities Committee is comprised of area officers and one elected individual from each of the member locals. The local representative is important in that he must transmit his unit's needs and desires, and, in return, he must be instrumental in relaying and coordinating the role the local is being requested to play in the area plans.

ATTENTION, SISTERS!

The Ladies' Uplift Circle of the Michigan-Canadian District has undertaken a project to raise money toward the Church's missionary efforts. We hope to compile a cookbook of favorite recipes gathered from sisters throughout the Church. We are interested in all types of recipes and hope to accumulate a wide variety so that our cookbook will be enjoyable to all as well as a means to raise funds for missionary work.

We are asking your help to make this project a success. Please be sure to send your favorite recipes before the end of March as we are anxious to begin work at that time.

Those who wish to contribute please send your recipes to Mrs. Alice Romano, 6000 Barrie Avenue, Dearborn, Michigan or contact your local secretary who will be happy to assist you.

OBITUARIES**MAMIE LAVALLE**

Our beloved Sister Mamie LaValle, a faithful member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Greensburg, Pa., died on December 11, 1964. She was born in Italy on July 10, 1879. Funeral services were held in the Greensburg Branch, with Brother Paul Gehley officiating.

She was one of the first sisters to join the Church in Greensburg. Her testimony was that she wanted to serve God until the end of her days. She devoted her life to the Church and our church pews were bought from money she made sewing. Sister LaValle will never be forgotten by the members of the Church.

Surviving are the following sons and daughters: Mrs. Edith Wood (with whom she made her home), Mrs. Rose Griess, and Nicholas of Pittsburgh, James of Philadelphia, Mrs. Rosalie Kaiser of Herminie, Joseph of South Greensburg, and Mrs. Josephine Kish of Greensburg. Also surviving are eleven grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren. She will be missed by her family, as they all depended on her prayers. We know she went to meet her Master in Heaven.

May God comfort the bereaved.

* * * *

CLARENCE ROBINSON

Brother Clarence Robinson, 67, of Clairton, Pa., slept away from this life Monday morning, October 12, 1964 at his home.

Our beloved Brother Robinson, was an Evangelist in The Church of Jesus Christ.

He was born September 12, 1897, a son of the late Charles and Tina Robinson. Surviving are his wife, Pearl; daughters, Mrs. Irene D. Jones, Mrs. Regina Harris and Miss Mattie Robinson, all of Clairton; Mrs. Mary Stone and Mrs. Rosa Williams, both of Niagara Falls, N.Y.; sons, Lee, Harry and Clarence Jr., all of Clairton, and Nathaniel serving with the U.S. Air Force in England; eight grandchildren; and a brother, David, in South Carolina.

Services were conducted at the West Elizabeth branch of The Church of Jesus Christ with Brother Samuel Kirschner officiating, assisted by Brothers Paul D'Amico of Lockport, N.Y., Cleveland Baldwin of New Brunswick, N.J., and Rocco Tassone.

May God comfort the bereaved in their sorrow.

FRANK AMORMINO

Our dear brother in Christ, Frank Amormino, passed away suddenly on December 12, 1964. He was born on December 23, 1905 and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on February 9, 1930. He died a faithful brother in the Church. His life was inspirational, and he will be remembered by his warmth, humbleness, and faith which were witnessed by all who were associated with him.

Left to mourn him are his wife, Josephine, and son, Eugene; five brothers; and all the many brothers and sisters that have enjoyed his fellowship and friendship over the years.

Funeral services were in charge of Brother Nick Pietrangelo at Detroit Branch #1, assisted by Brothers Paul Vitto and Anthony Scolaro.

May God comfort the hearts of those who mourn his departure.

* * * *

ROBERT SMITH

Brother Robert Smith, a member of the Youngstown branch, passed away on January 1, 1965. He was recently married to Sister Connie Mason.

Brother Smith was born in Farrell on March 25, 1938 and became a member of The Church of Jesus Christ, February 2, 1964.

He is survived by his wife, Connie; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Smith; two sisters and two brothers.

Services were conducted in the Church at Youngstown by Brother T. D. Bucci, assisted by Brothers Sam Costarella and Harry Robinson.

May the Lord comfort the bereaved.

WEDDING**BITTINGER - BARNHART**

Brother Joseph Bittinger of West Leisenring, Pa. and Sister Edna Barnhart of Vanderbilt, Pa. were united in marriage on November 28, 1964 with Brother T. S. Furnier officiating. The ceremony was performed in The Church of Jesus Christ at Vanderbilt.

May God bless them with a happy married life

**IN MEMORY OF
SISTER MAMIE LAVALLE**

She died two weeks before Christmas day, and I wondered why she had been taken away so near to the day of giving. For Sister LaValle, giving was the meaning of life. Her death at this time could only cause an emptiness which no gift could ever satisfy; and yet, it gave us greater thoughts to ponder about the meaning of the Christmas Season. Did she wonder that she had to die now? I feel that she did, but I know that she found her answer in faith. Her greatest fear was to be ill in the hospital, and this is where she died. I know, therefore, that at the hour of her death, she was single with the Lord; for it was to Him only that she looked for courage to sustain her grief in life. We find comfort in knowing how beautifully she lived.

To those who knew Sister LaValle, this message will have little value, for nothing I write could portray her dedication in life. It is to those who did not know her, that I hope this message will have meaning.

We often hear of the "faithful few" who will be found righteous on the Judgment day, and we sometimes question whom these might be. It is when we know members of the Church like Sister LaValle that we feel certain we have known one who will be counted among these few. For Sister LaValle, happiness was found in devoting herself wholly unto the Church and unto others. She wanted only that she might be able to give. She herself may have been in need, but if others lacked, her prayer was for them. When she petitioned the Lord, she never failed to offer the rewards of her efforts for the benefit of the Church. Her joy was found not in sharing, but in giving — in giving all. When as she often said, "The Lord will provide," one knew that if she prayed, it would be so. Her faith was so strong, that one knew it was part of her — that this was her guide through life. If I should search my lifetime, I know I could never find another who might weave for me a more beautiful pattern of life. Her interest in others was sincere, so that even in absence, she sensed the distress of those she knew and offered her prayer that the Lord may grant them relief. Her life seemed tied to each one she knew, and simply through knowing her, one gained strength in the surety of her faith. For her, faith proved all things possible. In her later years, she became frail in body, but when one looked into her face or held her by the arm, one realized a sense of certainty and firmness — a strong-hold on life that can be attained only through faith.

In her death I see both sorrow and joy; Sorrow in leaving behind those whom she loved and those whom she wanted to embrace the Church; joy in meeting the Lord, for this was her destiny in life. If ever one should be inspired by the example of another, if ever another's life should give meaning to one's own, for me, it is Sister LaValle. For though she was poor, she had much; and because she was selfless, she gave.

MaryRuth Todaro

CONCEPTS OF GOD

By James Curry

Mysticism

The fanatical mystic of the early Christian era had one thing in common with the fanatics of all ages. He hated the prevailing order of things, and sought to supplant it with his own particular brand of Utopia. His fanatical state of mind stifled all forms of creativity, which led to the destruction of the secular, and the corruption of the spiritual. Fired with satanic inspiration, and "giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils" he effectually barricaded the great avenues of creativity which led to the development of the Kingdom of God. Those avenues were soon overgrown and lost to view in a rank jungle growth of ignorance and superstition. He must have felt quite pleased with himself as he sat in his lonely mountain cave, properly insulated against the contaminating influences of the natural world, and dreaming of a new earth swept clean of all man-made aids and comforts; an elusive, mystical world of spiritual blessing without material substance; an ineffable, obscure world, in which faith could be divorced from reason, logic, and creative imagination.

In *The True Believer*, Eric Hoffer says: "The things

which stir the creative worker seem to the fanatic either trivial or corrupt." Said Rabbi Jacob (first century, A.D.) "He who walks in the way and interrupts his study of the Torah, saying: 'How beautiful is this tree, how beautiful is this ploughed field' has made himself guilty against his own soul." St. Bernard of Clerveaux could walk all day by the lake of Geneva and never see the lake. In *Refinement of the Arts* David Hume tells of the monk "who, because the window of his cell opened upon a noble prospect (view), made a covenant with his eyes never to turn that way."

The fanatic's disdain of the natural world and the creative talents of men destroyed almost all that was good in both the Roman Empire and the Church. The following from *Collier's Encyclopedia* was typical: "The very concept of disease underwent regression. It was no longer regarded as due to natural causes, but as a punishment for sin. Prayer, fasting, and repentance were the chief therapeutic measures. Though Christian charity prescribed care of the sick, and several hospitals were established for that purpose, the methods of care were no longer based on medical knowledge.

"The Church Fathers naturally brought Christian dogma into their medical teachings. Mysticism, superstition, and dogmatism replaced learning and research. The canonical writings were proclaimed to be the highest authority in the matters of both faith and science, and an effective stop was put to the development of medicine for many centuries to come.

"The decline of learning in the collapsing Roman Empire might have led to the complete disappearance and oblivion of the Greco-Roman heritage, if it had not been for the rise and growth of the great Arabian civilization . . . The precious Greek and Roman manuscripts, subject to burning and destruction at the hands of the early Christian mobs, were salvaged and cherished by the Arabs, and were translated, annotated, and accepted as the foundation of science and philosophy."

The Renaissance and the Protestant Reformation brought about tremendous changes in the beliefs and practices of many European nations. The manuscripts preserved by the Arabs were brought out into the light. Assisted by the invention of the printing press, learning revived, human relations improved, America was discovered — man was off to a new start in his long, long quest of regaining the dominion of his earthly environment.

We are sorry to relate, however, that, despite its brilliant achievements, the Protestant world still clings to remnants of that shroud which blanketed the European continent for a thousand years. The Protestant churches are afflicted to this very day by such dark-age beliefs as original sin, infant baptism, the Holy Ghost as a personage, and sprinkling as a mode of baptism. Nor is The Church of Jesus Christ entirely free from Rome's contaminating influence. It may seem paradoxical, but I am reluctant to tell certain brethren that I am ill because of their Dark Ages belief that illness is a punishment for sin.

The most grievous and dangerous hangover from the Dark Ages is the attitude of many of our people toward the natural life and the products of man's creative genius, such as philosophy, science, and invention.

Those of us who know the story of the great apostasy should know that that same attitude during the early Christian era was basic to Satan's plan of conquest. Satan bent the twig and the tree inclined in the direction of complete apostasy. Have we forgotten the lessons of history? Have we never heard it said that "He who forgets the lessons of history is condemned to relive it?" Shall we follow the gleam that beamed from the fanatical early Christian's eye and plunge the world into another dark age, or shall we take up the refrain of partnership with God and create a new Heavens and a new earth?

It seems to me that the Church in this year of our Lord, 1965, has come to a crossroads, and many of us are fearfully reluctant to enter any one of them. In the language of Eric Hoffer, the road to the right leads to a dead-end called ultra-conservatism. Fear of the future causes those who travel that way to lean against and cling to the present. Change to them can only mean deterioration. Like an old man who has entered the declining years, the ultra-conservative is always on the lookout for signs of decay, and feels that any change is more likely to be for the worse than for the better. Bugged down in tradition, he is more apt to quote his Fathers than to be on the lookout for new beginnings.

The road to the left leads to the dark caves of extreme mysticism, into which one may creep to renounce the natural world and the products of man's creative talents. Like the early Christian fanatic, one may in this quiet hermitage dream of an earth swept clean of every material aid and comfort, divorce faith from reason and common sense, and utterly lose all contact with reality. A huge sign over the entranceway to these caves proclaims: "Darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the minds of the people."

The road straight ahead leads upward to "The Mountains of Israel." It is here on these mountain tops that the Church will develop the whole potential of the Israelitish God concept. As in **Washington's Strange Vision**, it is here also that every kindred, tongue, and people that God has brought to this land will achieve a state of final and complete unity. Every knee shall bow to the same standard — the Standard of Jesus, and every tongue shall confess that He alone is Lord. It is here also that the Church shall be robed in the glorious beautiful garments of maturity, competently able to perform every task that Her Lord might require of Her.

The road to "The Mountains of Israel" is a rocky road, and the long upward journey is fraught with many dangers. The saints, however, confidently press forward, welcoming every changing scene, and having faith in the future. Somewhere along the way they have learned that they cannot utilize earth's resources to the honor and glory of God until they wrest them from the iron grasp of Satan. Satan, the despoiler of good materials, the perverter of good impulses, shall be thrust down and bound by the righteousness of the saints. We shall in that day see what is sometimes very difficult to see, that "The earth is the Lord's, and

the fulness thereof."

In **Peace of Mind**, Rabbi Leibman wrote, "It has always been contained in the Jewish tradition that God longs for the time to come when man will become His mature partner in the developing evolution of a better world." Could the good Rabbi be wrong? Partnership among men is a very common thing. Every business man longs for the time to come when he can take down the old John Doe sign and replace it with a new one proclaiming that John Doe and Sons shall hereafter work together in partnership. Does not God have the same ambition, the same anxious care, for His children?

In concluding this article, I might say that three roads, three concepts of the spiritual nature of things, beckon to us. As we stand at the crossroads in silent contemplation of these wonders, we might among other things ask ourselves whose uniform we are wearing, and for what principle our sword is unsheathed.

(To be concluded.)

GENERAL LADIES' UPLIFT CIRCLE MEETING

The general meeting of the Ladies' Uplift Circle was held in Glassport, Pa. on Saturday, December 12, 1964 with a good representation from the various parts of the vineyard.

The Glassport Circles conducted the opening devotions. The Scripture was taken from the first and second chapters of Luke. They also sang several selections. Sister Mabel Bickerton, our President, welcomed the sisters and made a few opening remarks, after which the meeting was turned over to the sisters for testimonies.,,

We continued with our regular order of business — the reading of reports from the various circles. We collected \$446.97 for the African Secondary School. This raises our African Fund total to \$5,385.34.

During the afternoon session we heard from several of the brethren. Brother Joseph Calabrese's remarks left us with a very good thought. He said that the goal of our Church should be, "Peace on earth, good will to men."

We wish to thank our sisters from Glassport for their hospitality. We had a very nice day — it was good to be there.

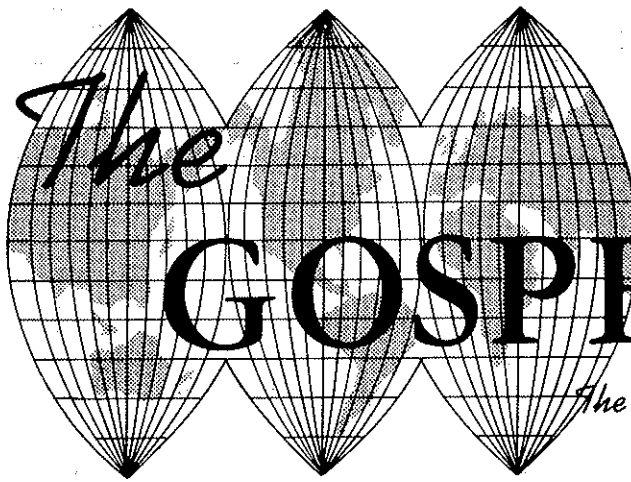
Our March meeting will be held in the Jefferson Church.

Ethel N. Crosier

WEST ELIZABETH BRANCH NEWS

We have been thankful unto the Lord for the fellowship of quite a number of the Glassport congregation. The inconvenience of their repairs and remodeling was responsible for our blessing. It was uplifting to hear their testimonies and praises to God. The Spirit of God was with us as we washed feet together also. Surely we are all one family.

Madeline Robinson



The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

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DREAMS

*Sometimes I dream of what it will be like over there;
Have I lived the kind of life I should while here?
Is there a place for me in God's domain?
Have I the faith to last while here I remain?
Have I proven myself worthy while on earth?
Have I lived His way from my second birth?
Have I made a place for myself at His feet?
All the faithful are there that I want to meet.
If I remain faithful and kind,
Then my dreams will not be just of the mind;
My Father in heaven will take me home,
On this earth I will no longer roam;
My dreams of eternity will then be a reality.*

Margaret Abbott

NOTICE

The General Conference of The Church of Jesus Christ will convene at 2 p.m. Thursday, April 1, 1965 at the Headquarters of the Church, Sixth and Lincoln Streets, Monongahela, Pa. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday business sessions are for the Ministry only.

All are welcome to our Sunday service which will be held at the Clairton High School, Fifth Street, Clairton, Pa.

LIFTING STONES

by C. W. Holmes

Who has not looked with admiration upon a tender seedling lifting a large stone as it breaks through the ground? The earth has been robbed of many precious plants by stones that were too heavy to be lifted and thrown off by the plants beneath them.

Some of us, like plants, must rise up under heavy burdens, and all do not survive. We admire heroes of low degree, socially or physically, who overcome great obstacles. But the sad fact is we usually delight in such spectacles only from afar, or in historical retrospect, and not when we are direct observers.

If you, under the same circumstances, had been one of Joseph's brothers on that day when he came into the field to inquire about their welfare, would you have joined in the cry of "This dreamer cometh . . . let us slay him," or would you, like Reuben, have

sought to save him?

If you, under the same circumstances, had come upon that helpless fellow who had been beaten by thieves on the road to Jericho, would you have given assistance like the Good Samaritan, or would you have passed by on the other side like the priest and the Levite?

If you had been one of the Jews before Pilate when he wanted to release Jesus on that dreadful morning, would you have dared to say, "You are right, Pilate, let Him go," or would you let yourself be swallowed up in the spirit of the crowd and cry "Crucify Him, crucify Him"?

Of course, you can't possibly answer such questions. Only God knows what you, as an individual, would have done under any of these circumstances. But the pages of history plainly show what course we, as members of the general body of mankind, would probably have taken.

The halls of Judgment are going to swell with shame when mankind is confronted with the countless instances where one human being observed another striving beneath a stone of adversity, and passed by on the other side—sometimes pausing first to toss on a few stony observations like "he is weak," and "the fittest will survive"; not realizing that they are contributing to the struggler's collapse. Abstract stones of words and scorn can be weightier than material ones of earth and ore.

Our Lord was very much aware of this defect in human nature. That is why He found it necessary to teach us to bear one another's burdens, and love our neighbors as we do ourselves.

The next time you see a plant struggling beneath a stone, you can make the earth a richer and better place to live in by merely stooping down and helping to lift away the stone. But whatever you do, don't add to the burden by tossing on little stones.

A NOTE OF THANKS

On behalf of our Indian brothers and sisters here in South Dakota, we would like to thank all those who sent clothing and gifts to them. They are so appreciative and have requested us to express their gratitude.

Richard and Pat Christman

BLESSINGS

by James Heaps

"Count your blessings; name them one by one, and it will surprise you what the Lord has done." In the first place, the greatest blessing in the world is Christ. Everything centers around Him. He said on one occasion, "Without Me ye can do nothing." We can exalt man too much but we can exalt Christ at all times. He tells us, "All power is given unto Me in heaven and on earth." So what can man do without Him? But one in a certain place testified, saying, "What is man, that thou art mindful of him or the Son of man, that thou visitest him? Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; Thou crownedst him with glory, and didst set him over the works of Thy hands." When we look at the accomplishments of man in the fields of Art and Science, we marvel. Human learning, with the blessing of God upon it, introduces to us divine wisdom; and while we study the works of nature, the God of nature will manifest Himself to us. "The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth His handy-work." The dangers of knowledge are not to be compared with the dangers of ignorance. Man is more likely to lose his way in darkness than in twilight, or in twilight than in full sunlight.

The best part of our knowledge teaches us where knowledge leaves off and ignorance begins. Only God can make a tree; only God can hang this earth on nothing, set it at an angle to cause our seasons, keep it rotating once every twenty-four hours, and revolving around the sun every three hundred and sixty-five days. This is the blessing of God. God's blessing is a pleasure. Wealth is vanity and power a magnet, but the knowledge of God is enjoyment, perennial in fame, unlimited in space, and infinite in duration. In the performances of its sacred offices it fears no danger, spares no expense, looks into the volcano, dives into the ocean, perforates the earth, wings its flight into the skies, explores sea and land, contemplates the distance. This knowledge examines the minutes, comprehends the great, ascends to the sublime. No place is too remote for its grasp, no height too exalted for its reach.

What a blessing! It comes only through him that said, "Come, let us make man in our own image and in our own likeness." Show me the man you honor and I will show you what kind of a man you are, for it shows me what kind of man you long to be. Again I exhort you to come unto Christ and be perfected in Him. Deny yourself of all ungodliness. Moroni quotes three words; "grace, perfection, and sanctification." Can a man attain to such blessings? Yes, but only in Christ. Moroni says, "And if ye by the grace of God are perfect in Christ, and deny not His power, then are ye sanctified in Christ by the grace of God through the shedding of the blood of Christ which is in the covenant of the Father unto the remission of your sins that ye become holy, without spot." Dear reader, if you will only analyze these words, everything for your blessing is in this verse, "Perfection, grace, sanctification, holiness; through the shedding of the blood of Christ." A man is one

whose body has been trained to be the ready servant of his mind; whose passions are trained to be the servant of his will, who enjoys the beautiful, loves truth, hates wrong, loves to do good, and respects others as himself. We are servants only to whom we obey.

We think of the blessing of Christmas. The angels announced His birth by saying, "Peace on earth, good will towards men." We think of Thanksgiving Day with all the blessings of nature and the good things of life. We think of how God has healed our bodies; what a blessing! How can we thank Him enough? We think of our Church. What a blessing it is to meet together, and not to forget our assembling together as the manner of some is. The Church is the religion of loving, speaking, and doing, as well as believing; it is a life as well as a creed; it has a rest for the heart, a word for the tongue, a way for the feet, and a work for the hand. The same Lord, who is the foundation of our hopes, the object of our faith, and the subject of our love, is also the model of our conduct, for He went about doing good; leaving us an example that we should follow in His steps. Lehi, leaving a blessing on his son, Jacob, said, "I know thou art redeemed because of the righteousness of thy Redeemer." For the spirit is the same yesterday, today, and forever; and the way is prepared from the fall of man and salvation is free. Again what a blessing! We do not have to buy it. If that were so, some people would be left out, and no flesh can be saved only through the merit and grace of the Holy Messiah, according to the truth and holiness which is in Him. It makes little difference whether the Church makes men richer; it is more wealth the world wants. But the Church does make men truer, purer, nobler; it builds character, not more investments; more integrity, not money; manhood, not regal palaces but regal souls. It is the companion of liberty in all its conflicts. Whoever rejects the Church will find themselves slaves to their own will and passions. It is more that the Magna Charta. The Gospel is the root of Liberty. It is more than the Declaration of Independence. It gives hope after this life is over. The Church, at its best, has no ceremonial. It has forms, for they are essential to good order. When I reflect, as I often do, on the felicity I have enjoyed, I sometimes say to myself that, were the offer made me, I would live my life again; and all I would ask is that the Author correct certain errors that I have made in the first.

MY PRAYER

Of all the gifts God can bestow
To help us on life's way,
This is the one I wish for most,
For which I often pray:
That should another's faith decline
And be assailed by doubt,
My own staunch faith will lift that heart
And put all fear to rout.

Mary Agnes Colville

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Editorial Viewpoint



George A. Neill

What sunlight is to the earth the light of Christ is to men and women — life, guidance, assurance, and beauty. Christ is the light and life of the world; His light is endless; it can never be darkened.

"Ye are the light of the world. Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

We have room to believe that most people are afraid in the dark, at least to some degree. This, I believe, is typical of man from the beginning of time. I will not take time nor space to relate two incidents where I was caught in total darkness, but I would like to say that on both occasions I felt a tingle in my spine and my breathing became very heavy. I remember when I was a small boy that if anyone were afraid to venture into the dark others would call him a "fraidycat." I wouldn't let the others call me that, so I would go anywhere any other boy would venture — bold in appearance, or on the outside, but truly a "fraidycat" on the inside. No doubt most of us have known places where we would never walk at night. I lived in Wichita, Kansas for a short time when a child, and if I went home a certain way I had to pass through a dark spot where there were no street lights. It didn't take long for me to decide on another route.

Many animals, unlike man, prefer darkness. Most wild animals hunt their food at night; they attack their prey in the dark. There are insects that prefer the dark to the light. Have you ever lifted an object from the ground and seen various insects or bugs scurrying to get under cover again? They prefer to hide in darkness.

Man was made to walk in the light. His eyes won't focus in the dark for he was made much higher than the animals. Light, to man, is guidance. In the night we grope and stumble; we cannot be sure where we are or which way we should go. There is safety and assurance in light. Light not only fosters the seed but it warms the soil for its sprouting, even when the sun is obscured by clouds. We, as well as plant life, thrive on its influence. Without light man and beast would starve. Therefore light is life.

Light reveals beauty, but all colors vanish in the dark. Day restores the blue of the sky, the green of the trees and of the grass in the meadows. The flower gardens take on their brilliance of color by day and the painted desert has no color at night. What sunlight is to the earth the light of Christ is to men and women — life, guidance, assurance, and beauty. Christ is the light and life of the world; His light is endless; it can never be darkened. His life is eternal and there can be no more death.

Christ said on one occasion, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." He also said that John the Baptist was sent to bear witness of that light, and that he (John) was a burning and shining light. As latter day saints should we be any less than burning and shining lights? Just how much light radiates from those of us who would be the "light of the world"? Is it possible that some of us need to increase our candle power?

I have always thought there was a lesson in the little coal oil lamps we used to burn — some of you older folks can well remember. If when cleaning the chimney you were careless, this would often result in a smudged chimney, and the light didn't shine through so well — pretty much like a life that is smudged through carelessness. An untrimmed wick was sure to smoke the chimney, making the light dim also; and of course, no oil — no light. They tell me of an ancient custom where the watchman came through the streets at dusk crying, "Hang out your lights," and as each home did so the darkness was dispelled.

Where is the light to shine? First of all it should shine in our homes, and then into our neighbor's home. We should let our light shine at work, at play, at school, and upon every creature. To follow the admonition of our Lord when He said, "Let your light shine," is the mission of every latter day saint that he might bring within the reach of every human being the transforming power of God.

I do not know, but I will venture a thought, that only one out of five thousand people in the United States carries any conviction whatever about the Restoration. Would it be unkind or untrue for me to suggest that there may be a complacency in our attitude toward the four thousand, nine hundred and ninety-nine; that most of us are content to sit around and sing nursery jingles such as, "This little light of mine; I'm going to let it shine . . . Won't let Satan 'poof' it out"? If we are truly to be a light to the world it may be that we need to shake off some of our shackles.

Just how much restoration light is emanating from each of us? We may be able to fool ourselves but we don't fool God. He knows exactly our candle power. I once made a trip with Brother Charles Ashton and Alex Cherry to Richwood, West Virginia. Alex, who is a nephew to Brother Teman Cherry, took a camera along and each time he prepared to take a picture he would pull something out of his pocket and hold it in his hand for a few minutes, set the camera, and put it back into his pocket. I asked him what the thing was and he said it was a light meter that measured the amount of light falling upon the object he wished to photograph. The thought has often occurred to me since that time that perhaps the Lord has some kind of a light meter for measuring the light which falls from those who claim to be the light of the world.

I am reminded of an incident where a father was reading a book when his five year old daughter approached him and asked what he was reading. He answered saying, "I'm reading a book about the saints but you wouldn't know anything about them." "Oh yes," the little girl said; "They are people that the light shines through." She was picturing in her mind the figures in the stained glass window of a church. What a priceless definition of a saint; and to come from the mind of a child!

A false balance is abomination to the Lord; but a just weight is his delight. Proverbs 11:1

NEWS FROM WINDSOR, CANADA

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Once again, we in Windsor wish to send our greetings and extend our love to all of you.

I would at this time like to relate some of the activities of this part of the vineyard.

On January 11th, the Quarterly Gathering of our District Ladies Circle was held here in Windsor. When we were asked to put on the program, two or three thoughts were expressed by our sisters. We decided to combine the thoughts into the subject "What Manner of Men and Women Ought We To Be." We remembered that this was an expression used many times by our beloved Brother Cadman. We were able to bring out much on this subject by way of scripture and poetry. I can truly say that God seasoned our little program with His spirit. We had depended on the Lord to help us because we felt our unworthiness to do this program, being so few of us. When our program was concluded, the meeting was left open for testimony, and if time would have permitted, I believe all would have testified. There was a real good turnout, each branch being well represented. Each one went on her way rejoicing in God's blessings.

The following Sunday was also a day to remember in which God poured us out a great blessing. The love of God was truly felt, especially in our afternoon meeting. Brother and Sister Allen Henderson and Brother and Sister Clifford Burgess had just returned from California after having spent the holidays with their families and the Brothers and Sisters of the Church. We also had with us a number of young people from each of the four Branches in Detroit.

We would like to say at this time that even though there is a boundary line between our two countries, there are no boundary lines between the Brothers and Sisters. We have that wonderful tie that binds.

Brother Frank Vitto and his family of Detroit have been fellowshipping with us for more than two years. We really appreciate the help that they have given our Branch in Windsor. We want to thank each of the Detroit Brothers and Sisters for being so mindful of us. I would say to all of you that belong to larger branches, "Go and visit those of the smaller branches often." You will truly be a blessing to them and I am sure you will take a blessing home.

May God bless each one of us with a desire to press forward, that we might see this Gospel flourish in the hearts of men and women.

Olive Elzby,
Branch Editor

There is a principle which is a bar against all information, which is proof against all argument and which cannot fail to keep a man in everlasting ignorance. That principle is "condemnation before investigation".

Spencer

IMPORTANT!

If you have a change of address please send a card giving both your old and new address. Each old or incorrect address costs us 10c of the Lord's money.



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"I will instruct thee and teach thee," Psalm 32:8.
Dear Girls and Boys,

I want to tell you about one of the writers of the New Testament whose name was James. He wrote the book of James. He was one of the twelve apostles. Scripture tells us he was the son of Alphaeus, our Lord's brother. Like many of the disciples he suffered for the word of God. According to tradition, he was thrown down from the temple by the scribes and Pharisees, then stoned to death.

In the Book of James, third chapter, he tells us about the tongue. The tongue is just a little thing but, Oh my, what it can do! James says it is a fire. Did you ever think your tongue could be like that? He says a perfect man can control his tongue. We put bits in the horses' mouths so they will obey us; we turn them this way and that. The ships on the sea are great and are driven by the wind yet are controlled by the captain but this little tongue is not so easily controlled. My, how boastful it sometimes becomes!

James tells us man has been able to tame wild beasts. You have seen a lion tamer make the lion perform. Haven't you seen a bear do tricks? Also the birds have been tamed. They have even been taught to speak. We have heard of snake charmers too. Our tongue is so unruly and no man has been able to tame it. James says it is full of deadly poison.

The tongue does other things which are not good. Man blesses God and curses Him with it. The hymn we sing states, "Oh, for a thousand tongues to praise my God." That would be good. The Ten Commandments teaches us, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." In James' writings, he says, "Swear not, neither by the heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath." James tells his brethren these things ought not to be.

There are many things this tongue does which are not good. Some folk use their tongue for grumbling and complaining. In Proverbs we read, "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine." That is the kind of a boy or girl you like to be with, isn't it? Sometimes the tongue likes to gossip. The scripture calls these busybodies. Paul the Apostle wrote about people who were idle, tattlers and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not. He knew how dangerous the tongue could be.

Some people use the tongue for slander. They are always downing someone else. The tongue tells lies. The devil is the author of that. James tells us, "Resist the devil and he will flee from you." So that is the best way to overcome that temptation. We sometimes use the tongue for idle talk. The words of Jesus were, "Every idle word that men shall speak they shall give account thereof in the day of Judgment." He asked the question, "How can ye being evil, speak good things? A good man out of the treas-

ure of the heart bringeth forth good things and the evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things." I think James has the answer to controlling the tongue; "Draw nigh to God and he will draw nigh to you." If we use the tongue to tell the story of Jesus and His love, it will not have time to get us in trouble. James says, "The wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits." Let us seek this wisdom and control the tongue.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

1. We are told not to be like two animals. What are they? Psalms 32:9
2. What does it say about lying lips in Psalms 31:18?
3. What does a soft answer and grievous words do? Proverbs 15:1
4. What is a word fitly spoken like? Psalms 25:11

Sincerely, Sister Mabel

THE DRESS

by Catherine Vultaggio Poma

(Dedicated to our beloved Sister Ann)

I closed my weary eyes; there was no need to look. I knew the azure skies would still be there, serene, impenetrable, vast, its height and depth beyond all human comprehension.

I lifted up my arms, in act of supplication, straight towards the heavens, above all man's creation, for I was ill and I was very sad

Yes, ever towards the heavens, past all the wispy softness of the clouds that hung together, as lightly as a feather, and yet, opaque, as if to make obscure the Face of God, lest I, at any time, should open wide my eyes, and then behold His Glory, and so die.

The rain began to fall, lightly, at first, so very lightly. Then, it increased, until it fell in torrents, beating upon my face—tilted, still upwards—stinging my close-shut eyelids, until, in pain, I cried

But, I sought not for cover, nor to discover WHY the storm should break upon my head . . . somewhere, I'd read that Virtue is no shield from pain . . . no, not on earth, tho' someday, it may gain us Heaven . . .

So, there I stood, poised, as in upward flight, stretching with all my might, probing thru endless clouds, now dark and heavy with their load of moisture, waiting to be spilled as Rain.

Sometimes the clouds were light, they were so empty and white, so very empty

Upward, they soared, these elongated arms of mine, trying to reach that Field Divine, where Mercy is the only flower grown, tho' on this Earth, it is so little known.

Higher and higher did my two arms strain, thru' clouds of unborn rain, above the summit of the highest mount; far, far beyond all outer space, past sun and moon and stars no man may count; each in its predetermined place, in God's bright firmament; until, with keen, alerted sense, I felt enveloped in the presence of the Christ Divine; and how my poor heart leaped with joy, (such joy was mine!) for, all at once I knew I, too, had touched the hemline of His dress.

Now, He would surely bless!

CONCEPTS OF GOD

By James Curry

Partnership

We are indebted to The House of Israel for almost all that we know about God; the one God idea of Abraham, the just God of Amos, the forgiving God of Hosea, and the Fatherhood of God as promulgated by Christ. These progressively higher concepts of God came to mankind not by accident, but as a result of his eternal striving upward; a work of growth in his soul, which is ever seeking to elaborate, to refine, to perfect.

Christ's magnificent contribution to the total concept might have long ago saved the whole human family if it had not been for Satan's opposition to the work of growth. It is an embarrassing truth that, after almost two thousand years, there are many among us who need to be taught the fundamental principles of the gospel of Christ, and who have not had their "senses exercised to discern both good and evil." Obviously, we have a great deal of growing to do before we rise to a higher plateau of spirituality.

In view of Israel's mighty contribution of the past, it comes as no surprise that a Jewish Rabbi should, with true Israelitish foresight and idealism, point the way to the next progressive step upward in our understanding of the nature and will of God. In **Peace of Mind**, Rabbi Joshua Loth Liebman advocates a "New God Idea for America." It is interesting to note that his "New God Idea" is, like our own religion, a native product, which rejects the outmoded concepts emanating from various European religions and cultures, and advocates the utilization of American resources, supplemented by inspiration drawn from our own democratic soil. Those of you who have followed this series of articles will see that I have from time to time drawn heavily from Liebman's "New God Idea" for what we call source material.

A NEW GOD IDEA FOR AMERICA

By Joshua Loth Liebman

To come to a new idea of God will require genuine growth and maturity on our part. It may well be that in this age, when we realize we must give up our old ideas about economics, isolationism, and national sovereignty, we shall also come to a new idea of God — an idea that will reflect America's democratic experience and culture. The best . . . minds of our century . . . agree that we need to look upon God as the power who needs our collaboration, (the act of working together) and who looks to man to be His mature partner in the developing evolution of a better world.

That notion was contained in our Jewish tradition; but it could never be deeply felt so long as men lived in cultures that were not free and equal. How could human beings emotionally feel themselves partners of God when their daily lives showed that they were only serfs and slaves to other men? I am making the prophecy that it will be from the **democratic experience of our century that mankind will first learn its true dignity as independent and necessary partners of God.**

The story of the human race, until the age of

technological democracy, has really been the story of dependence and helplessness — of men really feeling impotent in the presence of poverty and disease, of tyranny and autocracy, before which they had to bow their heads in resignation. Men may have said with their lips that God needed them as His co-workers, but they did not feel this truth with their hearts as long as life itself showed that they were not even needed as co-workers by men. The Italian peasant of the fifteenth century, for example, whose ancestors for generations had tilled the same soil, been baptized in the same church, struggled with poverty and disease in the same ignorance, depended for survival upon the good will of his feudal overlord — that peasant could not have had the idea of God that a free American can create out of his new culture.

I say that the time is coming when we have to bring our idea of God into harmony with the new realities of our life. America is different from Europe. In Europe the emphasis was too often upon obedience and dependence upon some strong power to whose will man had to submit. In America, . . . the emphasis has been upon self-reliance, upon every generation doing better than its fathers, on becoming more successful in human attainments. One of the great troubles is that in our religion we have continued to picture our relationships to God in terms of the helpless, poverty-stricken, powerless motifs (leading features) in European culture. Now, a religion that will emphasize man's nothingness and God's omnipotence; that calls upon us to deny our own powers and to glorify His — that religion may have fitted the needs of many Europeans, but it will not satisfy the growing self-confident character of America.

One reason why America has not been deeply religious may very well be that we have tried to keep an idea of God that was out of tune with our contemporary life. We Americans have had little of the

feeling of helplessness and dependence that characterized so much of Oriental and European religion. We have had a continent to conquer and new social dreams to make come true. America has had the feeling that there is no limit to its conquest of nature. A civilization that has little of the father complex in it; that has ever made a virtue out of individual initiative and outstripping the father in achievement — that culture will find it increasingly difficult to submit to the idea of a dominant Father.

There is a chance here in America for the creation of a new idea of God; a God reflected in the brave creations of self-reliant social pioneers; a religion based not upon surrender or submission, but on a new birth of confidence in life and in the God of life. We can really begin to think of ourselves as **responsible co-workers with God.** In our prayers and in our religious teachings we shall have to catch up spiritually with the realities of daily living. We must be brave enough to declare that every culture must create its own God idea rather than rely on outworn tradition. Europe and Asia too often emphasized dependence; America must emphasize independence and

interdependence. It should come to its God idea not through a feeling of helplessness, but through a feeling of confidence. It will find its God not in defeat, but in social victory. It will seek Divinity not primarily through mystical surrender, but through practical moral activity. The religion of the future, for the first time, may become a partnership religion in which men will not only say, but will feel, that they are indispensable to God.

The psychologically mature God idea for our age must end the spiritual and cultural lag which separates our daily experiences from our theological formulas. God is portrayed too frequently in feudal or at least monarchical terms. In the democratic society that must be built in this . . . era, a feudal deity is out of place. The church and the synagogue alike can, if they will, help men everywhere to resist the economic and political slavery threatening to engulf human dignity and freedom, by teaching belief in a God who wants co-operation, not submission; partnership, not surrender. God, according to Judaism, always wanted His children to become His creative partners, but it is only in this age, when democracy has at least a chance of triumphing around the globe, that we human beings can grow truly aware of His eternal yearning for our collaboration.

We will become psychologically mature in our idea of God only as we come to recognize that we human beings should never expect final knowledge about Divinity. (While in these fleshly temples, at least.) Our minds are fragmentary beams of light,

like the flashes of glow-worms in a summer's night. The fleeting illumination they provide enables us to see in the midst of the darkness many wonderful summits of social achievement still attainable by the restless feet of this youthful race of men. Divinity is here both on the earth that provides the possibility of life, order, intelligence, and also in the insatiable (never satisfied) moral hunger of man; man never ready to accept tyranny as natural, defeat as inevitable, society as irremediable. (not to be remedied, incurable.) Religion can help us to retain the faith that, in the cosmic night, that Great Western (Jewish and Gentile) Star, God, and the lesser stars, men, will not be extinguished to all eternity.

There is a striking resemblance between Liebman's mature contribution to the Church of today and the words of the Israelitish maid in the 8th Chapter of Solomon's Song:

"We have a little sister, and she hath no breasts: what shall we do for our sister in the day when she shall be spoken for?

"If she be a wall, (an Israelitish foundation created by the spirit of adoption) we will build upon her a palace of silver: and if she be a door, (that doorway which opens to the Kingdom of God) we will inclose her with boards of cedar. (beautify)

"I am a wall, (I am Israel) and my breasts like towers: (well developed, mature) then was I in his eyes as one that found favor." (a desirable marriage

partner.)

Liebman's masterpiece reminds me, also, of an experience I related in a previous issue of **The Gospel News**. As follows: "Prepare the way for the Kings of the East to come, to look upon the infant Jesus. To bring with them gifts; not gifts of gold, and frankincense, and myrrh, —" Plainly, Liebman's **New God Idea For America** is a classic example of the gifts which Israel will bring to the image of Jesus developing in you and me. I feel to exhort our College young men and women to integrate this vision of things into your understanding of God's plan for your tomorrow. Please address comments and criticisms to James Curry. 701 Shaffer Ave., Elizabeth, Pa.

(End of the series)

MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

By **Jeremia Giannascoli**

We who have been baptized and have received the Holy Spirit should from that time wait on the Lord. I would like to ask a question here: The converted Lamanites who prostrated themselves upon the ground and would not move, but were slain by their brethren, the unconverted Lamanites — what gave them the power to do so? They would not stain their swords with blood, therefore they buried them. What prompted them to do so? We read in the Bible and Book of Mormon many times of how the Spirit spake and prompted God's servants to do a work or to stand fast in the faith, not denying their faith for which some died and others delivered. I would like to point out here some of those who were obedient to the voice of the Spirit and promptings:

We read in Dan: 3rd chap. concerning three men who were of the children of Judah, whose names were Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. These three were given by God, knowledge, skill in all learning, and wisdom. A time came that they were faced with a decision. Because of the power of the Spirit which was within them they were able to speak as they did unto the king. We read in Dan. 3:16-18, "Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego answered and said to the king, 'O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy Gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.'" They without the Spirit could not speak as they did, but they knowing the works of God in their lives which was brought about by the Holy Spirit thru them, stood firm knowing the power of God and the faith which they had. They spake as they did, for faith brought it to pass.

The Apostle Paul we read was a man that waited upon the Spirit, for he knew the workings of the Spirit which was manifested through him in mighty signs and wonders and in the demonstration of the Spirit and of power. In Acts 13th chap. 2nd verse, we read where the Spirit spake, which said, "Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work where unto I have called them." Also in Acts 16th chap. 6-7 verses,

where Paul was forbidden by the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia. We have here two accounts of where the Apostle Paul was obedient unto the Spirit. He went out to do the work whereunto he was called and was obedient to the Spirit wherein he was forbidden to go into Asia.

In the Book of Mormon we read of Nephi, the son of Lehi, who was obedient to the voice of the Spirit to slay Laban. (1st Nephi, 4th chap.) The question would be here, did Nephi know it was the Spirit of God that commanded him to slay Laban? I would say, yes. The Spirit which was in Nephi was the Spirit of God, which also was in Christ with the understanding that Christ had the Spirit given unto Him without measure. The prophets themselves prophesied by the Spirit of Christ, which was in them, for they themselves knew the working of the Spirit of Christ in them.

The Apostle Paul said, "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the Spirit of bondage again to fear, but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba Father. The Spirit itself (God's Spirit) beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God." We recall the words of Jesus, "I am the vine, ye are the branches, he that abideth in Me and I in him the same bringeth forth much fruit, for without Me, ye can do nothing."

Yes, we must have His Spirit in us, or as He said, "He must abide in us." We also must yield ourselves unto His Holy Spirit, or as He said, "We must abide in Him." We read in Romans 6:16, the words of Paul, "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey, whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness." James says, submit yourselves unto God, (or in other words, yield yourselves unto God) resist the devil, (because there is power while walking in the spirit) and he (Satan) will flee from you.

Therefore, it is not enough just to have His Spirit, but we must yield ourselves unto His Spirit in order for us to be led by Him and to experience the workings of the Holy Spirit. So by our constant yielding we will become more and more acquainted with the working of God's Spirit, which will direct us in all truth and show us things to come and faith will bring it to pass. We read in Alma 14th chap. 10-11 verses, Amulek speaking, "How can we witness this awful scene? Therefore, let us stretch forth our hands and exercise the power of God which is in us and save them from the flames." But Alma said unto him, "the Spirit constraineth me that I must not stretch forth mine hand, for behold the Lord receiveth them up unto Himself in glory." When the Spirit began to work and speak within these brethren which I have recorded, they all knew it was the Spirit of the Lord. When did they first experience the working of the Spirit? I say after they have received it. And as they yielded themselves unto the promptings of the Lord, they became more acquainted with what the Lord would have them to do. Whenever the Spirit would have them do a work, they were obedient and the Lord confirmed it with His power, whether in

preaching or in mighty signs and wonders. They were also blessed in visions and revelation.

Now the workings of the Holy Spirit is not limited to only a few, for the Apostle Paul shows us that the workings of the Spirit is in every believer in Christ. Read Phil. 2:13, 2nd Cor. 13:3, Eph. 3:20.

Now this ministry of the Holy Spirit is given to every believer in Christ to feel His workings and know His promptings, for Christ Himself spoke of this in St. John 15:26-27, "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, He shall testify of me. And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning." St. John 16:13, "How be it when He, the spirit of truth, is come; He will guide you into all truth, for He shall not speak of Himself, but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak, and He will show you things to come."

The Apostle Peter also made mention, 1st Peter, 2:5, "Ye also, as lively stones, (each member alive in Christ) are built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ."

I would like to ask, do we feel the workings of the Spirit only in church? We read the account of Alma unto the Zoramites who were cast out of their synagogues, "Behold I say unto you, do ye suppose that ye cannot worship God, save it be in your synagogues only? And moreover, I would ask. Do ye suppose that ye must not worship God only once in a week? Christ said, "But the hour cometh, and now is when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for the Father seeketh such to worship Him." And that seven days a week. Do we not feel it also at our homes? Have we not experienced it on our jobs, travelling along the highways? If we do not, then I ask, why not? Is God a respecter of persons? Did He not give everyone who has come into the fold a portion of His Spirit? Paul writing to the Ephesians says, "But unto everyone of us is given grace according to the measure of the Gift of Christ."

The Spirit of the Lord will motivate a brother or sister to do His will, to speak or go forth where-soever He will lead us. I will add that when we wait on the Lord, whether in church, at home, on our job, travelling on the highways; we will experience the guidance of the Spirit. This is where we must be, and that is to be waiting on the Lord. The time begins after we receive of His Spirit, now we are the sons of God, if we are led by His Spirit. Yes, Jesus abides in us, (we must have His Spirit) but do we abide in Him? (which is to yield ourselves to His Spirit). Read St. John 15th chap., 1-8 verses.

BIOGRAPHY OF THE LATE BROTHER CLARENCE ROBINSON

Written By Harry Robinson

Inasmuch as many have set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us, I thought it good to write a few of Brother Clarence Robinson's experiences which led

him to The Church of Jesus Christ, as well as some he received after he obeyed the gospel.

In one of the first experiences our late brother had, he dreamed that his **oldest brother, Sam**, stood in the doorway of his bedroom with his arms stretched across the portals. He looked in upon him and spoke these words, **"Any man that sits under a sermon like you, is fit to be converted."**

Later (1926) Brother Robinson left the state of South Carolina intending to go to Pennsylvania to work for one year and then return. It was during this time of his intended brief stay that he came in contact with various churches and religious sects.

He finally met with the late Brother Jesse Nolfi, who was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ, while at work at the U.S. Steel Corp. plant in Clairton, Pa. Brother Nolfi invited Brother Robinson to come to the Church in Glassport, Pa.

After a thorough and sincere investigation of the Restored Gospel, on the **17th day of August, 1930**, **Brother Robinson obeyed the Restored Gospel** with the ordinance of baptism by the late Brother John K. Penn. Afterwards he was confirmed with the laying on of hands by the Priesthood for the reception of the Holy Ghost.

I remember he had this experience years ago, which he often related. While in sincere prayer to God one night, he dozed off into a deep sleep and dreamed that as he was in prayer he saw the **Spirit of the Lord in the form of a dove flying over his head**. The more earnestly he prayed the closer the dove came down toward him until finally it touched his head. He cried out with a loud voice, **"Glory!"** — So loud did he cry that he awoke his wife, Pearl, who asked him what was wrong. He answered, **"Nothing, Pearl, but receiving more Grace."**

Not long after he was baptized, he found himself in an experience giving an invitation to his friends and relatives whom he had left behind in the Methodist Church. He dreamed that he saw his mother, who had died when he was eight years old. She appeared in the dream as he met her, as if she had just come out of a fight or a struggle. He left her and immediately met his brother who was in the same condition (just out of a fight or a struggle). He, Brother Robinson, then spoke to his brother and asked him what was the trouble. He had just left his mother, and she was laboring for breath "And now," he said, "I meet you, and you are in the same condition. **You don't have to stay here and fight. Come and go with me to Glassport, because there's a building in Glassport, a room in the building, and a bed in the room. Come and go with me; it's not far. Come and go.**"

It was at this time, as Brother Robinson interpreted it, that he had found rest in The Church of Jesus Christ. He had already been called and ordained to the office of an Elder at the Glassport Branch.

Brother Robinson related his calling quite a few times, and we who sat under his preaching and teaching can remember it well. **In this experience he saw a smooth-skinned man, without any blemishes upon**

him, sitting in a very clean room at a table. This man was working a miracle with an egg. He asked Brother Robinson this question: **"Can you do this?"** Brother Robinson answered, and said, **"Oh! Lord God, I don't want to preach, I want to teach."** The man said, **"Go teach then."** And he awoke.

Brother Robinson was ordained an Elder in The Church of Jesus Christ on **January 22, 1933**, and later an Evangelist. It was under his ministry received by the Grace of God that many from the North, South, East, and West were affected by his teaching.

This was verified by another revelation given to Brother Robinson on July 2, 1956, about 12:00 noon, after he arrived home from a missionary trip to New Jersey. He dreamed that he saw the form of a man, **his back half turned from him, and he asked Brother Robinson this question with a loud voice, "Is God a just God?"** Brother Robinson answered with a loud voice. **"Yes, He is."** The voice said **"Lead and guide."** Brother Clarence answered and said, **"I will, according to my ability."**

Brother Robinson traveled extensively to New Jersey, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, South Carolina, and Florida, giving his testimony concerning the angel flying in the midst of Heaven with the everlasting Gospel.

We cannot enumerate here all the experiences he had, but this one seems to have stood out among them all. I cannot relate this one verbatim, but to the best of my memory in this experience he had a conversation with Jesus, and Brother Robinson made this statement: **"By faith and belief we shall see Jesus."** Then Jesus answered and said, **"You don't need that now. That belongs to the earth."** Brother Clarence remarked in this experience he had apparently passed through death.

Brother Robinson had many trials and tribulations throughout his life in the Gospel and he went through many tests. I must tell this experience in which he saw and conversed with the Lord Jesus who had a man with Him. Jesus told this man to go to a wardrobe and get some certain clothes for Brother Robinson to put on. (Not to go preach, but to stand a test.) Jesus told Brother Clarence to put his hand on his heart and Brother Robinson did so with his fingers spread apart. Jesus told him again to put his hand on his heart because he said, **"You have but one heart."** Brother Robinson placed his hand on his heart, but this time he placed his fingers together. Jesus nodded and said **"That's the way,"** and He took a plummet, heated it red hot, and placed it at Brother Robinson's heart. He thought it would burn, but it gave a cooling sensation. Brother Robinson said within himself **"Oh well, I have but one time to die."** The last thing Jesus did was to take a water hose and with it He squirted water in the center of his forehead. He said, **"As many of these tests as you stand will be all right with me."** Then he awoke.

And finally, after it had been revealed to many witnesses that Brother Robinson's ministry must shortly come to an end, and evidence was seen that his earthly house had begun to crumble fast, one of his

daughters had an experience in a dream that she made a telephone call to inquire about how much insurance coverage her father had. The man who answered the phone informed her that **he was worth a million.** The daughter said, **"Oh, no! You must have made a mistake. He doesn't have that much insurance."** She asked him to check again to make sure. The man replied, **"We checked just before you called. He's worth a million."**

So knowing these things let it suffice to say that though this man, Brother Clarence Robinson was ignorant and unlearned in many ways, he had seen and talked with the Lord Jesus.

Be it understood by all that Brother Clarence Robinson was a mortal man like unto ourselves, subject to all manner of infirmities in body and mind, but yet was chosen of God to be a servant to administer to this people. He proved faithful to the Restored Gospel through the years and was kept and preserved by the matchless power of God to serve you with all of his might, mind, and strength, even until his last breath was drawn. He came to know Jesus Christ by faith through the revelations that the Lord gave unto him.

Jesus taught in Matthew, 11th Chapter, the 27th verse:

"And no man knoweth the Son but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal Him."

These experiences were submitted according to the best of my memory and knowledge.

NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA

My dear Brothers and Sisters:

It is surely wonderful to be able to write of the blessings God bestows upon His children and for the desire He gives us to share them with one another. This we can do through The Gospel News. I read carefully that I may receive a blessing and I hope this letter will be a blessing to all those who read it. As I write the Spirit quickens my soul, and tears flow because of love in my heart. I am relying upon the Lord as to what to write for I feel the Spirit guiding me.

We just got back from our branch in Bell, California where we had an uplifting gathering. We went there with two of our new members of Yucaipa and a friend. Every turn of the wheel sounded like music and we can truthfully say it was good to be there. The spirit of love is so strong among our people. Our hearts were hungry for the greetings we received and it was that way with all the members. Oh, what love! It is to be found only among the children of God. Nowhere else could be found the **charity** that comes from the very throne of God. Unashamed and sincere we embraced one another like we never wanted to be apart. How great God is to share that love from His very bosom. More and more I want to help bring it to the world. I want it to be contagious so they will know we are the chosen people of the Most High God; so people will want to be near us because there is comfort here.

Here in Yucaipa the Lord is working through

such love. It has brought four members into our midst and many others are searching. May God give us strength to be able to carry on His work. May we not be hearers of the word only, but doers as taught by the Lord.

I remember the day when through the power of God, this love was brought to me all the way from Detroit, Michigan to California. It was this love that drew me to know the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Brother John Gammiachia brought with him such a spirit and by his love he drew us close to God. I thank God for such faithful men who show the light and carry it three thousand miles. It has grown sweeter as the years have passed. It has now been almost nineteen years. My hopes now are to give it to those who are seeking, and believe me they are many. Pray for us here in Yucaipa that Jesus will be with us. May God's love be with us all is my prayer.

Mary Spata

NUPTIALS McNELIS -- GAVAGHAN

Brother and Sister James Gavaghan of Keenan Hill, New Eagle, Pa. wish to announce the marriage of their daughter, Mary Jane, to John T. McNelis of West Elizabeth, Pa. The double-ring wedding ceremony was performed by the bride's uncle, Apostle Samuel Kirschner, at 7:30 p.m. Monday, December 28, in The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

Following the ceremony a reception was held at the Ginger Hill Grange. May God bless them with a happy married life.

* * * * *

CALLAHAN -- TRIPOLI

Brother and Sister Charles Tripoli of Cleveland, Ohio wish to announce the marriage of their daughter, Mary, to Mr. Edward F. Callahan. The wedding was solemnized at the home of the bride's parents with Brother Oliver Lloyd officiating.

Many friends and relatives were in attendance with a dinner and reception following the ceremony. The young couple attended the West Side Mission of The Church of Jesus Christ. They will make their home in Cleveland, Ohio. May God bless them with health and happiness.

* * * * *

JARDANHAZY -- DePIERO

On December 12, 1964, Miss Judith L. DePiero, daughter of Sister Helen, and Salvatore DePiero, became the bride of Mr. Paul J. Jardanhazy. Mr. Jardanhazy is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Jardanhazy, and is serving with the U.S. Navy at Norfolk, Va.

The double-ring ceremony was held at The Church of Jesus Christ, Glassport, Pa., and was officiated by Brother Alma Nolfi. It was a beautiful wedding.

Our prayers are that God will bless this young couple all the days of their life.

* * * * * NICHOLS -- LaCOMMARE

Brother and Sister Vito LaCommare of Modesto, California wish to announce the marriage of their

daughter, Mary, to Mr. Ronald Nichols, son of Mr. and Mrs. Perry Nichols of Modesto.

The wedding was very lovely. It was performed in the Church of The Brethren with Brother Joseph Lovalvo officiating, assisted by Brother Mark Randy.

The young couple reside in San Jose where Ronald is finishing his education. May God richly bless them.

* * * * *

TROTTER -- MONTEROSSO

Sister Pamela Monterosso of Modesto, California wishes to announce the marriage of her daughter, Pearl, to Mr. Ronald Trotter, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Trotter of Ceres, California.

The wedding was performed in the Church of Christ and was very nice. May God richly bless this young couple. They will reside in Modesto, California.

* * * * *

RANDY -- McKINNON

Mr. and Mrs. Jack McKinnon of Modesto, California wish to announce the marriage of their daughter, Laura, to Mr. Joseph Randy, son of Brother and Sister Mark Randy (also of Modesto). The ceremony was performed in the First Presbyterian Church with Brother Mark Randy officiating.

The young couple are residing in Modesto, California. May God richly bless them.

* * * * *

55TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Brother and Sister Anthony Thompson, Sr. of Smock, Pennsylvania observed their 55th wedding anniversary on November 4, 1964. They were married in Greensburg, Pennsylvania in 1909. The occasion was observed with a family dinner at Jimmy's Restaurant on Route 119. Brother Thompson is a retired coal miner, having worked fifty-one years in the mines.

Sister Thompson is the former Anna King, daughter of the late Apostle Martin and Sister Maryanne King, of Grindstone, Pennsylvania. Brother Thompson is an elder of The Church of Jesus Christ at Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania. Brother Thompson will be eighty years old on March 30th and Sister Thompson will be 73 years of age on June 14th. They have both been members of the Church for fifty-two years.

The couple had fifteen children, twelve of whom are living. They also have thirty-eight grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren. They have waited upon the Lord, and he has given unto them an abundant life here on earth. May God's blessings always be with them.

OBITUARIES

SARA DREER

Born on July 2, 1903, Sister Sara Pollard Dreer died in the McKeesport Hospital on December 16, 1964, following an extended illness. After her baptism on January 6, 1957, Sister Dreer often spoke of how much she valued living as a member of The Church of Jesus Christ. She proved herself to be a very considerate and charitable person through her sense of giving and her constant effort to help others.

Brother Philip Dreer, a brother-in-law to Sister Dreer and Brother Isaac Smith, a nephew, conducted her funeral service. She is survived by her husband, Brother Edward Dreer; a daughter, Mrs. Sally Shiflet; two brothers; three sisters; a step-son and step daughter; and fifteen grandchildren. May God bless her family and friends who deeply feel her loss.

* * * * *

HUGH MIXTER

Brother Hugh Mixter, a faithful brother from the McKees Rocks Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed away from this life December 27, 1964. He was born at St. Mary, West Virginia, August 7, 1882, and was baptized August 7, 1949. Brother Dan Casasanta officiated at the funeral.

Brother Mixter's favorite passage of Scripture was John 14:1, 2. May the Lord comfort his wife, Sister Mamie, and all the family, as well as all others who mourn his passing.

NEWS FROM LORAIN, OHIO

On December 23, 1964, the Lorain Branch Sunday School held their annual Christmas program. This year we had a baptism earlier in the evening and the confirmation before our program began. Our new sister, Elma Fish, resides in Elyria, Ohio but she was born in the Panama Canal Zone. She remembers her aunt telling her when she was younger that she has some Indian background, and is in the process of checking this out. We pray that the Lord will continue to bless Sister Elma in her endeavor to serve Him.

Our program was presented with the young children saying their small parts and singing Christmas Hymns in honor of Jesus' birth. The Choir then presented a program entitled "Christmas is Everything"—Immanuel (God with us) and that is Everything. We wish everyone a Happy and Joyous New Year!

Branch Editor
Betty Alessio

G. M. B. A. COMMENTS

by Carl J. Frammolino

MBA Strives to be of Greater Service

It has been slightly over sixty years since Brother Alexander Cherry was inspired to sponsor the establishment of the organization presently known as the Missionary Benevolent Association. From its inception, the Association has gradually taken on added meaning in its never-ending quest to be of greater service.

The last MBA By-Law Revision, adopted in November, shows how the scope has been constantly enlarged. In this revision, besides focusing on the youth of The Church and creating additional officers, activities committees were incorporated to allow any and all of the Association's objectives to be pursued through more unified efforts by project activities.

Beginnings Traced

Brother James Curry made an analysis of historical research conducted by General MBA Corresponding Secretary, Sister Ruth Akerman, for the organization's Golden Jubilee. He stated in "The Found-

ing of the MBA" for the July, 1954 issue of **The Gospel News** that the original purposes were to help the Saints in "... learning more about God's dealing with humanity and of making such contributions as they felt able to donate to the Missionary labors of the priesthood."

As more diverse needs of The Church became apparent, the Association began its policy of adjusting to help satisfy them. Among these contributions have been the placing of copies of **The Book of Mormon** in libraries, the financing of literature printing for our Indian missions, the giving of donations for specific causes, the establishment of the GMBA Land Purchase Fund to house a future centrally-located Church conference building, the opportunity for increased spiritual sociability among the members, and the means with which to work with the youth of The Church. All these kinds of contributions have been added while, at the same time, preserving the original intentions of the organization.

A breakdown of the responsibilities the Association has undertaken reveals that they presently fall into four major classifications. The categories are those for study classes, missionary assistance, benevolent (welfare) efforts, and youth guidance.

Study Classes

The By-Laws (Art. XVI, Sec. 1) state that "MBA Locals should meet once a week to study **The Book of Mormon**, **The Holy Bible**, Church literature, or appropriate instructional material screened by the Local." To carry out this weekly instructional schedule systematically, permanent teachers are elected for six-month terms, the same as are all other local officials. They may be reelected as many times as the members choose, which is the case for all MBA officers.

The MBA Laws (Art. XVIII, Sec. 11) further stipulate concerning this important office that "The teachers shall have charge of the instruction of classes. Each teacher shall prepare lessons to properly direct and stimulate the learning of the class members."

Missionary Assistance

At practically every recent GMBA Conference, authorized donations have been made to the General Church Missionary Fund. The grants, in addition to those given by individual member locals, have been extended to aid the people in various missionary locations who are working on behalf of The Gospel. Money has also been donated to support the needs of missions which are not self-supporting.

In giving to missionary activities, the MBA has attempted to follow the advice and guidance of The Church's "Board of Missions." It has been felt that the greatest efficiency and benefit are derived by using the direction of the Board.

Benevolent Efforts

Brother Curry condensed the benevolent aspect of the Association in his analysis. He indicated that the word "benevolent" itself denotes the real character of the undertaking by "... meaning kind,

charitable, philanthropic, or loving mankind."

Under "Duties of Members" in the By-Laws (Art. XIX, Sec. 2), it is urged that members should "... be charitable and benevolent at all times." Also, they should "report any cases of need and distress to the Relief Committee, ..." A three-member Relief Committee is elected at the GMBA level to investigate and evaluate these cases. At the local level, the President, Vice-President, and Chaplain serve similarly on that unit's Relief Committee.

In this sphere, it is emphasized that it is everyone's responsibility to assist the needy. The general and local levels of the organization have offered just such assistance from their resources many times in the past, and they are constantly looking for chances to help.

Youth Guidance

In recent years, the MBA has become concerned with the spiritual help it can extend the youth of The Church. There are two reasons for the concern. First, it is realized that the youth of today represent The Church of tomorrow. Second, it is understood that many challenges face the younger generation today, and, thus, they must be aided to more adequately serve God.

To highlight the concern for the young, the MBA Constitutional Preamble states "The main purpose of the MBA is to promote the spiritual welfare of the youth in our midst. Also, it seeks to provide opportunities for the young people to assume MBA responsibilities." The organization's older and more experienced members, who have worked faithfully and successfully for the MBA in the past, are asked, naturally, to help with this task.

While the other MBA phases have proven themselves and are permanent fixtures in the organization, youth guidance is in its relatively early stages. The MBA is accepting this responsibility, the same as it has the others; and the various activities which will be a definite part of the Association will be some of the greatest aids in fulfilling this obligation and, hence, allow it "to be of greater service."

(In the next issue, the General MBA President, Brother Dominic Thomas, will answer the question: "How Can The Youth of The Church Serve The MBA?")

S - M - I - L - E

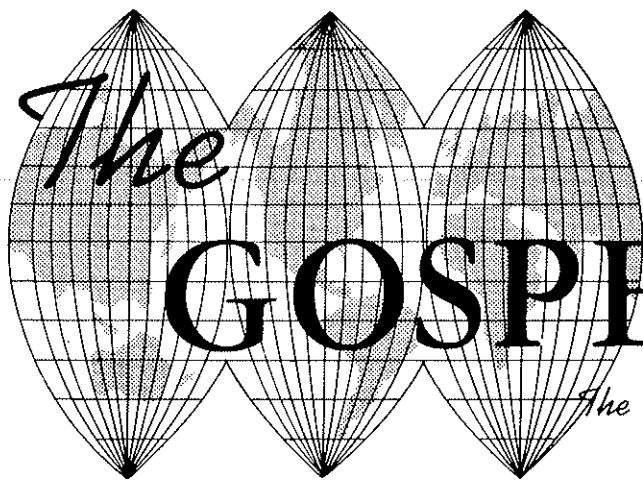
A microbe, swimming along a vein, came face to face with another microbe who looked extremely ill. "What's the matter with you, my poor friend?" he asked.

"Oh! Don't come near me!" the other replied. "I'm afraid I've caught a little penicillin!"

* * * * *

The talkative lady was telling her husband about the bad manners of a recent visitor. "If that woman yawned once while I was talking to her," she said, "she yawned ten times."

"Perhaps she wasn't yawning, dear," the husband said. "Maybe she wanted to say something."



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MY MEDITATION

By Robert Trujillo

*As I lamented my state, and cried out for Heaven
to ease my pain,
A voice spoke with reproving yet compassionate
understanding, burning these words forever on
my heart;
"Whose spittle have you wiped from your face?
Who has mocked you, and with derisive words de-
filed your sacred beliefs?
Who has handed you injustice and given you dis-
honor, and humiliation for your love?
Whose foul breath has offended your innocence, and
judged your kindness as blasphemy?
What tissue has been ravished by exhaustion, and
pierced with crude nails?
What pain have you suffered for another, and what
acts of love have you performed?
What gentle and beautiful thoughts have you tram-
pled under the feet of a once friendly populous?
How many tears have you shed for your fellowmen,
only to have them returned as gall?
What temptation have you turned from so that you
might serve mankind?
Tell me, please, for my ears are eager to hear of
your pain, and anguish."*

*For a moment there was silence, total and absolute;
then I answered,*

*"Master, from the smallest human pain and weak-
ness, comes understanding! and from understand-
ing comes love, and thankfulness.*

*I see now, that what I thought misfortune was in
reality a road to strength, and what seemed pain-
ful, only my minds rebellion to divine will.*

*Now, I thank you for the faith and hope that I have,
and with a thankful understanding heart, wish
only to serve in any way that I can."*

*Later I walked in the cool night air and smiled to
myself.*

*Now when at times the world closes in,
I have but to smile to myself, and say "Thank you";
And the pressure of an unseen hand on my shoulder
brings me peace.*

YES, JESUS HAS RISEN

by W. H. Cadman

Much is always written at this season of the year on the resurrection of Christ as it is recorded in the New Testament. And wonderful is the account that is given therein; yea, wonderful is the story of the disciples who were walking on the way when Jesus suddenly walked with them. He unravelled to them the words of the prophet concerning Himself, and later they were made to exclaim, "Did not our hearts burn within us?" Also there is the instance of Peter and John out-running each other to the sepulchre to see for themselves.

Also we have the experience of Mary when she was made to exclaim, "Rabboni". We can recall the account of the great earthquake when the veil of the temple was rent in twain, and the saints came out of their graves and appeared in the streets of Jerusalem.

The account in the New Testament is wonderful, and I am sure that I would not dare to say anything that would in any way detract from the accounts as given by the humble followers of Christ, both men and women; but I do want to draw attention to some things recorded in the Book of Mormon concerning this great event.

If you will open your Book of Mormon to III Nephi, chapter 8 and read the account of the three days of darkness upon this land (America) while the Saviour of the world was suspended between earth and heaven with the transgressors, you will learn something of the mysterious things of God. In verses 5, 6, 7, you read thus: "And it came to pass in the thirty and fourth year, in the first month, on the fourth day of the month, there arose a great storm, such a one as never had been known in all the land. And there was also a great and terrible tempest and there was terrible thunder, insomuch that it did shake the whole earth as if it was about to divide asunder, and there were exceeding sharp lightnings, such as never had been known in all the land." (Meaning this land of America.)

Please everybody read for yourselves. Cities were covered up in the earth, some were swallowed up in the seas, mountains appeared where there had been valleys, and vice versa. The whole face of the land was changed. Highways were broken up, the level

roads were spoiled, and many smooth places became rough. Many great and notable cities were sunk, and many burned. "And behold, the rocks were rent in twain; they were broken up upon the face of the whole earth, insomuch that they were found in broken fragments, and in seams and in cracks, upon all the face of the land." (America) How true that statement is.

In Palestine there was darkness from the sixth to the ninth hour while Christ was on the cross, but on this land of America there was darkness for the space of three days. There was no light to be seen, neither fire nor glimmer, neither the sun nor the moon nor the stars, so great were the mists of darkness which were upon the face of the land. In this great destruction which occurred, we are told that the more wicked of the inhabitants perished, while the more righteous were spared.

After the storm was over, the earth quieted again after all its groaning and shaking, and the darkness disappeared; — daylight returned. Behold, Jesus Christ who died on Calvary's Cross descended upon this land, yea, on this land we call "America The Beautiful" and showed Himself to those who survived the great destruction. He blessed the people (the fore-fathers of those we call American Indians) even as He did those in Judea and Galilee. Yea, what a wonderful world event was the resurrection of Jesus, as recorded in the "Despised" Book of Mormon. Not much wonder the poet asks you the question:

"Have you read the Golden Bible,
Book of Mormon, Book divine?
Tis a marvelous work, a wonder,
Nothing equal in its line."

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April 1951

OTHERS by Muriel Miller

Time is so precious. Each fleeting moment wasted is one less minute we have to do Christ's bidding. Stretch a hand to one unfriended; even one little act of kindness is often the determining factor in making contact with others pleasant. But failure to think of others may create hazardous, as well as unfavorable, impressions, love of others helps one and all. Our lot in the Gospel of Jesus Christ should teach us the value of sharing, not as a matter of duty but as a privilege so others may be helped and blessed. Once in a while we refer to someone who lives a beautiful and totally unselfish life just for others. Moreover, service rendered to others is often rich in returns of affection and gratitude. Above all, the Lord Himself has promised in grace to reward the faithful deeds of love performed by His children. Acts 9-36. Dorcas was a woman full of good works and almsdeeds which she did. Our Saviour gave His all upon a rugged cross for others. We who are recipients of God's mercy dare not be like a sponge which absorbs and never gives out. It is impossible to enjoy the mercy of God selfishly. We must be reflectors of that divine mercy. May we recognize that each one has a mission in life to fulfill, involving not only your personal welfare but also the well-

being of countless others. It is our privilege to help others by confessing Christ. As we confess Christ, the spirit of God will brighten our lives, and very likely the life of the one to whom we give our testimony. May our love for Him lift our thoughts from self to the needs of others. We who belong to the true Church have the obligation of leading others to the faith by words, example, and prayers. Our prayers can reach all the way around the world to touch the lives of others we will never know. Isaiah 6-8. "Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I, send me." Happy is the man who knows his proper place in life, and is content to use his talents, be they few or many, to the glory of God, by helping others to gather information and to apply it constructively to our fast changing times. It is what we do with what we have that God counts. It doesn't matter who you are, or what you have, or do: if you give of your very best, the best returns to you. If we love others with our hearts we get love in return. John 13-34. "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another, as I have loved you."

May our lives be clear recommendations of the saving grace of Jesus Christ that those reading our lives, will want to become His followers. May each step of spiritual growth be contagious in helping us to so love and serve that happy memories will be our most valued treasures.

A NOTE OF SYMPATHY (Belated)

We wish to express our sympathy to Sister Lena Campagna and family on the recent loss of her husband, and to Brother Frank Salerno and family whose wife died after a long illness.

May God bless and comfort them in their hour of need.

THE WAY OF SORROW by Richard Radich

*O Jesus, Man of Sorrow,
Thy life does clearly show
The way which we must follow
To serve Thee here below;
It is the way of Sorrow,
The path of Pain and Woe
Which Love treads thru hate's shadow
To set the world aglow.*

*See, on the Way even now
Truth is scorned as vilest dross;
Peace wears thorns about its brow;
Love is bowed beneath a cross!*

NOTE OF THANKS

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all my friends, relatives and Brothers and Sisters for the many cards and letters we received during my wife's extended illness. I am grateful to all who donated flowers and extended other acts of kindness in our hour of need.

Edward Dreer

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Editorial Viewpoint



George A. Neill

I sometimes think we are inclined to forget that Christ's cross was the real thing and that He died a criminal's death. Just to look upon the cross should cause us to catch our breath; should make our hearts pound. How can Christians gaze upon the cross and remain unmoved!

I don't believe there is another event in history that has so captivated the heart of man as has the crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God. Paul, the apostle, has written, "And in all things He might have the preeminence." I have often said that Christ is preeminent in every way. More poems have been written, more songs have been sung, and more sermons have been preached about Him than all other subjects combined. More books have been written with the crucifixion as the central theme than upon any other subject. The man, Jesus, has been thought about, written about, talked about, loved, and hated more than any other person who ever lived.

Let us look at Christ as He walks the **Via Dolorosa** to Golgotha; as John says, "bearing His cross," that instrument of shame and torture; eventually breaking beneath its load (as some are inclined to believe), and a Cyrenean named Simon is compelled to bear it for Him. Jesus' physical strength (and I repeat, if He was enfeebled) had not been utterly broken as a result of carrying His cross. The horrible severity of the previous scourging, the mental agony of the garden, the three trials as well as sentences of death, a sleepless night of anxiety and suffering; all led to a final breakdown of physical strength.

St. Luke tells us there followed Him a great company of people and of women. From the men, it would appear, He received not one word of pity or sympathy. Most surely some had seen His miracles, heard His words, and were utterly convinced of His Messiahship. Were there not some men who accompanied Him from Bethany just a few days before, shouting "Hosanna," and waving palms? Yet, if so, something kept them silent. However, these women (and women are more inclined to pity and less able to control their feelings) would not conceal their grief and sorrow. They began to bewail and lament Him. Jesus, turning to them, spoke words that hushed their cries — words filled with a solemn warning — for He said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children. For behold, the days are coming, in the which they shall say, Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bare, and the paps which never gave suck. Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, Fall on us; and to the hills, Cover us. For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?" Their emotional outbursts were the result of woman's tenderness which they could not repress as they saw Him whom they had learned to love in His hour of woe. But He warns them that a far more bitter cause of woe awaits them and their children; that the majority of their children would live to see rivers of blood and agony such as the world had never known before. Many would seek to hide themselves in the recesses of the hill upon which their city stood.

These words were but a literal illustration pointing to the siege of Jerusalem. Their nation, according to Christ's own words, was considered as a green tree, and if such deeds as they were now doing to Him were being done while the tree was green, what would be done when the tree was dry, withered, and ready for

the fire. Following is a quotation from **The Life of Christ** by Canon Farrar: "The solemn warning, the last sermon of Christ on earth, was meant primarily for those who heard it; but, like all the words of Christ, it has deeper and wider meaning for all mankind. Those words warn every child of man the day of careless pleasure and blasphemous disbeliefs will be followed by the crack of doom; they warn each human being who lives in pleasure on the earth, and eats, and drinks, and is drunken, that though the patience of God waits, and His silence is unbroken, yet the days shall come when He shall speak in thunder, and His wrath shall burn like fire."

Upon arrival at the fatal place, "the place of a skull," Jesus was laid down upon the implement of torture, and with arms outstretched and palms open, nails were driven home into the wood by a mallet; also through either foot nails tore their way by the blows of the same mallet. I wonder sometimes if we realize what death by crucifixion would really be like. This cursed tree, as it is referred to many times, was then raised and fixed firmly in a hole dug in the earth.

It would appear that Jesus was in reach of every hand that might choose to strike Him. The Scriptures say He was offered vinegar on a sponge but He refused to drink. And there in torture, which increased as time passed, He endured the suffering of crucifixion; for indeed, a death by crucifixion seems to include all pain that death can have. It has been said that He hung there from shortly after noon until nearly sunset. Such was the death Christ endured. I sometimes think we are inclined to forget that Christ's cross was the real thing and that He died a criminal's death. Just to look upon the cross should cause us to catch our breath; should make our hearts pound. How can Christians gaze upon the cross and remain unmoved!

When we commune let us look upon the Communion Table; and as we gaze at the symbols of Christ's body and blood, let us lift our eyes to behold the "Old Rugged Cross" upon which God's Son gave His life to purchase our salvation. Remember, Peter says Christ bore our sins in His own body on the tree that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. Here, as the hymn writer says, is "love beyond degree." I have often said it was not because of the swords and staves that Jesus went up Calvary's hill; it was because of love — the greatest of all loves. It took more than nails to hold Him there upon that cross; it was His great love for us that kept Him there. In what appeared to be the moment of Christ's weakness, He was strong. Although surrounded by sin and hate, He became the greatest example of the power of love, which love He extended to His worst enemies. Yes, even on the cross He reigned. He was still elevated above the priests who had brought about His death. What an inscription — "The King of the Jews"! Pilate caused this to be placed over His head as He hung upon the cross; it stood out in fiery letters. These words seemed to dampen the hour of triumph for those who had sought His death and they begged the Governor to alter the title, but he would not. "What I have written, I have written,"

he told them. Before it was all over the air seemed to be full of signs that undoubtedly caused many to say with the centurion, "Surely this was the Son of God." The King was not unworthy of His Kingdom, but the Kingdom unworthy of its King.

ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE BOOK OF MORMON ARTICLE I

by Antoinette Ciaravino

We have been studying from the Book of Mormon for some time now, and we thought it would be of interest to speak on it this evening. We find it a very fascinating history of God's other sheep and His dealings with them. Many of us became acquainted with this book for the first time when we came into contact with The Church of Jesus Christ and began to study it in either the M.B.A. or the Ladies' Circle. Many of us have accepted this record through faith, as in the words of Moroni, the tenth chapter, verses 1 through five.

In speaking of the Book of Mormon to our friends and acquaintances, we find a great deal of doubt and skepticism. Many disbelieve because the word "Mormon" conveys to them the word "bigamy". Others mistrust the book because of the beliefs of other faiths that uphold the book. To many it is a fantastic story, too far-fetched to be true. This evening we would like to speak on one of the methods to prove the Book of Mormon a true record. This method is archaeology, which is the study of history from relics and remains of antiquity.

It is interesting to note that the foremost scientists who pursued this study of our ancient American culture were not of this country. Archaeology as a science is of fairly recent origin. Most of it, in both the Old World and the New, dates back approximately one hundred years. After many valuable findings in the Old World, many men became interested in our culture. The Indians themselves left very few written records, but there were some. The Spanish came to Mexico to colonize and to Christianize the Indians in the sixteenth century. Their main interest was to possess the lands of their immense richness in gold, silver, precious stones, and ores. They attempted to do away with the paganism of the Indians. They were worshipping many Gods and were practicing human sacrifice. There were many pyramids in Mexico. They were topped with temples to the Indian Gods and they were very fierce in their devotion to them. Nothing but the best was offered to them. The priests would take their human sacrifices to the top of the pyramid into the temple, take a sharp knife, and cut out their hearts to offer to their Gods as burnt offerings. The bodies were thrown down the steps of the pyramids. Priests of a lower rank skinned the body, removed their own vestments, arrayed themselves in the skin of the person who was sacrificed, and solemnly danced with the spectators. If the sacrificial victim had been a brave soldier, his body was sometimes divided and eaten. They believed eating his body also gave them bravery. Women and children were as frequently

sacrificed as men.

In their zeal to do away with all this paganism, the Spanish priests destroyed many of their relics and records. In spite of this, there are some rare records in existence.

Diego de Landa, a prominent missionary in Yucatan, writing in approximately the year 1556, says "According to the Maya's, the world was destroyed by a deluge. Some of the older people who dwelled in Yucatan say that they have heard from their ancestors that this land was occupied by a race of people who came from the East and whom God had delivered. If this were true, it necessarily follows that all inhabitants of the Indies are descendants of the Jews."

Vazquez de Espinosa, a Spanish missionary, became a distinguished theologian. He came to America where he did missionary work in Peru and throughout Mexico. In 1612 he returned to Spain and wrote a book on what he had learned. It was translated into the English language for the first time in 1942. His book is literally filled with evidence which shows the Indians to be descendants of the Jews. He studied their religious beliefs and customs thoroughly. His findings are too numerous to quote. The Spanish Padres who visited Mexico and Central America were amazed at the Indians' religious beliefs and teachings of the Old Testament, and also in Christianity. For example, they found symbols of the Trinity before Peruvian altars, a rainbow legend, and a flood story. Dr. Paul Herrman, a German Scholar, in his recent book concludes that the rainbow legend and flood story "might have come straight from the book of Genesis." They probably did, since the Nephites had Genesis recorded on the brass Plates of Laban.

Lord Kingsborough from England collected large quantities of original documents in America. Between 1830-1848 his *ANTIQUITIES OF MEXICO* were published in nine enormous volumes. He believed that the American Indians were descended from the ten lost tribes of Israel. His published books are recognized as vital material by students of American History and Archaeology. His thoughts of the Indians being of the lost tribes had been shared years previously by two Jewish travelers who visited this land from 1644 to 1655.

Pignoria, who lived in the seventeenth century, wrote from material he had reviewed and read in the Codex Vaticanus, which is material that had been salvaged from the Indians by the Spanish missionaries and sent to the Vatican in Rome. He felt there was a connection between Egyptian and American civilizations.

Waldeck who lived from 1766-1875 was the third European to throw himself heart and soul into exploration of Middle America's past. He was of French origin, and served in Egypt during the Napoleonic Invasion. He visited Guatemala in 1821. He became a friend of Lord Kingsborough who financed Waldeck's explorations from 1832-1836. While Kingsborough believed the Indians to be of Jewish origin, Waldeck maintained the Mexican Indians were descended from the Egyptians. While this seems to be contradictory, Nephi states in I Nephi, verse 2, "Yea, I make a record in the language of my father, which consists of

the learning of the Jews and the language of the Egyptians." This conveys to us they were a mixture of the two cultures.

Also agreeing with the theory of an Egyptian background was Alexander Von Humboldt who published books as early as 1807. A German, he was the first European to study Old Mexican architecture. He found the architecture to be similar to that of Egypt, especially in the Pyramid of Cholula. It is of Toltec culture, which dates back to the time of the Nephites. It is interesting to note that according to history, the Egyptians kept time by dating an event by the year it occurred in the reign of a certain ruler. This is similar to the Book of Mormon, where time was kept by the reign of the Judges.

There are many legends among a multitude of tribes, scattered over Mexico, Central America, and South America, but there is a legend which occurs over and over again, and that is of the white bearded God who appeared to them from the sky and taught them how to live, and promised to return again to them. In Mexico the Aztecs called him Quetzalcoatl, in Yucatan the Mayas called him Kukulcan. Viracocha was the name given by the Incas of Peru.

Also, in many of the different tribes in scattered locations, we meet white Indians. One of the most important discoveries of the twentieth century is the "Temple of the Painted Walls", which in the Mayan language is called Bonampak. This was found in 1947 in the southern jungles of Mexico. Nearby lived a small tribe of Indians which has never been Christianized, the Lacadon Indians. They are of a white skin, and have kept themselves away from all civilization. They still practice pagan worship, and would go to the temple of Bonampak to worship in secret. This temple had never been seen by a white man; it was surrounded by a jungle. Finally a white man became acquainted with them and after much persuasion was shown the temple, which has since become a very famous source of information. It has many murals on its walls, painted in brilliant hues of as many as eleven colors, depicting many scenes from real life, showing both white men and dark men. Several outstanding archaeologists and the Carnegie Institution have dated the murals at about 600 A.D., but believe the city had been occupied several centuries previously. Many of the scenes were battle scenes.

As a closing thought, I would like to mention, that far from becoming extinct, according to Hubert Herring in *HISTORY OF LATIN AMERICA*, there are from 15,000,000 to 20,000,000 pure Indians in the Western hemisphere, one-half million in the United States and Canada, and the remaining in Latin America. May they some day regain their heritage and become a fair and delightful people once again.

TESTIMONY OF SISTER JULIA O'BRIEN Metuchen, N.J.

Having begun my married life with a mixed religious background, I found myself facing many obstacles. Children began to arrive, but God was never mentioned in our home. The children occasionally went to one religious school or church, then to another, until they were about eight or nine years of

age. They never mentioned what went on in church. God still was never mentioned in our home.

I occasionally went to a church, the church depending upon which child I went with. When I reached the door of my home, I had God locked tight in my heart as we never mentioned God or religion in our house. Then troubles started.

Our children were being taken by God. Two children passed away in nine months. I felt bad, but never bitter. I used to talk to God whenever I could find a minute away from all my family. Children kept coming and they were being taken away.

We never said Grace or Thank you, Lord, at our table or for anything. At times quietly I would say, "Thank God." That was the extent of our religious life until my tenth child, my blessed son Donald, was born. He was born full of God's love and spirit. From the day I brought him from the hospital, I prayed to God with Donnie in my arms.

I never had been taught to kneel, so I stood beside his crib or sat with him in my arms. On his first Christmas, as was our custom, we all gathered together and the youngest child handed out the gifts. On Donnie's fifth Christmas, he was able to read names, so I dressed him in a Santa Claus suit and helped him give out the gifts.

Donnie's whole body was filled with God's love. He was so good to everyone. As he gave his last gift he kept looking around as if something was missing. I asked him what he was looking for, and he said softly, "Ma, you told me it was Jesus' birthday." I said "Yes, why?" He whispered, "I was just wondering where His present was. I guess everyone forgot Him." Right there I said, "Don, you and Mom will never forget Jesus as long as we live." Shortly after that, Donnie could never walk again. I hardly got to church, but not one day or night in all those years until the day Donnie passed on, twenty-five years later, did Donnie and I ever go to bed until he and I prayed and thanked God for everything. Donnie and I lived for God. All day we sang hymns, read church stories, or watched church programs on T.V. I thank God for loaning to me the wonderful son who taught several people that Christ meant more to him and me than gifts. Thank God that through Donnie's passing, I am continuing my prayers and have been drawn closer to God through The Church of Jesus Christ.

"BRING A FRIEND NIGHT"

Detroit Branch #3 had a "Bring A Friend Night" service on January 15, 1965. Everyone tried to bring someone who had never before attended the M.B.A., or hadn't attended in a long time. Members from the other locals in the Michigan-Canadian District visited with us also.

Each of the six classes in our local, ranging from pre-schoolers to the adult Italian class, gave a brief synopsis of their studies. Brother Dan Parravano compiled a brief history of our local.

In addition to this, Brother Dominic Thomas, President of the G.M.B.A., was our guest speaker. He pointed out that it is the task of the M.B.A. to inspire and nurture a feeling for God. If through the

M.B.A. we gain a respect for God's teachings and a desire to put His teachings into effect, the M.B.A. will have succeeded in its purpose.

After the meeting, we met with our friends downstairs for refreshments.

Rose Mary Furitano, Branch Editor

LEST WE FORGET

by Mark Randy

Shortly after Brother James Lovalvo and I were baptized and gave our hearts to Christ, Brother Ishmael D'Amico invited us to visit Rochester, New York. The Rochester mission was small and they often met in homes. In this mission there was a number of young people, children of the saints, who were saying that our Church was an old people's Church.

Brother James and I decided to make the trip. Before leaving Detroit, we prayed and asked the brothers and sisters to pray for us also. We went by way of Cleveland, Ohio, and stopped at Brother Rocco Biscotti's home. Brother Rocco was a young elder who presided over the Church there. He and his wife received us with great love and enthusiasm. Being Wednesday evening, we went to their meeting which was held in an old building which they rented. To our surprise, Brother Biscotti asked us to preach. We were truly unqualified for such a duty and were naturally frightened. Once we got up to offer prayer all fear was dispelled. I shall never forget the blessings of God as Brother James related his full surrender to Christ, and so wonderfully told of the love of God toward mankind—a love that filled our hearts to overflowing. Although we had just met the brothers and sisters there, we were truly not strangers through this love. After the meeting was dismissed, the saints lingered and could not part for over an hour.

On arrival at Rochester, Brother Ishmael lost no time taking us to the Marinetti's, who had a fine family of young people. They were very much impressed with our testimony. Brother D'Amico arranged meetings every night at Brother Castronovo's house. We were permitted to do the preaching, though we were not elders or teachers according to the manner of our Church. I believe that the Lord had already anointed us, however. During these meetings and shortly thereafter Patsy, Anna, Yolanda, and Guido Marinetti were baptized and gave their hearts to the Lord. Also baptized were Christina and Mary Guadagnino, Florence Catena, Christie Trovato, and later Dorothy Marinetti.

Those days cannot be forgotten; love filled them with pure devotion to Christ who seemed so near. The Lord blessed us in everything we said. When we were finally ready to leave, the young people crowded into one car and followed us to the outskirts of the city. When we reached the highway we stopped and with tears in our eyes we saluted each other, but they did not go back home. They kept following us. We stopped again and this time our hearts were broken. We had never experienced such love — this was not carnal love, but the pure love of God; we were all strangers only a few days before. We truly un-

derstood how Paul felt when he departed from the Ephesians.

Those of you that were in that number, as you read this letter, try to go back to those wonderful days and recapture a portion of that love in your hearts, even as it is still in my heart. I praise God and love Him who is ever present and does not forget. God Bless You.

A DAYDREAM

Long ago an old cedar tree, weary of standing alone in one place, complained, "Lord, I am constrained and constricted and weary of this one posture and one place where nothing ever happens. The caravans come and go, but I know not whence or where. Permit me to go into all the world and see all men and be seen of all men." And the Lord said, "Will you first bear the load that shall be put upon you? And then will you bear to all men the testimony that I shall give you?" And the cedar tree said, "Yes, Lord."

So men came and cut the tree down and made it into a great cross. They nailed a man to the cross and stood it upon a hill. The tree trembled with grief and shame that it should be made the instrument of such inhuman torture, so that even the earth shook and the sky was darkened. Then the man was taken from the cross and laid briefly in a new tomb. And the cross was taken into all lands and saw all men and was seen of all men. And everywhere and always to all men of every tongue it bore the one testimony that had been given it to bear, the story of the crucifixion.

Elbert A. Smith —The Saints' Herald

TESTIMONY OF BROTHER EDWARD GESSNER

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I have been blessed with many experiences since I came to know The Church of Jesus Christ. One particular experience I would like to share with you; this took place in the church building at Glassport, Pa., on January 10, 1965.

Brother Rocco Tassone opened the meeting with prayer this Sunday morning. While we were praying, these words came to me: "Love the hand that leadeth you; that leadeth you through the depths of hell." What a blessing it was when Brother Alma Nolfi preached on this very subject.

That afternoon I gave my testimony of how God's love abides with His people. How wonderful it is to be able to go through life with His hand to guide us. Without God's love we have nothing. The love we show to our children can't compare with the love God has for us. The love we have for our brothers and sisters in Christ, and the love we have for our Saviour, makes living in these trying times much easier. So, brothers and sisters, love Christ as He loves you.

If God shall see fit that I live till February 7, it will be five years since I've been baptized in the Church. He has picked me out of the world to be one of His chosen people. I first knew of the Church in 1954 through Brother Ishmael Humphrey, now my

father-in-law. I served in the navy for four years, and was discharged in 1958. After being discharged from the service, I began to attend church. Even before I was called into this Gospel, God had taken the desire for many worldly pleasures from me which I previously enjoyed very much. I am very thankful, for you can't serve God and still love the things of this world.

I know I don't have to tell you brothers and sisters of these words, but I would like very much for the ones who read **The Gospel News**, and as yet haven't come to know the Church, to know how God's love abides with us.

Pray for me that I may continue in the ways of Christ, and I'll pray for you as God enables me.

WEDDING KROTZER - SPADA

Sister Vicky Spada and James Krotzer were united in marriage on February 6, 1965 in The Church of Jesus Christ, Detroit Branch No. 3. The double ring ceremony was officiated by Brother Peter H. Capone, assisted by Brother Jack Pontillo.

A small reception followed the ceremony for friends and relatives.

We wish to extend our best wishes for happiness in their lives together and may God bless them.

* * * * *

BURLEIGH - JONES

Sister Linda Jones and Mr. Calvin B. Burleigh were united in matrimony the 12th day of December, 1964 with Brother Vincent J. Scalise officiating. A reception was held later in the afternoon, after which the couple left for Ft. Lewis, Washington, where Mr. Burleigh is presently stationed. They hope to return to Los Angeles after one year.

Sister Linda is the daughter of Brother Tom and Sister Goldie Jones, who were former members of the Vanderbilt Branch of the Church. They moved to Los Angeles in 1951.

BLOOMINGDALE - DELL

On January 26, 1965 at 7:00 p.m. Miss Flora Dell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Dell of Fairless Hills, Pa., and Mr. Terry Bloomingdale, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Bloomingdale also of Fairless Hills, Pa., were united in marriage at the bride's home with Brother August D'Orazio officiating.

A small reception was held, after which the young couple left for a wedding trip. They will reside in Fairless Hills, Pa.

May God bless them both.

* * * * *

VENUTO - CUMMINGS

Miss Judith C. Cummings, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Cummings of Edison, and Mr. Robert Venuto, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Venuto also of Edison, New Jersey, were united in marriage in The Church of Jesus Christ on January 30, 1965 with Brother August D'Orazio officiating.

Following a reception, the couple left for a wedding trip to the Poconos. They will live in Edison when they return.

May God bless them both.



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"Behold my Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."
III Nephi 11:7.

Dear Girls and Boys,

I want to tell you about the signs of the death of Jesus as they appeared on this land, America. Samuel the Lamanite told of these signs of the death of Jesus, and also signs of His birth. The people would not believe the prophecies of His birth; neither would they believe those of His death. It was the fourth day of the first month of the thirty-fourth year after Jesus' birth that these signs appeared. The faithful ones of the Church had been looking forward for these prophecies to be fulfilled. The wicked people said the signs would never come to pass.

One of the first signs was the destruction of the great city of Zarahemla. A great storm arose, such a one as never had been known. The thunder was so great that it shook the earth. The lightning was so sharp that the city took fire and was burned. Great earthquakes shook the land. The sea flooded many places and sunk the city of Moroni and its people.

The earth was carried up upon the city of Moroni and covered it with a great high mountain. Although there was great destruction in the land southward, it was worse in the northern part. The whole face of the land was changed because of the tempests and whirlwinds. The highways were broken up, level roads were spoiled and many smooth places became rough.

Many of the important cities sank into the earth and many others were burned. Their buildings were shaken until they fell to the ground. The people were carried away and were never heard of again. Great rocks were broken in pieces and were found in seams and cracks upon all the face of the land.

This terrible destruction lasted for three hours. It seemed the time was greater. Then suddenly, a great darkness came upon the whole land. It was so thick, like a heavy vapor, that the people could not make a light nor start a fire. There was no sign of light. The sun, moon and stars could not be seen. This darkness lasted for three days.

The people were badly frightened. There was great weeping and mourning among them. Some cried out and said, "O, that we had repented before this great and terrible day and then would our brethren have been spared and they would not have been buried in that great city, Zarahemla." In another place they were heard to cry, "O, that we had repented before this great and terrible day and had not killed and stoned the prophets and cast them out; then would our mothers and our fair daughters and our children have been spared." Great and terrible were the howlings of the people.

In the silence that followed the terrible storm, at the death of the Saviour, a voice was heard. All the inhabitants heard it. It began by saying, "Wo,

wo, wo unto this people; wo unto the inhabitants of the whole earth except they shall repent; for the devil laugheth and his angels rejoice, because of the slain of the fair sons and daughters of my people; and it is because of their iniquity and abominations that they are fallen." The voice continued, describing the destruction of the cities of Zarahemla, Moroni, Gilgal, Onihah, Laman and others. Then the voice said, "I am Jesus Christ, the Son of God. I created the heavens and the earth and all things that in them are. I was with the Father from the beginning. I am in the Father and the Father in me; and in me hath the Father glorified his name." Jesus appealed to them to repent and their need to be baptized. He had come to bring redemption to the world and save it from sin. Everyone heard the voice. Three times they heard it.

At last the darkness disappeared. The words of Samuel, the Lamanite, had been fulfilled. As the people saw the great changes that had taken place in the land, they spoke to each other of the prophecies, of the Saviour's death, and His resurrection. As we travel throughout this land of America we can see many things that reminds us of this terrible destruction. These prophecies were given many, many years ago. This proves God's Word never fails.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

1. As the people were looking toward heaven, what did they see? III Nephi 11:8
 2. Who was this man? III Nephi 11:10
 3. What man kissed the Saviour's feet? III Nephi 11:19
 4. How did the Saviour say we should baptize? III Nephi 11:22, 26
- Does your church follow this? The Church of Jesus Christ does.

Sincerely,
Sister Mabel

NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA

The Bell Branch wishes to extend to all The Church greetings and a prayer that this might indeed be a most healthful, prosperous, and blessed year for all.

The young people of our branch put on an interesting program this past Christmas, the theme of which was to "put Christ back into Christmas" and the importance of serving God and doing good all the year. A plaque was presented as a gift to Sister Josephine Palermo for her outstanding work with the little children for so many years. May God bless her!

The Bell Branch was also honored by our visitors, Brother and Sister Henderson and Brother and Sister Burgess, who spent the holidays here. They, as well as all other brethren, are always welcome to spend time with us. Brother and Sister T. S. Furnier are presently with us and several meetings have been held with Brother Furnier expounding scripture and teaching. A few nights he presented the reckoning of time from Adam to the Peaceful Reign, which is an excellent subject for all Church members to study and know, for in this we can see how truly organized was God in all His doing with man.

In one of his sermons, Brother Furnier stated

that we, as the people of God, should be forewarned of the things which are to come and how we should be prepared: also how internal troubles destroyed the early Church. We must overcome these troubles; may God help us to meet the challenge. Under the Spirit of God, Brother Furnier arose and sang, "Hearken, O my people. I will be with you, if you will but do your part."

Santina M. Mercuri, Branch Editor



**The Church of Jesus Christ
Roscoe, Pa.**

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST ROSCOE, PA.

The Roscoe Branch is one of the oldest branches of the Church. In the Church History, Brother W. H. Cadman quotes a letter written January 11, 1888 by Elder William Skillen to the Saints at Lucyville, the original name of Roscoe. There is also a notation of a conference being held at Lucyville in October, 1894. The minutes of the July conference of 1900 mention a communication from the Lucyville branch in regards to carrying the gospel to the Indians. The April conference of 1903 was held in Lucyville. The branch continued to exist through 1908 when four baptisms were reported, one of whom was Brother John K. Penn. The name Lucyville is last mentioned in 1916.

Probably because of economic conditions the people moved away from there, and the branch became extinct. Brother Penn testified that he was directed to settle at a little town about six or seven miles down the river, called Dunlevy. He was not there long before he converted his neighbor who lived next door. Others were baptized and a branch was established. The conference of 1920 received a report from the Dunlevy branch. This branch continued on through the years 1940 to 1949. Several years prior to the year 1949 a building fund had been established. A question arose as to where the church should be built. The Saints were scattered, some living in the vicinity of Belle Vernon, and others near California, Pa. It was decided that since the branch had originally been at Roscoe, or Lucyville, the church would be built there.

A committee was elected to find suitable ground

and to get the work started. Plans were formulated. Brother Lora Waltz was put in charge. Most of the labor was donated, with the exception of the masonry work.

The Church was dedicated in January of 1950. The years since have proved the wisdom of the brothers' choice of its location. Many of the brothers and sisters who labored have now gone to their reward. We, who have now the responsibility of continuing the work, thank the Lord for those who preceded us. With firm hope that we can live righteously before Him, we pray that He will continue to bless the Church here, that many souls will come to know their Saviour through the efforts of our dear brothers and sisters.

George Johnson, Sr.

GOD'S PLAN

By James Heaps

Jesus Christ came into the world to accomplish two great purposes: First, to redeem mankind from the consequences of Adam's transgression; second, to save them from the consequences of their own sins. The first is a general salvation which, without any conditions whatever, will be applied to all mankind irrespective of their obedience or disobedience. Their redemption will be as universal as their fall. The second may be regarded as a common salvation dependent upon faith in, and obedience to, the Gospel of Christ by the individual. The first sin was disobedience to God; the penalty of violating God's law was death. ("As by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin.") So we see that the sentence of death was passed upon all men; it became a universal matter for all men to die because one man sinned. Having become mortal, man bequeathed that mortality to his offspring.

The common salvation came by the atonement. "O, how great the goodness of our God, who prepared a way for our escape from the grasp of this awful monster; yea, that monster, death and hell, which I call the death of the body, and also the death of the spirit." We must understand man will die two deaths if he does not render obedience to the Gospel. It is appointed unto man once to die, which is a temporal death. Why, then, do we preach the Gospel to men if they are all going to die? We do this to save them from the second death which is the death of the spirit, which spiritual death is hell. Wherefore death and hell must deliver up their captive spirits, and the grave must deliver up its captive bodies; thus the bodies and the spirits of men will be restored one to the other. But, oh how great the plan of our God! For on the other hand the Paradise of God must deliver up the spirits of the righteous, and those spirits and bodies are restored to themselves again. All the worlds end; arrangements, changes, disappointments, hopes, and fears are without meaning if not seen and estimated by eternity.

Hell is God's justice, Heaven is His love, earth His long-sufferance. We ought not to be careless and indifferent about the future. Nevertheless, as there are good things in this life to be obtained, and evils to be avoided, so we should provide ourselves

with proper means to obtain the one and escape the other. Watchfulness and industry are natural virtues. Death is just a transition from this life to the next; for as by the offense of one man, Adam, judgment came upon all men to condemnation, even so by the righteousness of one man, Jesus Christ, the free gift came upon all men to the justification of life. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all men be made alive. Behold, He (Christ) created Adam, and by Adam came the fall of man; and because of the fall of man came Jesus Christ, and because of Him came redemption of man through the atonement. Because of the atonement of Christ, man is brought back into the presence of God. Death brings the resurrection, which bringeth to pass a redemption from an endless sleep. When the trumpet shall sound we that are righteous shall hear it, but the rest of the dead "abode in their graves till the thrones were set." And the books were opened and another book was opened which is the book of life, and all men are judged out of the books that were written. We must understand that immortality is endless; so whether we are good or bad we shall be brought to stand before God in an immortal body when the spirit and the body shall be reunited.

Why is Satan to be let loose for a short time? Only to give men a free choice. If there were no temptation there would be no free choice. All men must have the opportunity to choose for themselves what they shall be. "Freedom and reason make us men; take these away, what are we then? Mere animals—just as well the beasts may think of heaven or hell." Even the mythology of the heathen nations retains the idea of an atonement that either has been or is to be. The Prophets of the Jewish Scriptures answer the question in the affirmative. The writers of the New Testament make Christ's atonement the principal theme of their discourses; the Book of Mormon testifies to the same fact.

We have a glorious hope through the resurrection. As Adam had no power to liberate himself from the captivity of death, his sleep must have been eternal except for the atonement of Christ. So it was also with all of his posterity. In this was manifested the great love of God towards us. The golden text of the Bible tells us, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Of His own free will Christ volunteered to take upon Himself man's redemption. Our late Brothers, Alexander Cherry and W. H. Cadman, are absent from us; this absence makes the heart grow fonder. While they were with us we took them for granted, but now we so desire to see them and shake their hand. One day there is going to be a meeting in the air when we shall meet all the saints again. Halleluiah, Praise God! There will be melody that we have never heard here; there will be union that we have never experienced here. We shall all be of one heart and mind. I feel while I am writing this article, in the dim of the twilight, as John must have felt when he said, "Come quickly, Lord Jesus, Amen." Yes, I quote you my favorite verse; "I soon go to rest in the Paradise of God until my spirit and my

body shall again reunite, and I shall be brought triumphant through the air to meet you at the pleasing bar of the great Jehovah, the eternal Judge of both quick and dead."

Distance and time cure many ills; absence, like death, sets a seal on the image of those we love. We cannot realize the intervening changes which time may have effected. The joy of meeting repays the pangs of absence, else who could bear it? Love reckons hours for months and days for years, and every little absence is an age. May God bless our Church everywhere.

GOD

by Linda Campitelle

*You say there's no God? Now how can that be?
For you see Him each day when you glance at a tree.
You see Him in mountains so sturdy and strong,
Projecting His majesty all the day long.*

*You see him in storm clouds bursting with rain,
Like His large mighty hand stretched plain to plain.
You hear Him in thunder that cracks in the night,
Telling the world to set itself right.*

*You hear Him in the cry of a child newborn,
And in the song of a bird on a bright summer morn.
You see Him in the power of a river that flows,
And in the face of a fragrant flower that grows.*

*You see Him in the sunset after long day is through
As He paints the sky bright with a rose shade or two.
You see Him in Winter when snow's on the ground,
White, pure, and gentle, not making a sound.*

*You hear Him in the cry of a small, humble sheep,
And in every breath, every word that you speak.
And you say there's no God? What a fool you must be,
For He's in every possible thing that you see!*

*He's with you each day, and your trials He shares,
His encouraging spirit makes them easy to bear.
And when you find faith to see your way through,
I'll tell you, my friend, in a way that is true,
If you say there's no God in the heavens so blue,
Look about you, my friend, look about you!*

ROSE OF SHARON

by Anna Carlini

*When we speak of the Rose of Sharon
We mean the Christ who hung on the tree,
Who bore the pain to set us free,
And then arose triumphantly.*

*Oh wonder, sweet wonder, I pine for thee,
Sweetest of all is Rose of Sharon to me;
For once in my heart, He'll never depart,
But live with me for eternity.*

*A crown of life He'll give unto all
Who will accept and answer his call;
True to the Savior we should always be,
Oh, Rose of Sharon, abide with me.*

M.B.A. Highlights

As can be noted, "MBA Highlights" is the new permanent name for the Missionary Benevolent Association section in The Gospel News. This title was chosen from among many other similarly appropriate and much-appreciated suggestions offered by individuals and MBA Local units.

GMBA PRESIDENT ANSWERS "HOW CAN THE YOUTH OF THE CHURCH SERVE THE MBA?"

**Article Written By:
Dominic R. Thomas
GMBA President**



Dominic R. Thomas Recently, a young man asked me, "What can I do for the MBA?" Others of his age group have also asked the same question. The fact that many young people are thinking about this problem suggests that they are sincerely interested and willing to work for the Association. This young man's query creates an opportunity to answer the question raised by many people, "HOW CAN THE YOUTH OF THE CHURCH SERVE THE MBA?"

The goals of the MBA can only be accomplished with the help of our young people because, by nature, they are strong, dynamic, and vitally interested in the work of the organization. Obviously, their participation in the program of activities sponsored by the Association is the most logical way for them to feel that they are doing something for the MBA. If a Local is raising money for one of The Church's mission projects, for example, they should, and probably will, join in the effort enthusiastically.

Opportunities Available

Members of the MBA in Detroit Branch #3 demonstrated the kind of vigorous involvement possible when they raised almost \$500 for the African Secondary School Project. Other types of missionary assistance given by the Association include erecting mission churches and mission homes, purchasing church buses, conducting clothing drives, and donating food baskets, Bibles and other instructional materials. All of these offer real opportunities to participate in important activities.

Participation by the members in the activities of the MBA at the General, Area, and Local levels is very significant. GMBA and Area conferences are open to the entire membership. Attendance at these meetings is encouraged. At various levels, persons are needed to serve as Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Chaplains, Secretaries, Treasurers, Auditors, Organizers, Librarians, Teachers, and Editors. Certain committees (Relief, Membership, Floral, Program, and Accommodations) afford further opportunities for serving the MBA.

Need Skills and Abilities

Currently, the GMBA and Area Activities Committees offer opportunities for joint efforts by officers and members of the Association to plan, develop, and implement meaningful activities. In order to carry out a worthwhile activities program for young people, a variety of skills and abilities will be needed.

The GMBA Activities Committee is in the process of conducting a survey to find out what range of aptitudes are present among the membership. Responding to such a survey will be an important assist to the committee and should make possible the wider use and involvement of the membership in the work of the MBA. All who have received such a questionnaire or who will receive one in the near future are urged to complete and return it as soon as possible.

The quality of the MBA depends in large measure on the quality of its members. Young people should give some thought to developing habits and attitudes that characterize membership in the Association. "Duties of Members" is given in the MBA By-Laws as follows.

"It is your solemn duty before God and the world to assist your fellow-members in the moral and spiritual welfare of the Missionary Benevolent Association. Be very careful that no action of yours brings any reproach upon The Church of Jesus Christ which the Association represents; be cheerful to all; be charitable and benevolent at all times. Encourage others and build up the work by bringing friends that they too may become members and co-workers in the MBA. In questions that may rise among us, cheerfully submit to the ruling of the majority. Report any cases of need and distress to the Relief Committee, assist in any way you can for the 'Spiritual Uplifting' of the MBA."

Good Membership Characterized

Characteristic of good membership is regular attendance at meetings and diligent study of the scriptures or lesson materials. No one is too young to begin learning about how to please and serve God. Furthermore, everyone needs the benefit of an ongoing program of spiritual instruction. Certainly, such instruction contributes to the achievement of one important goal of the MBA, that of promoting the spiritual welfare of our young people.

All young people should be encouraged to develop personal communion with God. This is essential to becoming spiritually dynamic persons. Communion with God affords a sense of inner well-being and a capacity to love others. Helping others to develop these capacities is a worthy activity for members of the MBA.

The MBA has always tried to be considerate of persons who have needed assistance in times of illness, disaster, or poverty. The GMBA or Local MBA Relief Committees cannot be effective unless every member of the Association brings worthy cases to the attention of the committees. More important than money is the attention we can give these members by visiting them, or by sending cards, or writing encouraging letters. Sometimes the most effective thing to do is to pray for them.

In the final analysis, young people should seek

to discover and develop whatever aptitudes, talents, or gifts they possess so that they can help the MBA fulfill its obligation, in turn, to serve the youth of The Church.

THE LOVE OF GOD

by Meredieth Martin

"Yea, it's the love of God which sheddeth itself abroad in the hearts of the children of men, wherefore it is most desirable above all other things."

Lehi beheld in a dream a tree. He partook of the fruit of that tree and described it as being sweet above all that he had ever before tasted. This fruit, he said, was white to exceed all whiteness; also that it was desirable to make one happy, filling one's soul with exceeding great joy.

May we, for a moment, cause our minds to reflect and catch a glimpse of the forest or the wilderness that we may behold the natural beauty displayed therein. With this reflection in mind, can we liken these trees unto spiritual beings? In the present season they have been stripped of much beauty and much fruit. We will note that a change has taken place. They are now unbecoming, barren, and dead . . . and yet, are they really dead? Deep within the ground lies hidden the roots of the tree, its very source of existence. That which man cannot see is productive, alive, and good. Some trees produce good fruits, sweet to the taste and nourishing to the body; and on the other hand, some trees produce bad fruit which is bitter to the taste and harmful to the body.

In the Book of Jacob, the Lord said unto the servant of His Vineyard, "This tree profiteth me nothing, and the roots thereof profit me nothing so long as it shall bring forth evil fruit." Once in our lives we bore evil fruit; yes, fruit that was unbecoming and of no value, fruits of ugliness, works which were dead to righteousness. Before we became accountable for our deeds, there was a pure unadulterated child-like beauty that revealed the goodness and truth of God. Our natural beauty became shadowed and marred. We also were unbecoming, barren, and dead — dead to righteousness, as if there had been no atonement made for us. Nevertheless, the Lord said, "I know that the roots are good, and for mine own purpose, I have preserved them. Let us go down into the nethermost parts of the vineyard." Yes, He condescended. He condescended for you and for me. That which lies deep within the heart of man, covered by the dross and filth of sin, surely must be that root which God has preserved for His own divine purposes; yea, that very part of Christ that is within the souls of all men.

During the winter months, the trees remain ugly, fruitless, and dead. Were we not as the trees of winter until one day He came, dug, and pruned around the roots of our cold and perverse hearts? The warm rays of God's love began to penetrate deep, even to the very root, melting these icy hearts of stone. The root, then alive, was restored to fulfill the divine purpose and plan of God.

The showers of God's blessings began to fall and no longer did we bear evil fruit, but our lives began to blossom forth, producing fruit that is beautiful to behold and nourishing to the soul. For now this tree, this new Spiritual Tree, has become beautiful and productive.

As the showers of God's blessings begin to fall, no longer do we bear evil fruit, but our lives begin to blossom forth, producing fruit that is beautiful to behold and nourishing to the soul. Now this Spiritual tree takes on a new look. The buds burst open, filled with a sweet smelling savor unto the Lord. They lift up their heads and clap their hands. The young, the old, the children — let all the new creatures of the Lord praise His name and exalt their cry of praise even to the heavens that it may re-echo in gladness and resound in the joy of the Lord.

The trees at winter, though they appear dead, yet they are alive, always displaying beauty that is pleasant to behold.

We, the Saints of the Most High God, although dead to the world and all of its vain illusions, yet are alive — alive in Christ. We are alive because He stimulated the deep hidden roots of our hearts by extending His love and mercy unto us.

So we thank God for this wonderful privilege to serve Him. With His help we will become beautiful and glorious in His sight, portraying the righteousness of His dear Son.

NOTE OF THANKS

We wish to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to all the Saints in the many Branches and Missions who helped us, that in so short a time we were able to erect our own little building that means so very much to us. We wish to thank all for their prayers also. We know that these helped greatly, for the prayers of a righteous man availeth much.

We take this opportunity to announce that our dedication service will be held the first Sunday of May 1965. We ask all of you to remember us in prayer, for our desires are to serve God all the days of our lives. We desire that we might prosper spiritually here in Fort Pierce, that there will be many who will come and join with us in this battle for truth and righteousness.

May God bless and keep all of you.

Pasquale Rogolino, Presiding Elder
Fort Pierce, Florida

Howard Thurman says, "One of the dismal heritages from the past is a widespread disintegration of tenderness which makes us falter, hesitate, and become immobile in our efforts to understand each other and to deal with each other sympathetically."

* * * * *

SPEED

Fastest running animal is the cheetah, which has been clocked at 70 miles an hour. A deer has been known to run 50 miles and a horse 40 miles an hour. Golden eagles have been clocked at 120 miles an hour.

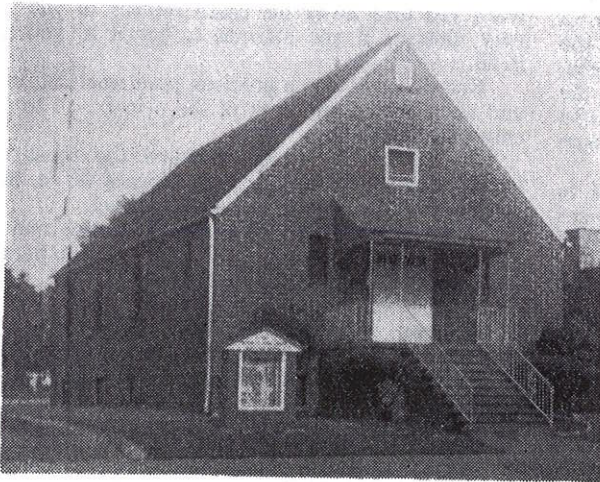
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The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

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The Church of Jesus Christ
27th and Broadway
Lorain, Ohio

A Brief History Of The Church Of Jesus Christ Lorain, Ohio

Our little church, as it began back in 1922, surely was guided by the hand of God. An unforeseen pattern had been made. The poet has penned, "God moves in a mysterious way," and so it has been in the establishing of our branch.

In the city of Dunlevy, Pennsylvania, where a mission had already been started, lived Brother Leonard and Sister Carmella Alessio. During a visit with their friends there, they stated that they were intending to come to Lorain. They were discouraged by some of their friends, who said, "There isn't a church in Lorain."

They were determined and they made this a matter of prayer, asking God to show them the way. This prayer was answered through a dream given to Sister Carmella. She dreamed that she had clothes hanging on a line. She was just standing by looking at them when a flock of doves flew from the sky and one perched on each clothes pin. They picked the lines of clothes and flew towards the East. She then saw the picture of Christ with a cane in his hand looking at the doves also. At this time, they didn't realize the full meaning of this dream.

NOTICE GMBA Conference In Detroit

The semi-annual conference of the General Missionary Benevolent Association will convene at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 15, at the Laura F. Osborn High School in Detroit, Michigan. The school is located on Detroit's east side at Seven Mile and Hoover Roads.

The Michigan-Canadian MBA Area is sponsoring the gathering, and everyone is being enthusiastically invited to attend. Preparations have been made to accommodate the maximum number of individuals who could possibly be in attendance.

There will be three sessions. Association reports will be presented and plans for future MBA activities will be made in the morning and afternoon meetings. An Area-wide program will be given in the evening to conclude the day's schedule.

The Sunday service will be held at the Detroit Institute of Arts Auditorium. It will be under the direction of the General Church's Michigan-Canadian District.

In the month of May 1922 Brother and Sister Alessio came to Lorain, Ohio. Being well acquainted with Anthony Calabrese and Patsy Fyre, who were living here, they paid them a visit and began talking about the Church. These visits continued for many weeks. Then Anthony requested that Brother Alessio bring a Bible with him on a return visit, as he wanted to hear more about this Church.

Brother Leonard and his wife had now become more fond of Lorain and had definitely made up their minds to move here. Patsy Fyre offered to find them a house, which he did, and they came to Lorain. As time went by, they met in Anthony's home and discussed our faith and doctrine. They gave their testimony as to how good it was for them to have found such a Church.

As the October conference drew near, Brother Alessio invited Anthony to attend with him. It was there that Anthony Calabrese became the first baptized member of Lorain.

Regular meetings were held in Brother Anthony's home. God began to work. A month later Theresa Calabrese and Patsy Fyre were baptized. Experiences followed and the church began to grow.

The General Church found it necessary to send an elder, Brother Frank Nastasi, who took charge of this little mission. Brother Joe Corrado, who also was an elder and who spent most of his time assisting various missions, taught our brothers and sisters our hymns without the music. He was also blessed with the gift of

prayer for the sick. Their faith, indeed, was very strong, and they were zealous in doing the things of God. By serving God in their own simple way, they were blessed and the many things they witnessed in Brother Anthony's home were stepping stones for others to follow.

Shortly after, they began to meet in a storeroom. The Spirit of God was so great they could feel the building itself shake. The brothers and sisters walked many miles, in all kinds of weather, to attend these meetings. Their interest was so great, that they couldn't wait for the next service. It is also recalled how God would inspire the brothers and sisters to meet at a person's home, where they would sing and pray to the honor of God.

Many months went by and more began to attend our church. It was then established into a mission, later growing into a branch. We enjoyed the various changes of Presiding Elders, who in their own ways helped us to grow firm and to learn the ways of God better.

Through many toils and struggles we were blessed with the realization of owning our own building. The brothers and sisters were united in prayer in behalf of this cause and God answered our prayers. Under the supervision of Brother Frank Giovannone, of Warren, Ohio, our brothers began to lay the foundation of the building in 1947. We offer our sincere thanks to all who helped in this cause and a special thanks to many non-members, who were a great help to us.

The day our building was dedicated it was filled to capacity, a memory never to be forgotten by all who were present. Surely we can sing along with the poet. "How can we ever sufficiently praise Him?"

Today, we have been blessed with many brothers and sisters, some of whom are the seed of Joseph. We have a priesthood of two Elders namely, Patsy Fyre and Frank Altomare; three Evangelists namely, Alfred Dominico, Joseph Calabrese and Joseph Altomare; and one Apostle, Frank Calabrese.

Please note:

Several experiences associated with the history of Lorain Branch will be found in the "I Had An Experience" section of a later issue of The Gospel News.

Editor

THE PLAN OF GOD (continued)

By James Heaps

What does the plan of God mean to us as individuals? Jesus said, "I am come that ye might have life, and that ye might have it more abundantly." To have a song of praise is a wonderful blessing in our lives, and it is catching. We use to go to Conference on the train, and when all the saints were seated we would begin to sing and praise God. It was not very long until the Conductor and all who were on the train began to sing along with us. One of the writers tells us to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord". Smile and the world smiles with you, frown and you frown alone. It is good to be around a joyful person. It is good to be in a joyful meeting and go home feeling blessed. The Psalmist says, "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord." There was a time when they hung their harps on the willow tree, and the enemy said, "Sing us one of your songs." But they said, "It is hard to sing a song in a strange land." Let us lift up our heads and rejoice while we have the opportunity; we might not have it always.

The dead do not praise the Lord, neither those who are spiritually dead nor those who are naturally dead. Jesus said, "I am not the God of the dead, but of the living." Psalms 96-2 reads, "Sing unto the Lord. Bless

MODERN PROVERBS

By Catherine Vultaggio Poma

God forgives all sin, except one, if we repent. The only set-back is that we never know which day will be our last to repent in.

There is no glue invented, nor mortar, that will hold; A trust, broken asunder. No, not for all man's gold!

The hare and the lie have this in common: The tortoise shall overcome the hare, and the truth shall overcome the lie.

Sincere humility is the outward vestment of Saintliness.

For every sunrise, there is a sunset; and for every sunset, there is hope renewed that the sun will rise again.

To the sick, the setting of the sun brings darkness and fear; but to the well, it ushers in a period of welcome rest.

Love is a Crown that rests firmly upon the head of its wearer for all the world to see.

Love is one thing that can never be exhausted; the more you give away the more returns to you. But it is very illusive; if you attempt to hoard it, you may lose it all.

Knowledge is like a precious jewel enclosed in a locket and worn around the neck of the owner . . . to be shown only upon request.

Charity is like exotic perfume the scent of which hovers around the wearer, and lingers for a time upon everyone with whom it comes in contact.

It is not necessary to convince a wise man that he still has much to learn, but it is impossible to persuade the ignorant that he doesn't know it all.

To the wise man, Charity means giving; but to the foolish man, it means receiving.

There is no jewelled treasure, no gem, so highly priced, That could outweigh the measure of ONE soul lost to Christ!

All that shines is not necessarily gold, but, it takes an expert to tell the difference . . . or, time.

Youth departs so quickly. We seem to spend the greater part of our lives being older than we wished to be, while striving to look younger than we know we are.

If God were to grant us our every desire, we would probably spend our lives in misery wondering why 'EVERYTHING HAPPENS TO US!'

Each human being is as infinitesimal as a grain of sand; yet he feels that the whole world should revolve around him.

The man who calls attention to his 'humility' in that very moment has lost it.

Nothing proves patience so well as silence.

To boast of one's strength is to advertise one's weakness.

God will not judge me by what I was or would like to be, but by what I am.

THE PLAN OF GOD

His name; show forth His salvation from day to day." In the Psalms is set forth a type of the whole history of Israel; their death, burial, and resurrection. The most interesting portion is that referring to the life they will manifest after they have come forth from the tomb. When their spiritual grave clothes shall have been taken away, all shall fear the Lord from the least to the greatest. When those of the House of Israel return and their sins have been purged, their mouths will be filled with laughter and their tongues with singing. Their days of captivity will be like a dream of the night. The Lord will give them no more sad tears for bread, but give them joy divine and make their faces to shine. They shall no longer sing the song of Moses and celebrate their deliverance from Egyptian bondage, but they will tune their harps to sing the praises of God and Christ, their Redeemer. They

(Continued on Page Four)

THE GOSPEL
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Editorial Viewpoint



George A. Neill

May 9th is Mother's Day, a day set aside to pay tribute to Mothers — to your Mother, my Mother, and all good Mothers the world over. I am reminded of an old Jewish proverb which asserts, "God could not be everywhere, so He made Mothers." These words certainly express a lovely sentiment. However, there are undoubtedly some who would question the implication of the statement. Nevertheless, the thought that I will now venture has always been nestled in my heart since I was a very young man — "Mothers are truly indeed the first god that a child ever knows"; and how blessed are those "mommys" who eventually, through their influence, direct the child to the true God.

Today some of us wear white carnations; others are fortunate enough to still wear red. Those who wear red can write, phone, or even visit their mothers in person. If we fail to do so now we may have a sore spot later on when it is too late. Regardless, though, whether we wear a red or a white carnation, I believe the best tribute we can render is to be the kind of person our mother would wish us to be. Who but a mother can know the dreams she had of what you would be or what she hoped you would be? These hopes spurred her on many times when she was almost ready to drop in weariness. Good mothers help to make their children what they ought to be.

I believe our debt to motherhood is a great one; greater than we think. Surely it is to Mother we owe our lives. Lincoln once said, "All that I am or hope to be I owe to my angel Mother." Many a man today is enjoying fame that is due to his hard-working, self-sacrificing mother. When the President or Governor comes to town we often acclaim him when we ought to cheer his mother. We are inclined to see the success of the son only. The world hears so much about great men but often too little about the mothers who are, in a large measure, responsible for their greatness and success. The importance of a mother's place is second to none, be it that of a president or governor. Motherhood involves more fatigue, toil, and sacrifice than any other position in life.

The preacher, Solomon, has likened mother to a merchant ship — always on the go. Speaking of her role of importance as a mother, I once read, "A mother's success is not judged by the pies and cakes she bakes, nor the jellies and jams she makes, but by the character of her sons and daughters."

While modern mothers have found labor devices that help make housework easier, such as the vacuum cleaner replacing the broom; the washing machine replacing the wash board; the electric dryers doing away with hanging clothes on the line; the electric mixer replacing the spoon, etc., it just so happens that there is no such thing as a labor-device replacement for building character. This must still be done in the old fashioned way by Father and Mother, and it happens to be a twenty-four hour-a-day job.

*Kind thoughts of loving mothers
Are in our hearts today.*

*Fond thoughts of mothers near us
And mothers far away.*

Sweet thoughts of youthful mothers

With faces bright and fair,

And thoughts of older mothers

With lovely, silver hair.

Sweet memories of childhood

Come to our minds so fast;

Sweet thoughts of home and Mother

And precious days long past.

Now humbly and sincerely

We breathe an earnest prayer

That God will bless our Mothers

And Mothers everywhere.

Effie Taylor Parker

THE PLAN OF GOD

(Continued from Page Two)

will be satisfied to confine their praises to Zion alone. "Oh, Zion, when I think of thee I long for pinions like the Dove; and mourn to think that I should be so distant from the land I love."

They will declare His glory to the heathen; earth's teeming millions in every land will be taught by the sons of Jacob. Revival fires will be kindled in every land and clime; a nation will be born in a day and multitudes of the earth will rejoice in the knowledge of sins forgiven. The mission of the Gentile Church will soon come to an end with the closing of this dispensation. The idolatry of the Gentile nations will never be abolished until after the restoration of Israel. Then a highway will be there, and a way; it shall be called the Way of Holiness. No lion or ravenous beast shall walk thereon but the Redeemed of the Lord shall walk there, and the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with songs of everlasting joy and gladness; and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. Brothers and Sisters, lift up your heads for your redemption draweth nigh. The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall bloom and rejoice, and blossom as the rose. Then let us strengthen the weak hands and confirm the feeble knees. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart. Be strong; fear not, for He shall judge the world with righteousness. This shows the transformation that will take place when the curse is lifted. But the wicked are like the troubled sea when it cannot rest; the time will come when the sea will give up its dead and dark secrets will be made known, when Zion spreads forth her wings over the land and sea.

*Oh cruel, restless, surging sea,
hast thou no peace or rest?
Why dost thou longer from us hold
the secrets of thy breast?
Down in the caverns deep and dark
are those whom thou dost keep
In silence in thy long embrace,
o'er whom our hearts must weep.*

*The kingdom of our God shall come
and all the earth shall fill,
The Rose of Sharon then shall bloom
on Zion's holy hill.
When earth no more shall bear the curse,
and all is perfect peace,
When Jesus reigns as Lord and King
thy tyranny shall cease.*

*Shall not the God of earth be just,
and shouldn't thou longer wait.
To meet the sentence God has passed,
and know thy awful fate?
O sea, thou must yield up thy dead,
when God shall speak once more;
And from thy caverns deep and dark
reveal thy ghastly store.*

*The earth shall then be purged by fire
consuming all its dross,
A home for all who have obtained
salvation through the cross.
No more on earth shall sin abound
and there shall be no more sea;
The new Jerusalem shall come down
the Bride of Christ to be
When the gentile yoke is broken
and Israel is set free.*

THE HOLY FLAME OF HEALTH

With the passing from this life to that paradise with Christ, we see a cycle, the phase of the perfect plan of God, completed in one act. The apostles could not understand many things the Lord had told them until after He had been crucified, had risen, and ascended into Heaven. So we now understand many things the Lord gave Brother Bob Smith during the span of time in which he met and obeyed this glorious Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Surely our loving God and Father leads his dear children along. Sometime between September 29, 1963, when he met the Gospel for the first time, and February 2, 1964, when he obeyed, the Lord gave Brother Bob a dream in which he saw himself walking along carrying green fruit. Further along the way he found himself in the possession of a ripe pear; he tasted it and found it to be sweet and good. As soon as he had eaten of the fruit, he was attacked by four boys. One said, "Oh, he belongs to that Church," and then they released him. The next Sunday as he was pondering about being baptized during the lunch break, Brother A. A. Corrado who was standing near us said that sometimes the fruit is green and unripe and then it is too soon to pick it; we must wait for it to ripen. Thus Brother Smith was given to know that it was not time for him to become a part of the Church. Another Sunday Bob felt the Lord had called, for he had a terrible struggle with the enemy of his soul as he sat in the pew. His Bible opened to the account of the baptism of Christ. Then a sister, under the spirit of God, testified, "Praise God! He washed my sins away!" Bob was not baptized that Sunday, but was determined to be baptized the next. During that week the evil one tormented him much (the four boys in his dream), but Sunday he came forth and asked for his baptism.

One night Bob petitioned the Lord concerning his spiritual and physical condition, desiring a manifestation of the Holy Flame which we read about in III Nephi, 19th chapter, where they were "filled with the Holy Ghost and with fire." The Lord gave Bob an experience that night in which he saw a young boy standing by the side of the road, dressed as one from India with just a wrap around his waist. He was waiting for the Father. As he continued to wait, people passed by beckoning him to leave his post and come with them. Several made this offer, but his reply was that he was going to wait for the Father. He became afflicted while standing there and his affliction grew until it brought him down upon his back . . . he was cast down. There were some rocks nearby and he was cradled in these rocks. Yet, he knew his Father would be there with the Flame. His condition worsened and his suffering increased until he felt he was nigh unto death. Then he became aware of a Personage near him, who stooped beside him. This Man took a stone and a stick and rubbed them together forming a single, whole flame which stood off the ground. When Bob awakened his face was washed with tears. Many times throughout his affliction Bob would say, "I know the Father is coming with the Flame." We, in our carnal minds, looked for a natural healing in his life; but God, who loves us with a perfect love, came with the Holy Flame of Health and healed our brother completely.

Connie (Mason) Smith
Youngstown, Ohio

Life itself can't give us joy
Unless we really will it.
Life just gives us time and place-
It's up to us to fill it.

Eugene P. Bertin,
Pa. School Jnl.

The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"They had been taught by their mothers, that if they did not doubt, God would deliver them."

Alma 56:47

Dear Girls and Boys,

Since we honor our mothers in the month of May, I think we should know how Mother's Day came about. In 1907, Miss Anna M. Jarvis, of Philadelphia, Pa. wanted to pay tribute to her mother, who had recently died. She suggested a special service be held in her church to honor all mothers and that everyone wear a white carnation. This good idea soon spread far and near. By 1911 many places in United States as well as Canada, South America, Africa, China and some of the South Sea Islands were celebrating Mother's Day. In May of 1914, Congress set aside the second Sunday of May as the day. The first Mother's Day came on the anniversary of the day on which the song, "Home Sweet Home" was first heard.

A few changes have been made and many things added since Anna Jarvis made the suggestion of honoring Mothers. At that time her idea of wearing a white carnation has changed to a white one for those whose mothers are dead and a red or pink one for those with living mothers. Folks began giving gifts to Mothers and now it is said that Mother's Day is the second biggest gift day of the year.

We read of many good mothers in God's Word. The Book of Mormon tells an interesting story of two thousand young men and their mothers. These young men were Nephites. Their fathers had made a promise that they would never go to war again. They buried their weapons in the ground. After hearing the gospel preached by Ammon and his brethren, they became devoted members of the church.

A time came when they saw the sufferings of their people by the enemy, so they decided to break their promise and help their people. But Helaman, a leader among them, thought this was wrong. He told them to keep the promise they had made and never fight again. The sons of these men had not taken this oath so they were free to defend their homes and families. They wanted liberty.

The two thousand young men armed themselves with weapons and joined the army. They asked Helaman to be their leader. He gladly accepted and called them his sons. They were great soldiers. They were very brave young men, not afraid to die. They put their trust in the Lord. Their mothers had taught them great faith. They told them if they did not doubt, God would protect them. They told Helaman the words of their mothers, saying, "We do not doubt our mothers knew it."

Helaman led this group of young boys to war. He planned to take them to join forces with Antipas and his soldiers who had become weak and discouraged. They were of great strength to this army. When the enemy saw the army was reinforced with two thousand, they fled and would not attack the city of Judea. The fathers of these young soldiers sent provisions to their sons and this cheered them. When the Lamanites, their enemies, saw this, they tried to prevent supplies from reaching the Nephites.

Antipas ordered Helaman to take his two thousand young soldiers and march to a nearby city and make it appear they were taking supplies there. Helaman went out as planned. The Lamanites came after them. For several days, they followed them but could not catch them. When Antipas saw the Lamanites follow Helaman, he brought his army behind. They were surrounded now.

LADIES' UPLIFT CIRCLE GENERAL MEETING

The general meeting of the Ladies' Uplift Circle was held in West Elizabeth, Pennsylvania on Saturday, March 13, 1965. There were sisters present from New Jersey, Ohio, and Washington, D. C. We also had several brothers in our midst, one of whom was Brother James Heaps from Anaheim, California.

The devotions were conducted by the West Elizabeth sisters. Scripture was read from Romans, 10th chapter, 9 and 10 verses. Sister Mary Jane Lorber, our blind sister, read by the use of braille; she also accompanied us with our singing throughout the day on the piano. God bless our young sister; she is severely handicapped but she willingly exercises the talents she has.

Sister Mabel Bickerton, our president, welcomed all the sisters in her opening remarks; she found it such a blessing to have brothers and sisters present from across the country — from the west coast to the east. She remarked also that a great part of our work today is in helping those on reservations and in various missions. Our endeavors in our missionary work is in a natural way as well as spiritual. The meeting was then turned over for testimonies and singing.

In our business session reports were read from our various circles with a number of delegates present. Letters were read also from missions in Africa, Mexico, and friends in North Carolina thanking us for clothing sent to them. Reports were given showing the extent of our Circle work in various ways. Our next general meeting will be combined with our forty-fifth anniversary meeting and will be held in Youngstown, Ohio on June 26, 1965 beginning at 1:30 o'clock.

In the afternoon the meeting was turned over to some of the brethren present to speak to us. Brother Heaps spoke to us first, complimenting our sisters upon our work, especially in backing up our brothers in their missionary endeavors. He urged us to continue to exercise our gifts; otherwise we will lose them. We also heard from Brother Harry Robinson who encouraged us to help those who are so badly in need of material things because in so doing we help to promulgate the Gospel. We also enjoyed our singing as well as a few testimonies. We surely enjoyed God's blessings throughout the day.

We wish to thank our sisters of the West Elizabeth branch for their kind hospitality.

General Circle Editor
Mary Tamburrino

The third day Helaman no longer could see the Lamanites, so he and his two thousand, turned around and helped Antipas subdue the Lamanites. The boys thought more of Liberty than they did of their lives. They remembered the promise told them by their mothers. They had great faith. Never had Helaman seen such fighting, men were never known to fight with such strength as these had.

After the battle was over, Helaman counted his young men to see if any had been killed. Not one had died! Helaman knew it had been by the miraculous power of God because of their faith in those things which they had been taught. They were young, their minds were firm and they put their trust in God continually. So in the days of these young striplings, the faith taught to them by their mothers proved that God will not forsake His people.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

1. Who was the mother of all living? Genesis 3:20
2. Who were the mothers of the Twelve Tribes of Israel?
What were the sons' names? Genesis 35:23, 26
3. Which mother was "Blessed among women?" Who was her son? Luke 1:42
4. Who was the prayerful mother who lent her son to the Lord? I Samuel 1:27, 28

Sincerely,
Sister Mabel

ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE BOOK OF MORMON

ARTICLE II

By Antoinette Ciaravino

This article is composed with the background of Alma, 63rd chapter, concerning Hagoth, the builder of ships. These events occurred approximately 55 B.C. The people involved were of a white skin, the Nephites. In connection with these verses, we would like to draw to your attention the beliefs and findings of one man, in support of the story of Hagoth, his ships, and their voyages upon the sea. In reference to the ships that were not heard of again, let us listen to what could have happened.

We would like to single out one explorer and ethnologist who has contributed some important thoughts and events on our topic. Thor Heyerdahl, a Norwegian, in his studies of primitive races, especially of the South Pacific Islands, came to the conclusion they had been settled by a race of people quite similar to the pre-Inca Indians of South America. An outstanding scientist of our time did not believe this could be so, because there was no known history of the Indians ever owning ships large enough to make such a trip possible. These islands are from 2,500 to 4,000 miles out in the Pacific Ocean from the coast of South America and Central America.

Heyerdahl had been studying animal and insect life in the Islands and had become fascinated with the people and their legends. He had met a very old man on the island of Fatu Hiva who was the sole survivor of all the extinct tribes on the east coast of the Island. According to the legends that he had kept and worshipped and which had been handed down to him by his forefathers, the island had been peopled by Tiki, who was both God of the Sun and Chief to them. He was a white man with a beard and had come from a big country beyond the sea. Heyerdahl noticed that statues of Tiki on the island were remarkably similar to statues left by extinct civilizations in South America. In his fascination for the unsolved mysteries of the Islands, he began to study in an effort to find the source of the legend of Tiki. He discovered the name "Tiki" was none other than an older name for Virakocha, the Inca Sun-God. Previous to that, he had been named Kon-Tiki, which means Sun-King.

In the study of the Inca, it was discovered they navigated in great numbers on rafts made of balsa wood. The wood of the balsa tree is the lightest known to man and yet is very strong. It is found in Central America and northern South America. Heyerdahl found sketches of these rafts at the library. Records had been left by the first Europeans who had reached the Pacific coast of South America. They had a square sail and a long steering oar. To prove his point that the islands were peopled by South American Indians, and that the current and wind could bring them to the islands, and because his findings and thoughts were not recognized, Heyerdahl decided to prove the possibility by making the trip himself. He enlisted the help of five others who were interested in the projects and they proceeded to South America to find balsa logs and construct a raft. Eventually the planned expedition was helped along by the Peruvian Government, The United States Government, and the Norwegian Ambassador to the United States. The raft was named "Kon-Tiki" and his likeness was painted on the sail. It was a faithful copy of his head that had been found on a statue in the ruined city of Tianhuanaco. There is considerable evidence in Bolivia and Peru that a white people whose men were bearded, were the predecessors of the Indians. The ruins of Tianhuanaco in Bolivia contain marvelous monuments and architecture giving evidence that its builders had attained a much higher cultural level than that reached by the Inca.

Kon-Tiki made the trip to the first island at Angatau in ninety-seven days, but did not land until some days later

*M.B.A. Highlights**"LET US GO FORTH"*

By Joseph Milantoni, GMBA Chaplain

"Therefore what say ye, my sons, will ye go against them to battle?" This question was asked by Helaman as he spoke to his army of two thousand young Nephite soldiers just prior to a great battle fought here in America hundreds of years ago. As these "two thousand young stripling soldiers" listened to Helaman and weighed all the possibilities of active warfare against a far superior force, they remembered the teachings of their mothers that "... if they did not doubt, God would deliver them." With grim determination and absolute faith in God, they responded, "... behold our God is with us, and he will not suffer that we should fall; then let us go forth; ..."

How faithful! How dedicated! How trusting and confident were these young men! "Yea, and they did obey and observe to perform every word of command with exactness; ... and even according to their faith it was done unto them; ..." The **Book of Mormon** teaches that, after a very fierce battle, not one of these young men was killed.

Deadly Enemy

In this article, I present Helaman's question to the youth of The Church of Jesus Christ. I ask this question because young people today also face a very dangerous and deadly enemy who shows no mercy and is bent on

ARTICLE II (cont.)

at another island. They discovered that with the dried sweet potatoes, fresh coconuts, and dried fish and meat, there was plenty of food. In addition, fresh fish was available almost all the way across the ocean. Many fish jumped on board the raft, and others were caught by the men. Fresh water was carried in vegetable gourds. It could have also been carried in long stalks of bamboo with the ends sealed. An old **Polynesian** legend stated that when their earliest forefathers came across the sea, they had the leaves of a certain plant which they chewed to quench their thirst, and also in an emergency they could drink sea water without becoming ill. In **pre-historic Peru** the coca plant was used for this purpose. Thor Heyerdahl proved primitive people were capable of undertaking immense voyages over the open ocean. He also proved that the Indians had both the balsa wood and reeds to make pre-historic craft; also the Pacific Islands were well within their range, as the trade winds and the equatorial currents are turned westward by the rotation of the earth.

Heyerdahl visited Easter Island in 1955 and studied their history and their legends. They were quite similar to that of Fatu Hiva and other South Pacific Islands. In becoming friendly with the natives he discovered some of them had secret caves in which were hidden old and rare carvings and relics. These caves dated back centuries in many families, one member of each generation being entrusted with its secret. No one else knew where they were located or what its contents were. Heyerdahl was fortunate to be able to persuade several to show him their caves and the contents. Two items of great interest were the "rongo-rongo" tablets of wood covered with heiroglyphics that have not yet been deciphered, and little model ships that had been made of reeds. Illustrations of these ships with masts and sails were found among paintings and sculptures on the island. These ships were constructed in a size and manner which made them capable of crossing any ocean.

Source of information:

Book of Mormon, Alma, 63rd Chapter
Library Reference Books (Miscellaneous)
Kon-Tiki and Aku-Aku, by Thor Heyerdahl

MBA Highlights (cont'd)

destroying if at all possible. This enemy does not use weapons of war as did the Lamanites and Nephites. He uses sinful weapons which are far more dangerous and destructive. His methods are seemingly so innocent and yet so insidious that they are recognized only by those who "... observe to perform every word of command with exactness; ..."

Preparation must be made to gird ourselves for successful warfare against our enemy. To do so, we must serve God with all our might, mind, and strength. There is no other way that we can duplicate the wonderful examples of faithfulness to God and dedication to His cause left by many God-fearing men and women other than that of giving our entire selves to Him.

Need God Continually

As young people, you are caught in a maze of "preparation for adulthood" activities. Your high school years demand much of your time and energy in class sessions, homework, and other school activities related to the ultimate goal of better preparation to meet future challenges. If you attend college, you are involved in a more comprehensive educational process than experienced at the high school level. If you decide not to go to college, you must seek immediately to subsidize your own existence. In most cases, however, the ultimate ambition is one day to marry, have a family of your own, and fulfill the responsibility of parenthood. It goes without saying that being a father or mother obligates you to provide love, counsel, direction, encouragement, cheer, money, home, transportation, and it seems a million other items, both tangible and intangible. How can you really prepare for and provide these things without God's help?

During each moment of life, we are locked in combat with the enemy of our soul. King Benjamin depicted beautifully the need for constantly serving God. He stated, "... I cannot tell you all things whereby ye may commit sin; ... but ... if ye do not watch yourselves, and your thoughts, and your words, and your deeds, and observe the commandments of God, and continue in the faith ... ye must perish." To serve God with all your might, mind, and strength is to be so captivated by His Spirit that it affects everything you do, say, and think. It gives you wisdom. It broadens your horizon. It tells you how far you should proceed with your personal plans because it also points out the plan of God and what you are expected to contribute and accomplish in order that His plan might be fulfilled. We must not become so involved in our efforts toward making money and gaining position that we have no time for the Lord and His work. If we do, we have gained the world and lost our souls.

Rely On The Spirit

Take the Lord with you wherever you go. Allow Him to be the foundation upon which you develop and build your life, your profession, or your job. Do not be swept up by that tide of sinful activity that leads so many of the world's youth astray. Allow God's Spirit to identify activities which are good and friends who are morally sound. Avail yourselves of the sound and reasonable counsel in The Church today.

My wonderful young people, for so you are, let us take up the challenge of warring against our enemy as we have never done before. Let us bear and hold high the standard of righteousness. The Banner of The Gospel of Jesus Christ is once again raised in these days. It calls for brave and determined young men and women who are not afraid to reject and cast off sin and temptation of all types. It calls for you to become more serious-minded and more concerned over your spiritual welfare and the welfare of others. It solicits your faith, strength, courage, stamina, testimony, and prayer to help make successful the wonderful work of the latter days. In the

words of the two thousand young soldiers, "... behold our God is with us, and he will not suffer that we should fall; ... let us go forth; ..."

OBITUARY**PATSY FYRE**

Brother Patsy Fyre, 76, passed away on March 6, 1965 as a result of injuries suffered in an automobile accident on January 21, 1965. He was born in Rogliano, Italy, on June 12, 1888. After coming to the United States he lived in Pennsylvania before coming to Lorain, Ohio forty-five years ago.

Brother Patsy became a member of The Church of Jesus Christ November 5, 1922. He was ordained an elder on January 29, 1929, and since his baptism has spent his time working for the Lord. He was buried from The Church of Jesus Christ in Lorain with Brothers Alfred Dominico, Rocco Biscotti and Joseph Calabrese officiating.

He is survived by his son, John, who resides in Lorain. Another son, Frank, passed away in September, 1962. He will be sadly missed by his son, grandchildren, brothers and sisters and many friends. May the Lord comfort the bereaved.

STELLA DIMITROFF

Sister Stella Dimitroff of the Glassport, Pennsylvania Branch passed away on February 26, 1965 at the age of 55. She was born in Bulgaria on December 9, 1909, and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ in the year 1946. Sister Stella was a wonderful sister and an inspiration to all who knew her. She is survived by seven children: Nancy, Stephanie, Barbara, and Mrs. Louise Bonner; John, James, and Cyril; thirteen grand-children.

Services were held on March 1st at the Church building, Brothers Alma Nolfi and Rocco Tassone officiated, taking their very inspiring sermons from the 116th Psalm of David. May God comfort the bereaved in their sorrow.

ANTHONY SGRO

On March 10, 1965, Brother Anthony Sgro, Sr., passed from this life, after having suffered for a lengthy period of time. Our memories of Brother Sgro are such that he will always be a symbol of fortitude and consistency in his service to God. He served as a deacon of the Edison Branch for approximately thirty years and was unexcelled in his desire to serve the saints in that capacity. He was born on November 17, 1885, in Italy.

Services were conducted by Brother August D'Orazio, assisted by Brother Rocco Ensana. May God bless and comfort his family.

MICKELINE DININA KENNEDY

Sister Mickeline DiNina Kennedy, a member of the Glassport Branch, passed away on October 31, 1964. Private services were held at the Lorenza Funeral Home with Brother Anthony DiBattista officiating.

Sister Kennedy was born on February 10, 1908, and was the daughter of the late Andrew and Maria Virlia Tiberi DiNina. Survivors include three daughters and four sons; also seven stepchildren; forty-four grandchildren; eleven great-grandchildren; sisters Mrs. Frolina DiBattista of Elizabeth, Pa., and Mrs. Evelyn Carlino of McKeesport, Pa.; and brothers, Dominic and George DiNina, both of Youngstown, Ohio.

May God comfort those in their sorrow.

It would be truly shocking if some folks preached what they practice.

BELL, CALIFORNIA

To the brethren throughout our church, we salute you! Here on the West Coast, the Lord has been blessing us abundantly. To Him we give all thanks, honor, and glory for the good things He does for us daily.

Since our last letter to you, we of this branch have been privileged to hear some really wonderful sermons, some of which we would like to relay to you.

Our Presiding Elder, Brother Otto Henderson, has been working hard toward unity in the branch. Recently he exhorted us to be aware of the powers of Satan, that we must not underestimate the power of evil. As saints of the Most High God, we must be constantly watchful lest Satan enter in to perform some of his handiwork. We were exhorted to shun evil, not excluding the various programs which one sees on television, the wild dancing, the music the type of clothing that is being worn by the younger generation (including some adults), all of which is far from the moderation in all things which we are taught in God's Holy Word. The importance of prayer was stressed and the necessity of getting close to God in these perilous times. Our Brother Henderson enjoyed great liberty while speaking on these things.

Our Elder Brother, Brother Rudy Meo, preached a most inspiring sermon when he spoke upon the importance of living the life that we believe and know is pleasing to God. Just living our faith is the greatest testimony anyone can give. In his words, "A good example is the best sermon."

We were privileged also in having Brother Dan Picciuto (our missionary from San Carlos, Arizona) at our branch for several days prior to our district gathering here in Bell. It would have been good if all the church could have heard the sermon he preached one night, the theme of which was taken from Genesis 40:9-14, especially the verse "But think on me when it shall be well with thee and shew kindness, I pray thee, unto me and make mention of me unto Pharaoh and bring me out of this house," and "yet did not the chief butler remember Joseph, but forget him." All of this was portrayed as a type of the present day forgotten seed of Joseph. This sermon, or exhortation, was filled with the Spirit of God, and there was great meaning to every word that was brought forth. I thank God I was present!

We are living in the dispensation of time when God is about to begin His great work in the raising up of Israel, and what are we, as the people of God doing to prepare for this? How long shall we refuse to keep the laws and commandments of God? We must humble ourselves even as the Prophet Nehemiah when he uttered a mighty prayer in behalf of the children of Israel, that God might have mercy upon them and gather them. God has given to us countless dreams and revelations. What is being done about them? Will not these things stand as a witness against us one day if we do not take hold as a people and heed them? Do we have the image of God in our countenances or do we have an image of salt as Lot's wife, who looked back on her material possessions, possibly with remorse, and became a pillar of salt? (Genesis 19:26). We seem to be caught up into a way from which we cannot turn away. How determined, how diligent are we to receive the gifts and power of God? Where are our tears of joy, the gifts of healings, of prophecy? Are they all swallowed up in materialism? Surely, this is most displeasing to God, and hence, we have paid the penalty. Mention was made at this point also of Alma 4:6-9, where we read of a condition into which God's people fell where they became materialistic, carnal, and which led to the downfall of the church. Where are we going, and what hopes and foundations are we laying for our children? As Hezekiah stated, "Let us consider our ways." Let us remember the word of God and come spiritually and prayerfully together.

Our Brother James Heaps was also present one Wednesday night and spoke upon the disappearance of the gifts of God when unbelief enters into the church. He mentioned also the dispensation of time in which we live and what shall come, the maleficence of murmuring, the condition of the Gentile church, how God is seeking for a people who will serve Him, and how God shall separate the righteous from the unrighteous. Brother Heaps warned us of the serious matters that are before us and the many things that can destroy us as the people of God. God is able to do his work in the simplest of ways. Just a little prayer, a good work, or our good influence can bring someone to the church; not all people are called through a sermon preached.

Our district conference was held the weekend of February 27th and a good representation from all branches was present. This was a most orderly conference. The Sunday morning meeting was started with our Brother Dan Picciuto speaking upon Proverbs 22:28 and III Nephi 16:10-16. The theme of this sermon was "obey God's commandments and be blessed; disobey and be accursed." The beauty and importance of the first love was brought out and finally that "God will remember us if we will remember Israel."

Brother Joe Lovalvo followed Brother Dan and stressed also the importance of keeping the commandments of God. Some of the highlights of his sermon were the state of the Jews, the restored Gospel, the dangerous times in which we live, and the great trials and reverses which the church has suffered because the "landmarks have been changed," (Proverbs 22:28). The love of God is for the Gentiles as much as for Israel; God gave His only begotten Son because He loves the world.

The afternoon meeting was left open for testimonies and many really wonderful testimonies were given, including one by Apostle E. L. Yates. The meeting ended with comments from our district president, Brother James Heaps, in which he mentioned the importance of hospitality.

A very wonderful spirit prevailed throughout this district gathering. There were many visitors, some of whom were Apostle E. L. Yates (of the Temple Lot group) and his wife, and Brother Walter Flagle and wife, who are presently attending the mission in Phoenix, Arizona. Brother Flagle is a former member of our church and has just recently started attending church in Arizona. Both he and his wife enjoyed the gathering and we hope to see them and Mr. and Mrs. Yates here again sometime in the future.

Before the Conference ended Brother Rex and Sister Marie Weaver (former members of the Temple Lot group) asked for their baptism. They are two very wonderful people and having them in our midst will be a blessing. They have been attending services at our branch steadily for a period of several months and are persuaded that this indeed is the true church. May God bless them and all others who seek the truth!

Santina M. Mercuri, Branch Editor

Do It Yourself

Have you ever wondered why someone doesn't do this, or that, or the other thing?

Why not do it yourself?

The very fact that the thought has occurred to you may indicate that this is what God wants YOU to do for him.

Desma H. Galway

It's good advice — when all else fails — to read the instructions.

NEWS FROM ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

It has been some time since I have written to The Gospel News, and I thought today would be a good time to write. I heard a little proverb that went like this: You may be on the right track, but if you don't move you can be run over. I have been editor of Anaheim for some time and have not been very active in my work, so I decided I better start moving before I am called upon for an account of my stewardship. God willing, I will try to catch up on my writing. We are all interested in our paper and in reading about our brothers and sisters in the various parts of the vineyard, and I suppose they in turn would like to hear from us.

We are not a large branch in Anaheim but the Lord knows we are here and He never fails us when we gather to worship or study His word. On Sunday, March 21, we had several absent from meeting due to illness so we did not have too many present, but we remembered the promise that "where two or three are gathered together, there will I be and that to bless". Well, we had more than that and proceeded to have our service. Brother Harry Marshall opened the service, speaking on moving out into deeper things with God, stressing the blessings God has for us that we have not even dreamed of because we are prone to hang around the water's edge, instead of launching out into deeper water where there are blessings untapped by any of us yet. Brother George Heaps closed after making some remarks on the same subject. This was not a meeting of stirred emotions, but it was a glorious meeting. We felt like David when he said: "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures and He leadeth me beside the still waters; He restoreth my soul." I can't remember when I was in a better meeting or blessed more. It brought such peace and quiet to our souls, a unity of our spirits, a feeling of oneness in our purpose. It was wonderful, and I thank God for young men who can be used by God to bring forth His word by the power of the Spirit, that stimulates, encourages, and lifts us up above our discouragements and disappointments. This blessing remained with me all week and when we went to Church the following Sunday, we knew that the Lord was going to bless us in some special way that day.

That was yesterday March 28. Our Brother Clarence Kirkpatrick had been a very sick man for the past few weeks. While in the hospital he was feeling very discouraged. His vision had been impaired and as he opened his eyes Wednesday morning about ten o'clock, he felt so much better and his vision had greatly improved. He did not understand what had happened until about noon a group of sisters who had been to a fast and prayer meeting near the hospital, stopped in to see our brother. They told him what they had been doing and he told them what had happened to him. They were all made to rejoice. He was far from well, but was much better than he had been. Yesterday he came to Church and was feeling so weak that he intended to stay for only one meeting, but Brother George Heaps called him up front to be anointed. He who never fails was present, and touched our brother again. He remained for the full day, partaking of footwashing and going home rejoicing.

Brother George Heaps spoke on the greatness of God, His faithfulness and what He should mean to all of us. Again we went home with His Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are His children. Another scripture comes to me, "As many as are led by the Spirit of God these are the sons of God." So may God bless you every one wherever you are, that we may all rejoice in the unity of the faith and oneness of spirit and purpose; that His work be not hindered because of

our flesh. Remember us in your prayers as we endeavor to pray for God's children everywhere.

Your sister in Christ
Margaret Heaps

A LETTER FROM EDISON, N.J.

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I have just finished reading the February issue of The Gospel News and it seemed to lighten my burden and give me courage to go on. The life that we lead is so dependent on our Lord because we are so weak. Fellowship and communion with the saints are so essential, and we felt some of this when we read The Gospel News. We feel sparks of life continually stirring up within us which gives meaning and conviction to our aim in life.

We can quote scripture and keep to every letter of the law; but, if we don't launch out into new thoughts and apply them to our day and time, we are living in the past. It is just the word unless God gives meaning and life. To conceive a new thought and make it live within us, gives inner strength; not only to the one who shares it, but to the one who receives it. But, to the one who does not understand, it brings condemnation. We do not pretend to understand all, neither do we want to condemn, but must wait upon God for enlightenment and make sure that it is only God who condemns. So through His spirit only may we condemn. It is easy to quote scripture and to say what is already established. How secure and happy we feel when we are loved by all.

On the other hand, it takes an inner strength and knowledge and faith to exclaim what is here at hand, or what is to happen in the future. It is so easy to condemn things we do not understand and there are many things in our life that we do not understand. But we hope and pray that some day God will make all things plain to us; that we will no longer live by faith, but we will know and see great things accomplished; that things will no longer be a history of the past, but we as a people will make history. Instead of being as a speck of dust in this big universe, unknown and insignificant, we will be a powerful and mighty people to those who are seeking the truth.

So may the burdens and loads that we bear only tend to bring us closer to God for these make us realize our need for our Lord. We only hope and pray we can show others their need to serve Him and love Him as we so humbly desire to do all the days of our life.

I'll end this with a piece my mother wrote in my autograph book many years ago. "I will not wish you every joy, for that is seldom given. But, may you bear life's burdens well and wear a crown in heaven."

Our love and best wishes,
Ilene Smith

A LETTER FROM McKEES ROCKS, PA.

May the Lord bless one and all is our prayer in Christ Jesus. Thanks be to God for His true Church. Thanks be to God for sparing the life of our brother, James Heaps. Twelve years ago, during a week's revival meetings at the McKees Rocks Branch held by Brother Heaps, my son, who was a babe in arms, became very ill and was running a fever. I did not know what to do but soon the Lord began to work. When Sister Cassasanta came to take me and my children to Church, we wrapped the baby up just as he was in his night clothes and took him with us. Brother Heaps anointed him with oil and prayed. The fever left and he became well. He now enjoys listening to our brother as he makes his visits to us here in the East from California.

McKees Rocks enjoyed his fellowship March 21st to 23rd. We praise God for all His blessings. Love to one and all in Christ Jesus.

Martha Laird

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA NEWS

On a recent Sunday morning Brother Ben Ciccati opened our meeting speaking of a few former great men of our nation and how God had used them, as well as many in the Bible. Brother Louis Ciccati followed in the same line of thought, mentioning how grateful we should be for this great land of America. In the afternoon we had a wonderful spirit of testimony, the young testifying as well as the old.

I would like to mention at this time something concerning our Sister Ann Smith. She has been ill for quite some time and for the past three months has been confined to bed. We have had many prayer meetings for her and have fasted as well. This past week our young people, who are from the ages of 14 to 21, wanted to do something. One of them suggested fasting for Ann. They all thought this was good and that is what they did. The report we received the following Sunday after the young people had fasted was that Ann was greatly improved. May I also inject a portion of the testimony of a newly baptized sister who fasted for our Sister Ann. She has never met her, but her testimony was that if she is like the rest of us in the Gospel, she knows she'll love her just the same. May God continue to bless our young people with desires such as this, not only in San Diego, but throughout all the Church.

As we were about to dismiss the service spoken of above, Brother Ben Ciccati asked the congregation to join hands; and after prayer to shake our brothers' and sisters' hands and tell one another that we love them in the Gospel. We felt a wonderful spirit in our midst.

The brothers and sisters here also want to share with you the blessings which we received when three young sisters, Pat Nelson, Becky Nelson and Sandra Sazsko surrendered themselves to Christ. Lynda Nelson, who started coming to our meetings through the courtship of Kenneth Buccellato, was baptized about a year and a half ago. Loving the Church as she now does, she desired to share this love of the saints with her family. This she found difficult at times because, as many of us know, you can never really understand the feelings of the heart unless you experience them yourself. Many times we who have been in the Church a number of years still cannot find words to express the feelings of our hearts.

When Pat took part in her sister Lynda's wedding, less than a year ago, she met most of the brothers and sisters; from then on she began to attend our meetings. She remarked several times how friendly our people were and how they made her feel at home. Becky, also Lynda's sister, began to attend our meetings. The young people accepted her wholeheartedly. Pat and Becky both noticed the difference in our Church and began to pray about it.

Sunday morning, January 24th, we had visitors — Brother Bob Watson, Sr., his wife Nancy, and Sister Ford from Windsor, Canada. Brother Watson opened the meeting and spoke about how we should not procrastinate the calling of the Lord and that the narrow road isn't a very easy one to travel because the evil one is ever present. Brother Louis Ciccati continued the service using this as his thought. He said you can take many roads that will lead you to Chicago or wherever you want to go, but there is only one road you can take to get to Heaven and that is the narrow road. Broad is the way to destruction, but narrow is the road to eternal life. He also spoke that the harvest is ripe but the laborers are few. When the hymn, "Why Not Accept Him Now?" was sung, Pat stood and asked for her baptism. There was a wonderful spirit in the meeting. Brother Ray Sazsko testified of a dream he had had that there were four to be baptized. Sister Rose Lombardo dreamed the same thing. The Ministry agreed to have the baptism the following Sunday and that we should fast and pray that God

would call others as He would.

In our Tuesday night meeting both Brother Bob Watson and Brother Louis Ciccati spoke, continuing the theme, "Salvation." We sang the hymn, "I Surrender All" and Becky stood and asked for her baptism. The Sabbath Day which we had been waiting for with great anticipation arrived. It was like going to work and awaiting a pay check. Brother Ben Ciccati opened the meeting using the scripture about Nicodemus coming to Jesus by night; he expounded the need of spiritual birth, encouraging the youth to find a need for Christ in their lives. Brother Louis Ciccati followed with the thought of how men are drafted into the army to fight for our country, but in this spiritual army of Christ we have to be volunteers. We sang the hymn "Ye Must Be Born Again" and Sandra Sazsko stood and asked for her baptism. A Wonderful spirit filled the room. We felt there was another soul who should have followed the three and we pray that God will call and that His call will be heeded.

We want to thank God for these who have volunteered to fight in this great army of Christ. May God bless them and clothe them with His armor; the breastplate of righteousness, the helmet of salvation, the sword of the spirit, and the shield of faith.

San Diego Branch Editor
Marlene Ciccati

LORAIN, OHIO NEWS

The senior quartet of Detroit Branch #1, along with their families, met with us on February 28th. The brothers sang many beautiful and inspiring hymns throughout the morning service as well as after lunch before leaving us to return home. The members of the quartet are Brothers Benjamin DePronio, Spencer Everett, Louis Vitto, David DiBattista and their accompanist, Brother Frank Conti. Some of their selections were: I've been to Calvary; Supper Time; Without Him; Wasted Years; and Lovest Thou Me?

Brother Frank Vitto, who also came with them, opened our service by reading from the Book of Mormon in II Nephi 2:24-30 and St. John 11:25, 26 from the Bible. He exhorted us to choose the good part as it states in the Scriptures; choose to walk after Christ as He so graciously prepared the way of salvation; keep our homes fit so Jesus may be able to enter at any time without our being embarrassed at His presence. Now is the time to choose salvation; we must not wait until we are forced to serve God through sickness or at the point of death.

Brother Spencer Everett then spoke telling of the death of Lazarus; how Martha ran out to meet Jesus and He told her that Lazarus would rise again. He said, "I am the resurrection and the life and whosoever believeth in Me shall never die." Death comes to all men but we have time to accept God and work for our eternal life. He pointed out the fact that we must be born again (baptized by the water, fire and Holy Ghost) in order to see the Kingdom of Heaven. Brother Everett related how he believed God had led him to a new job which proved to be better for him naturally and spiritually. He also related how he was called into the Ministry and how God showed him he should accept the calling. Both brothers were blessed in speaking and their seasoned words satisfied our spiritual hunger.

If these brothers had been privileged to hear the testimonies in our afternoon service, they would have heard how grateful and thankful we all were for their inspirational singing and words of exhortation. May the Lord bless them for this special effort they made to be with us this Sabbath morning.

Lorain Branch Editor
Betty Alessio

NEWS FROM WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

On March 4, 1965 our Sunday services were held at Delray Beach where Brother Ernest Schultz had rented the American Legion hall (we had formerly met in the home of Brother Frank Sirangelo). Our first meeting there was very much enjoyed by the many brothers, sisters, and friends present — 35 in all. This will be temporary, however, until we are able to find a building or property on which to build in a desirable location.

We are also happy to report Brother Schultz is now our Presiding Elder and we feel he will be a great help to us. Love to all the Saints as we are enjoying the love and blessings from God.

West Palm Beach Branch Editor,
Jan Creech

WHAT IS THE CALLING OF A MINISTER?

PART I

By Patsy Marinetti

The President of the United States, Lyndon Johnson, has often stated that if he had a son, he would have desired that his son direct his life's work in one of three possible endeavors — namely, to become a doctor, preacher, or teacher. The President's reason for these three choices was that these vocations offered a man one of the greatest opportunities to render beneficial or dedicated service to his fellow man.

We, as a Church are deeply concerned primarily in the activities and responsibilities which are related to the calling of a minister. The life work of a minister is one of the most challenging tasks in which a man can become involved, because he can become a powerful instrument in the ever-active life-stream of many people.

The one fundamental question that so many conscientious elders have raised repeatedly is: Why hasn't the Church taken a more active role in helping to prepare elders for their responsibilities by qualifying their office with a definite training program? If the Church had initiated a constructive manual or guide which could have established a uniform pattern of ministerial behavioral expectations as a standard for the training of all elders perhaps the general priesthood today would be better equipped to face the broader scope of responsibilities that now confront our ministers.

The dictionary defines a minister as:

1. a person acting for another, as his agent and carrying out his orders or designs.
2. anyone authorized to carry out the spiritual functions of a church, conduct worship, administer the sacraments, preach, etc.
3. one who serves to give help and fill wants.

In his advice to Timothy, Apostle Paul points out specific traits that are required of every responsible elder. To be above reproach a minister or elder should be temperate, moderate in one's actions and speech, and self-disciplined. He must be sensible, being sound of judgment, intelligent, reasonable, appreciative and understanding. An elder must not be violent, but gentle, and must be able to manage his own home. He must also be well spoken of by outsiders; or in brief, be a good example to all people.

Since a minister is one who serves as an agent, he must discharge his duties for the specific purpose of bringing about favorable results in the affairs of people's lives. In view of this fact, he should develop leadership qualities, if he is to become a responsible agent. Because an elder's work is closely interwoven with the plans, hopes, desires, feelings, and needs of a variety of people, he must consequently be able to lead. He must have that

personal quality that will enable him, as one individual, to inspire in others a willingness to follow him toward the accomplishment of a definite objective.

Now, if a minister recognizes that he is to fill an important role as a leader, it normally follows that he must seriously analyze and study his own personality traits. He must therefore make a definite effort to bring his character or personality in harmony with the basic requirements which Apostle Paul dwells on in his instruction to Timothy.

Since a minister is in the public view, his official position reflects the policies and sets the standard of the General Church Organization. A minister, therefore, should be a mature and well-adjusted individual. He must have a sincere love for people in order to radiate that rare trait we call charity. This capacity to love gives a minister the insight to realize that human beings, including himself, have weaknesses. With this truth in mind, he must cultivate a tolerance toward the mistakes of all people. Because an elder's activity will be centered primarily within the arena of man's human qualities, his official position should reflect the personal trait of integrity which embodies honesty, loyalty, fairness, and sincerity.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

TWO NEW NAMES WRITTEN DOWN IN GLORY

Detroit Branch No. 2

We are happy indeed for this little paper called The Gospel News. It gives us the privilege to express our thought on how God, in His excellent way, works wonders with His children. Our greatest possession is the promise of Eternal Life. How true that is! And while others praise the Cross of the Christ, the Christ of the Cross is our theme. Behold, He has become a living God! He no longer hangs on the cross, but dwells in the temple of our hearts. We have learned to put our trust fully in Him. Great have been the rewards! Blessed be His holy name! "O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth." Psalms 8-1.

On February 14, 1965, two young people, Timothy Lambert and Judy Colver, were baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ at the Detroit Branch # 2. It was a glorious day to behold a most beautiful scene at the river shore. May God bless their tender young hearts, that they may give of their best to the Master, and the strength of their youth. May God instill His love into each and every heart who is striving to serve Him in spirit and in truth is our prayer.

We salute you all throughout the Church with the love of God, from the Detroit Branch # 2.

Anna Carlini, Branch Editor

Kindness consists in loving people more than they deserve.

Happiness is not a station you arrive at, but a manner of traveling.

Difficult times bring out one's true character, just as darkness brings out the stars.

Nothing is ever lost by courtesy.

Out of the mouths of babes come words we should never have said.

To make a success of old age, you must start young.

When you stop to think, don't forget to start again.

Readers Write

Each month it is so interesting to read of our brothers and sisters throughout the Church. I'm thankful to receive The Gospel News. May God continue to bless you in this great work.

Sister Mary Rich
Great Bend, Kansas

God bless you for the good work you are doing in sending The Gospel News to many. I know that since I have been in the Church I have received it steady and cannot do without it for it uplifts my soul.

Sister Mary Spata

Dear Gospel News Staff:

Thank you for all the work you do on The Gospel News. I enjoy reading the paper very much.

In regards to the article about music in the Church, I feel that a Church without music is like a Gospel without Christ—something is missing.

Sister Norma Kennedy
San Diego, California

We can truly say that without this wonderful Church paper we certainly would be lost. It keeps us abreast with the Church throughout the nation and the wonderful work being accomplished. Upon receiving The Gospel News I cannot put it down until it is read and reread. This paper is our strength and inspiration.

Brother and Sister Jos. Constantine
Cape Coral, Florida

I love The Gospel News and always look forward to receiving it as it is the only way to know the news around the Church. God bless you all and help you to keep up the good work.

Sister Carmella D'Amico
Rochester, New York

As I sit here reading my July issue of The Gospel News I notice my subscription has expired. I am enclosing a check for another year. I surely would hate to miss any of the issues. The Gospel News surely has been a big help to all of us here. The editorials have been very good reading for us.

Sister Eva Delp
St. John, Kansas

When Brother Cadman passed away I felt such a great sense of personal loss as I'm sure we all did. One of my thoughts was of our paper, The Gospel News. What would happen to it? Well, I must tell you that when Brother Cadman looks down on us he must be ever so pleased because his paper has grown into a wonderful one. Each issue is more enjoyable than the last. For those of us who are not so fortunate as to be near a branch of our Church it has been the one material that has helped us stay cemented to our Church. It is a lonely feeling to be so far from our brothers and sisters. In a way, you all grow closer to us in our minds and hearts, more so than if you were next door. We read each word you write hungrily, and feel a great sense of warmth, and sadness too, when we come to the end of the last page.

I want to thank you for the encouragement we derive from our paper. It has helped many of us through our problems for it has made us feel that we are not so alone.

Sister Darlene Large
North Syracuse, New York

MY TESTIMONY

*Jesus touched this heart of mine,
Down by the water's edge,
He gently took me by the hand,
And helped me o'er the ledge.*

*Oh how I thank Him for that day,
When all my sins were washed away,
His precious blood was shed for me;
Praise God, His glory I now can see.*

*Tho' lost in sin these many years,
I've searched for Him amid my tears,
At last I found Him and am complete;
My life, my all, is at His feet.*

*The time I've left on earth to stay,
Until He calls me home one day,
I'll try to tell each soul I see,
How much my Savior loveth me.*

*For lost I was and in Satan's grip,
His hold so strong, I couldn't slip;
But Jesus heard my prayer within,
And saved me from this world of sin.*

*Tho' I'll be tempted, there's no doubt,
I know my God will lead me out;
For on my knees to Him I pray
To guide and lead me, every day.*

*And should I fall along the way,
Oh help me, Lord, I'll humbly pray,
As I reach up to grasp Thy hand,
For by my God, I want to stand.*

Mary Glover

SLAVES

*They are slaves who fear to speak,
For the fallen and the weak;
They are slaves who will not choose,
Hatred, scoffing, and abuse,
Rather than in silence shrink,
From the truth they needs must think;
They are slaves who dare not be,
In the right with two or three.*

James Russell Lowell

TOGETHER

*If two cannot walk together
Except they be agreed,
How can I walk, dear Lord, with Thee
Except I agree quite willingly
To walk where Thou dost lead?
Lord, I would walk together
Each day of my life with Thee;
Life's tangled paths perplexing grow,
I dare not walk alone, and so
Dear Master, walk with me.*

—Roy J. Wilkins

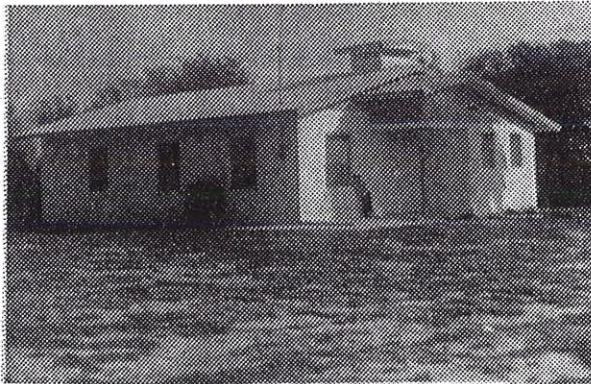
The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

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The Church of Jesus Christ
Route 2
Fort Pierce, Florida

Brief History Of Fort Pierce Mission Of The Church Of Jesus Christ

When Brother Patsy Rogolino retired from work in New Jersey, he moved to Florida. After looking at various places, he finally decided to buy property in Fort Pierce. He attended services in West Palm Beach, but when not able to go there, he, his wife Sister Rose, and daughter Ruth, held meetings by themselves in their home. One night as Brother Patsy lay down to rest, he had a dream. In this dream he saw himself lie down on the ground. A voice spoke to him, and told him that where he lay was solid rock. Brother Patsy said, "No Lord, this is all sand." The voice repeated the words three times. When Brother Patsy awoke, he was very happy, and he thanked God for the experience. Sister Rose also had a dream, in which she saw a soldier bring his wife, who was also in uniform, to the woods in back of their home. He left his wife there, telling her that he would be back to visit her from time to time. This encouraged Brother Patsy and Sister Rose, and they began looking for someone to speak to about the Church. They found a large family, willing to meet with them to sing and talk about the things of God. They found much comfort and joy in the time they spent together. Brother Frank Rogolino and his family soon moved to make their home in Fort Pierce also, along

What Is The Calling Of A Minister?

PART II

By Patsy Marinetti

A minister should have definite convictions, yet not be arrogant or dogmatic. He should be firm, yet flexible; he should stimulate responsive efforts, but not be domineering; and finally he should know where to channel his listeners' thoughts without pushing.

An elder should cultivate a down-to-earth modesty or humility, which is the ability to know that he does not have all the answers to all questions. This leads him to understand that he must develop patience in first listening to questions and problems before arriving at too conclusive an answer. In times of stress and pressure, a minister must try to remain considerate and courteous. He must learn to respect the thoughts and opinions of others, even if he does not agree completely with them. This is a test for self-control and maturity.

Again one must point out that a minister's work brings him in contact with many people in a variety of circumstances. As a public figure, he reflects the image of his Church and he must take practical thought as to his manner of dress. His apparel must be in harmony with what is proper. His physical appearance

(Continued on Page 2)

with Brother and Sister John Moore from Lockport, New York. What a joy it was to meet together and hear the experiences each one had to tell. God gave us many dreams and experiences relating to a work that He had prepared in Fort Pierce. We had our discouragements too, but we never forgot the things that God showed were in store for us, if we held on, and proved ourselves. Our members were very desirous to tell others of this Gospel, and strove very hard to further the work. Our number increased with new members and also those who came here from other parts. On October 13, 1960, we were established as a Mission. Meetings were held in Brother Frank Rogolino's home for several years, but soon the home became too small for the number attending the meetings. We went to God in fasting and prayer, and soon God had opened a way for us. We were able to hold our meetings in the Local Union Hall, where we met for some time. Since the building was not ours, there was some inconvenience involved, and again we went to God in fasting and prayer for a place of our own. Brother Patsy Rogolino donated a piece of property next to his home, and within a few months, we had a small, humble meeting place of our own. God gave us many experiences concerning the

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WHAT IS THE CALLING OF A MINISTER

(Continued from Page 1)

should not be conspicuous either to the point of loudness, or to the point of being untidy. Cleanliness, in the fullest sense of the word, cannot be over-emphasized.

A display of emotion has its place and its time, and it may appeal to some people. However, the majority of people become very uneasy when present in an atmosphere that is too heavily charged with a shouting voice or excessive emotional display.

There is another noticeable weakness that plagues some elders which is worth noting at this point. Since the majority of our elders are from the ranks of ordinary men, and many have had little previous experience in assuming some degree of supervision over the affairs and behavior of people in general, a sudden exposure of asserting authority over people may be misapplied, because of a lack of being better prepared. Some elders who do not understand their role tend to abuse the power of authority. When a man abuses the powers of authority vested in his office, and applies his personal interpretation of its use, he tampers with one of man's most privileged opportunities to render a constructive service. The elder who seeks to satisfy only his personal motives, tends to become dictatorial and exacting to the point of pushing people around in order to conform to his personal inclinations.

This brings into closer focus the reason why a minister's manual would be of vital importance in preparing the induction of a new elder, as he shoulders new responsibilities which are related to both his office and the people of his congregation.

If these above stated traits are to be developed in a minister's personality, and they must be if he expects to communicate and influence peoples' lives constructively, he shall attain that position, wherein his judgment will follow that course of concluding right decisions and actions; and thus give the most correct leadership and advice when needed.

Finally, in conjunction with the personality development, and the care required in dress and cleanliness, an elder should control his emotions by self-discipline, tact, and poise. When speaking to a mixed audience, and while administering in the various ordinances of his office, an elder should govern all his actions with dignity, so that his official position might earn the just respect due to that man who becomes a qualified servant for God.

BROTHER HEAPS VISITS N.J.

We have been privileged recently to have Brother James Heaps visit us in the New Jersey Area. He spoke to us mainly from The Book of Mormon, bringing to us wonderful words of life. He exhorted us to search the scriptures, and the definition of words used in scriptures, for a better understanding.

Due to his illness, Brother Heaps held very informal meetings, but the teaching was very effective. We hope and pray that God will continue to watch and keep our brother.

Mary Ann Van Bree
Metuchen Branch Editor

LET US REFLECT

I was recently so greatly impressed by the testimony of our Sister Margaret Henderson, that I felt compelled to write a few words on the attitude of brothers and sisters when meeting together. In her testimony, she quoted the words of the Psalmist David, when he said, "O come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation; let us come before his presence with thanksgiving and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms," and in her words "Let us come together with a SMILE, and with a PRAYER."

And again the Psalmist David declares: "Serve the Lord with gladness; come before his presence with singing. . . . Enter into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him and bless his name. . . . It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord and to sing praises unto thy name."

The gathering of the saints should be, really, a time of joy and happiness. We should come to our meetings with a prayer in our hearts, with a smile upon our countenances, with a song upon our lips. Church is no place for the unburdening of our problems or troubles upon others, for after all, are we not all burdened in some way or another? We gather so that we might have joy in hearing the word of God and seeing each other. It is so very important, then, that we be happy and smile when we meet, to be cheerful. Who enjoys looking upon a frowning face, upon a face filled with unhappiness and discontent? Doesn't this immediately cast a shadow of gloom over all?

We live in days of trials, tribulations, and discouragement. All the more important then is the need for encouraging each other when we meet, to reflect pleasantness and joy. After all, don't we possess the most precious thing this side of heaven? Shouldn't we, of all people, be the most joyous and thankful? Next time we meet then, how about giving everyone a hand, a genuine smile, a pleasant word of encouragement? Let our actions reflect the love of God in us. It is easy to get into the habit of going to church, sitting down, and leaving immediately when the meeting ends, as though we are anxious to leave everyone. Let us, instead, be a real family, and linger in our farewells. Let us not pass anyone by, but rather, go out of our way to give everyone a warm handshake. Believe me, there is a great blessing in it! It is one way we show our interest in others.

Therefore, let us learn to smile more. It is a very wonderful habit to get into, and it can do so much good. As one writer once said, "A face that cannot smile is never good." Another writer states, "What a sight there is in that word 'smile!' It changes like a chameleon. There is a vacant smile, a cold smile, a smile of hate, a satiric smile, an affected smile; but above all, a SMILE OF LOVE."

A well-known, now-departed person once wrote in his diary: "How things may go, in rain or sunlight, cold or heat, and however my greater or lesser superiors may dispose of me, I must always stay in the same frame of mind: never a word of complaint or disapproval, in public or in private; my smile must be cheerful, frank and friendly; I must not let my head be turned in good fortune nor let myself be soured by the bitter moments of life."

Let us always strive to be a cheerful, smiling people, reflecting the goodness of God in us by word and action!

Santina M. Mercuri
Bell Branch Editor

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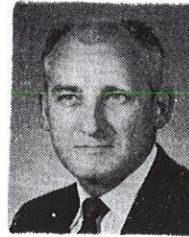
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Editorial Viewpoint



George A. Neill

There should be a church in your home; what better place to practice the teachings of Christ? Teach love by loving; forgiveness by forgiving; patience by being longsuffering; and righteousness by setting a godly example in all things.

It is almost June 20th — Father's Day — again. Father's Day has never gained a very great momentum such as Mother's Day in our country. I doubt if Father will ever catch up to Mother in popularity for she has unique characteristics that all fathers must admire, and those queenly qualities you cannot take away. While living in Miami, Florida in 1951 and 1952 I became acquainted with a retired missionary by the name of Booker. He was a grand old gentleman and I liked him very much. He made a statement one time that I shall never forget; he said, "A father should be just as big as the thing it takes to get him down." I realized afterwards he really meant those words for me at the time for I was surely down as a result of my physical condition. I recall another statement he made, something like this: No matter what tactics an individual may use to hurt or insult him he would keep on loving him; and the same person could never do or say anything bad enough to keep him from praying for him. Of course, this man was a father, and knowing him I used to think that he surely lived up to the qualities required of a father.

Father's responsibilities are great and he sometimes feels his jobs are bigger than he can handle. There certainly are times when Dad deserves a pat on the back. Certainly there are good fathers everywhere who have proved to be very successful in playing the role of father. I wonder why some of these same fathers feel, or at least seem to feel, that Church is only for women and children. Is it alright for good fathers to ignore a call that God makes to them? There was a call sent out early in the history of time just prior to the great catastrophe in Noah's day. The command of God was, "Come thou and all thy house into the ark." This was a call to the head of the family; it is still going out to fathers everywhere. Surely it is the father's responsibility to shoulder the obligation of leading his family in the right way.

We hear many terms used concerning men: handsome men, smart men, sophisticated men, men with a career, men of talent, and even men of distinction; but the world never has forgotten and never will forget the term "godly men." We have plenty of men who know how to be smart; we need some who are willing to be simple. The world has all the brilliant men it needs, but I think we could use more men who are brave. There is any number of men who are popular, but there may be a scarcity of men who are pure. J. Edgar Hoover made a statement many years ago which I never forgot. He said, "If I had a son I would want him to go to Church, and what's more I would go with him." He also said, "Human beings need rules to live by and fathers should make the first ones." Teens, I am sure, like to feel that Father has learned a few answers to life's perplexing questions from the spiritual standpoint.

The Apostle Paul, on four different occasions that I know of, spoke about a church in the house, and I am satisfied he refers to the home. In Romans 16:5, in speaking of Priscilla and Aquilla, he says, "The Church that is in their house." In I Corinthians 16:19, also referring to Priscilla and Aquilla, he says, "The Church that is in their home." In Colossians 4:15 Paul says, "The Church which is in his house"; and in Philemon 1:2, in speaking to Apphia and Archippus, he refers to "The Church in thy house." As I said before, I'm satisfied he means the household made up of Father, Mother and children. Most people, when speaking of the Church, think of a building; however, when Father and Mother accept Christ that family becomes the Church that is in their home. How wonderful it would be if there were a Church in every home! What about the Church in your house, or is there a Church in your home? Father, does your family operate under Christian principles? I feel it is impossible to exaggerate the importance of the example of Christian parents in the home. Children learn to pray by hearing their parents pray. They learn to have respect and love for the Bible when Father and Mother use it at home. They formulate standards of right and wrong by watching their parents and listening to them.

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

It is believed by the experts that juvenile delinquency is largely the result of inadequate guidance and supervision in the home. I firmly believe the sooner children are exposed to the teachings and principles of Christ the better for them. They need the opportunity to draw their ideals and standards from the Christian source. I am reminded of a mother who went to her minister and asked him how soon she should begin her five-year-old daughter's religious education. The minister told her she had better hurry as she had already lost five years.

A father can do no greater favor for his child than to introduce him to God, the Bible, and Jesus Christ as the way of salvation. There should be a church in your home. What better place to practice the teachings of Christ? Teach love by loving; forgiveness by forgiving; patience by being longsuffering; and righteousness by setting a godly example in all things, whether in the home or away from home. If you have a church in your house the passer-by will feel this is an invitation. If you do not have a church in your home, don't you think it is time to establish one? I think it would be eminently worthwhile.

GOD'S PLAN

(Cont'd.)

By James Heaps

"For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in." And so all Israel shall be saved. As it is written, "There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins." Thus we see that this is the plan of God. When the Gentile yoke is broken from Israel and God takes away their reproach, they will celebrate their victory as they did on the banks of the Red Sea. After they had safely passed through the waters Moses sang his song of deliverance. Their enemies followed and tried to overtake them but God caused the depths to cover them. With the blast of His nostrils the waters were gathered together; the floods stood upright as a heap; "The enemy said, I will pursue. I will overtake them; I will divide the spoil; I will draw my sword; my hand shall destroy them. Thou didst blow with Thy wind, the sea covered them: they sank as lead in the mighty waters." This shows how God's wrath will fall upon the enemies of Israel, and how they will be destroyed as the Egyptians were swallowed up in the Red Sea. Moses' song was prophetic and shows how the divine hand of God will guide the sons of Jacob.

Their deliverance is drawing near. There will be a time of trouble such as has never been known in the history of the world. Fear and dread will fall upon the Gentiles, and by the power of God He will stop their mouths and quiet them like the troubled sea. "Thou shalt bring them in and plant them in the mountain of thine inheritance in the place, O Lord, which Thou hast made for Thee to dwell in." Many of the Jews are gathering back to Palestine preparatory to the great work which must be accomplished there.

After the Children of Israel were safe on the other side of the sea, Miriam, the Prophetess, took a timbrel in her hand and led the women out after her with music and dances to praise the Lord for their glorious triumph. If they sang, danced, and shouted when they got away from the Egyptian bondage, how much great-

er will be their demonstrations of joy when they shall have been gathered from the ends of the earth and planted in their own lands. Then, as Paul says, it will be like life from the dead; then we can hear Jeremiah's prophecy fulfilled: "Behold the days will come, saith the Lord, they shall no more say the Lord liveth which brought them out of the land of Egypt, but the Lord liveth which brought up and led the seed of the House of Israel out of the north country, and from all the countries where I have driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land." The waste places in Zion will be rebuilt and the victories celebrated in the dance of praise.

It is natural for a redeemed soul to praise the Lord, to declare to others His wonderful works and His goodness. A blessing always follows praise; those who refuse to tell what the Lord has done for them will find their light going out. There are not many who know what it is to praise the Lord from the heart. They sing but it has no meaning to them. Like the parrot they repeat what they hear but they do not understand. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord! The dance was originated with the people of God. Satan has succeeded in perverting nearly everything that is good, and has captured the dance and made it a destructive agency in the world today. In worldly dances the sexes mingle together — a practice which was never known until the dance was wrested from its proper place. David danced before the ark when it was brought back to its proper place. When the prodigal son came home there were music and dancing in his father's house; or, in other words, there was a great demonstration of the joy of God. Jesus told His disciples that when they were persecuted for righteousness' sake they should rejoice and shout and leap for joy. When Peter said to the man at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, "Silver and gold have I none, but such as I have I give unto thee," his ankle bones received their strength and he began leaping and shouting and praising God; all the people heard him and saw him walk. When David had been purged from his sin, he expressed himself in joy, "Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou has broken may rejoice. Restore unto me the joy of salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit." There are too many who come to Church with a look of boredom on their faces. Let us put a smile on our face. In the plan of God there is no place for a graveyard religion. Those who have been resurrected from the spiritual death are full of life and joy. They no longer live among the tombs; neither do they chant the doleful anthems of the dead. There is springtime in the soul, and music everywhere; and their exuberance of joy will be manifested in their outward demonstrations. Those whose cups are running over with the new wine of the Kingdom will sing such songs as well as give expression to the fullness of the soul. "Oh, God, give them no more sad tears for bread but give them joy divine; and cause Thy face to shine."

There are all kinds of demonstrations of hatred in the world today. "America, go home," they cry; we have fed the world and now they tell us to go home. Israel has been scattered through every nation. Hitler put six million of them into the gas chambers, but that did not destroy them. Jacob, the brother of Nephi, tells us, "It shall come to pass that they shall be gathered in from their long dispersion from the isles of the sea, and from the four parts of the earth; and the nations of the Gentiles shall be great in the eyes of Me, saith God, in carrying them forth to the lands of their inheritance." "Let my people go," was the cry of the Jews all over the world. This prophecy was now to be

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GOD'S PLAN

(Continued from Page 4)

fulfilled in 1945 and 1946. The Zionist movement was working day and night to get their people back to Palestine. The cry, "Let my people go," was heard again. There was a man by the name of Bill Fry sitting in a restaurant in Baltimore. He said to himself, "I wonder if I could get a ship that would hold about 70,000 refugees." To make a long story short, it came to pass; backed by the Zionist movement he bought an obsolete steamship, the General Stonewall Jackson, later renamed The Promised Land. He was killed at the stern along with fifteen others by the British who were running a blockade of Palestine. The Exodus was at harbor with three hundred boys and girls from 10 to 17 years of age. The same cry, "Let my people go," was heard throughout the Island of Cypress. The British would not permit them to go so they went on a hunger strike. Here again we hear the voice of the United States saying, "Let my people go." The next time we shall hear this cry it will be the voice of the Choice Seer saying, "Let my people go."

Weddings

LOWDEN-LEE

On April 17, 1965, at two o'clock, Ruth Ann Lee, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Lee, of Alexandria, Va., and Brother Robert Lowden, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Johnson, of Grindstone, Pa., were united in marriage in the Wyatt Park Baptist Church at St. Joseph, Missouri. A reception was held at the church.

They will reside in Georgia, then in North Carolina where the bridegroom is a second lieutenant stationed with the United States Army. May God bless them both.

JOHNSON-SABATINI

On April 24, 1965 at two o'clock, Linda Sabatini, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Sabatini, of Grindstone, Pa., and David Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Johnson, also of Grindstone, were united in marriage at The Church of Jesus Christ in Roscoe.

The father of the bridegroom officiated, and Brother B. J. Martin led in prayer.

Following a reception the couple will reside in Grindstone. May God bless them both.

CLEVELAND, OHIO NEWS

Branch #1

We of the Cleveland East Side Branch were greatly inspired Easter morning, when the children presented us with an Easter program.

The program consisted of poems recited by each on their ideas of the theme "What Easter means to me." Also included was the reading of the 16th chapter of St. Mark, verses 1 thru 6. Our Junior choir sang five hymns including "Christ Arose". We are pleasingly impressed by the eagerness of our children to do their part in the service of the Lord.

The program was directed by Sister Carol Cadiou, Sister Margaret Abbott, and Bernidine Gibson.

Raymond Abbott,
Branch Editor



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"I arose a mother in Israel". Judges 5 : 7

Dear Girls and Boys,

I want to tell you a story found in the Old Testament about a woman who was a judge in Israel. All the other judges were men, but this time the Lord chose Deborah, a prophetess. She was the wife of Lapidoth. Her home stood under a palm tree between Ramah and Bethel. She was a very good woman. The children of Israel came to her for judgment. The Lord gave her wisdom to know the future. She was able to tell the Israelites what they must do to be delivered from their enemy, Jabin, the king of Canaan.

Jabin was very cruel. For twenty years he had oppressed Israel. He had nine hundred chariots of iron and had great power. The Israelites cried unto God for help. Deborah sent for a man named Barak to tell him of the Lord's commands. "Take ten thousand men of the children of Naphtali and Zebulun and go fight against Sisera", she said. Now Sisera was the captain of King Jabin's army. Barak was afraid to go. He said, "if you will go with me I will go, but if not I will not go". Deborah agreed to go, but she told Barak he would not have the honor for the victory because the Lord would deliver Sisera into the hands of a woman, and she would kill him.

Barak took his army of ten-thousand men and went out to meet Sisera. Deborah went with him. Sisera had the great army of the king ready for battle too. The Lord was with Barak and his men. Soon the Israelites were victorious. Barak followed after Sisera's men and killed them as they ran away. Not a man was left, but Sisera escaped on foot. He ran to the tent of Heber and his wife, Jael, to hide. When Jael saw him coming, she ran out to meet him. Jael was a friend of the Israelites, but Sisera did not know this because Heber was a friend of the King. Jael told him to come into the tent and not be afraid. Sisera came in and lay down on the floor. Jael covered him with a mantle, or a robe, to hide him. He said he was thirsty, so Jael opened a bottle of milk and gave him a drink. He told her to stand at the door of the tent, and if any man asked about him for her to reply he was not there.

Soon Sisera was fast sleep. He was very tired after fighting and running so far. While he slept, Jael took a great nail and a hammer and went softly to his side. She drove the nail into his temple and fastened it into the ground. Sisera died. Soon Barak came by, looking for Sisera. Jael went out to meet him. She took him into the tent and showed him Sisera. So it was this day the Israelites were set free from the cruel king Jabin, but the credit did not go to Barak. Sisera was killed by the hand of a woman just as the prophetess Deborah had foretold. But they knew they had gained the victory through the Lord and not themselves or their army. Deborah and Barak sang a beautiful song in praise to their God for the victory.

Sincerely,
Sister Mabel

M.B.A. Highlights

(The following article is the first to be presented about a specific Area of the Missionary Benevolent Association. Stories on each of the other MBA Areas will be published at various intervals in the future.—Editor's Note)

THE CALIFORNIA MBA AREA

By Benjamin Ciccati

California Area MBA President

Although MBA Locals were set up almost simultaneously with the organization of new Branches in California, it was not until December, 1956 in San Fernando that the California Locals began meeting as a unit called an "Area." It was at this meeting that a committee, under the chairmanship of Brother Rudy Meo, was set up to establish the Area.

At this writing, there are five Locals in the California Area. They are located in the Branches of Bell, Modesto, San Fernando Valley, and San Diego in California and in the recently formed Branch in Phoenix, Arizona.

Brother Meo was elected as the first Chairman of the California Area. He served for four years. Brother Leonard Joseph Lovalvo followed him in this office and, at present, the author is President, with Brother Robert Ciarrochi serving as Vice-President. Other current officers are Leana Liberto, Secretary, and Sister Jane Tucker, Assistant Secretary. In the coming Area Conference on July 17, 1965 in San Diego, election of the complete slate of officers according to the new MBA By-Laws will take place.

Early Gatherings

The activities of the early Area get-togethers were completely spiritual and social in nature. No formal business was discussed, and, as was prevalent in other Areas, there were no financial officers. These gatherings were held once a year in rotation among the various California Branch Locals. They were scheduled in either the months of December, June or July.

At the last Area Gathering in San Fernando Valley, the following types of activities were reported being used by California Locals in their meetings and outside projects.

1. Book of Mormon study.
2. Helping widowed Sisters.
3. Raising funds for church building additions through luncheons and candy and rummage sales.
4. Letter-writing to the sick and those living away from the Local, such as servicemen
5. Prayer meetings.
6. Testimony meetings.
7. Family night.
8. Christmas caroling, followed by a snack in church basement.
9. Reading and discussing of dreams.
10. Preparing Christmas tokens for children in Tijuana, Mexico.
11. Showing religious films or slides.
12. Topic presentations.

Our Area Gathering spiritual activities have been along the same lines as those of the General MBA. Included among these have been musicals, poems and recitations, choir presentations, and plays illustrating such themes as "The Gospelship of Zion," "Come to the Supper," "The Model Church," "The Restoration," and "Spiritual Illnesses and Their Remedies."

Guest Speakers

At all of the gatherings, guest speakers are invited to participate by presenting talks or sermons on various subjects. An effort has been made by all the Locals to present well-rounded programs, including all age groups and with appeal and interest to all age levels. On various occasions, visiting Elders from the East have been the guest speakers.

As President of the California Area, I want to commend our members, and especially our young people, for taking an active part in the revision of the recent MBA By-Laws. Although the Area could not be present at the GMBA Conference in number, a good spirit of enthusiasm and concern was shown in this undertaking. This Area contains an energetic group of young people, who are beginning to take hold of the leadership of the Locals. The strength and enthusiasm of youth make it possible for the continued progress of the groups.

Our aim shall always be to uplift the MBA, further its cause, and encourage young people to acquire experience in assuming the responsibility and leadership that they need to become pillars of The Church. Many of our young Ministers have been active MBA officers, not only in their Locals, but also in our Area. It is planned to continue to make progress in improving our Locals, as well as our Area organization.

The California Area MBA salutes you all in the spirit and love of Christ.

OTHER AREA OFFICERS

In addition to the California Area Officers mentioned above and the Michigan-Canadian Officers named in the February, 1965 issue of *The Gospel News*, the following officials are serving in the Areas indicated.

Atlantic Coast Area: Joseph Perri, President; Dominic Rose, Vice-President; James Link, Chaplain; and Anthony Vadasz, Secretary.

Ohio Area: Frank Giovannone, President; Joseph Calabrese, Vice-President; William Gennaro, Chaplain; James Cadiou, Secretary-Treasurer; Anthony Calabrese, Auditor; and Helen Tisler, Editor.

Pennsylvania Area: John Manes, President; Isaac Smith, Vice-President; Richard Lawson, Chaplain; Paul Palmieri, Secretary-Treasurer; and Anthony Ross, Editor.

The permanent election of officers, for one-year terms, will take place in all MBA Area Conferences on July 17, 1965. In addition, activity plans on all other matters pertaining to each locality will be finalized. These conferences will be held in conformance with the newly revised By-Laws which stipulate that Areas must meet on the third Saturday of July. Any additional Area Gatherings can be appointed at the discretion of the individual Areas.

A report of the General MBA Conference, which met in Detroit, Michigan on May 15, will appear in the July issue. The deadline date for *The Gospel News* made it impossible to present it this month.

Board Of Missions Report

TO APRIL, 1965 CONFERENCE

The Board of Missions met on March 20, 1965 at the Church Building, Youngstown, Ohio with a fine representation of Board Members present even though the weather and driving conditions were very bad. We wish to submit the following report of the business transacted for your information and ratification.

Africa

In Africa, the activities and affairs of the Church with headquarters at Otoro Centre, Abak Division, Eastern Nigeria, are going along well. The President, E. U. A. Arthur, and the entire Priesthood and teachers are doing a great work in taking care of the Church in Nigeria. The entire Church in Africa showed great love and respect towards our Brother John Ross on his recent trip to Africa in October, 1964 and returning in January, 1965. Brother Ross stated that the Church has shown some improvement since his last visit but again expressed the great need for a Missionary from the parent church to be with them continually as they do not want, and are not ready to be left alone. The Church has completed the printing of 2500 hymn books in Efik. The secretary reported the balance of \$15,723.39 as of March 12, 1965 in our Mission Home and Secondary School Fund.

The Nigerian Secondary School Committee reported that Brother Ross has made all arrangements relative to the construction of our Secondary School. We are waiting on the approval from the Ministers of Education, with whom the application was filed on November 28, 1964. Actual construction of the School will begin upon receiving this approval.

The two Nigerian Elders, authorized to visit the various Branches of the Church to make certain the order of the Church and Faith and Doctrine are being observed, are accomplishing much good. A motion was passed to continue this program for the next six months.

Brother John Ross felt an urgent need for our people in Nigeria to have more understanding and knowledge of the history of our church and the Book of Mormon. To help this condition he had printed in Efik, "A Brief History of the Origin of The Church of Jesus Christ" and "Introduction To The Book of Mormon," with no cost to the General Church. A motion was passed that the Mission Board ask the General Church to approve this emergency action as the Board has recognized its merit.

A motion was passed we request the General Church to grant the Mission Board permission to supervise the translation and have printed, any of the existing church literature, in the language of the people of any country of the world wherein the Church has missions and see the need of such, to further the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

A motion was passed we withhold the printing of our Faith and Doctrine booklet in Efik until the present English version has been revised as requested by the General Church.

A motion was carried to authorize Brother M. R. Griffith to sign the checks and drafts on our account with The Bank of West Africa Ltd., Uyo, in the absence of a Missionary in Nigeria from the parent Church. Our existing account will also be used in connection with the Secondary School program for the present.

The registered trustees of the Nigerian Church are the signers of the land agreement for the School and they act in behalf of and for The General Church. Since they were required by their law to have a Seal of their own to transact business, Brother Ross was

compelled to design and have one made. (Copy sent to General Church Secretary). A motion was passed we approve this seal for use in Nigeria.

The Mission Board accepted by motion all the work and reports of Brother John Ross and recognizes the great service he has rendered to the Board of Missions and the Church.

Italy

Brother A. A. Corrado reported for the Italian Mission Committee and the Secretary read their report which informed the Board of some progress in Italy. Brother Corrado again stated there must be a competent missionary stationed in Italy to coordinate and oversee the work before much will be accomplished.

Brother Raymond Cosetti was invited to report on his recent trip to Italy. He stated that he visited many places where the Church is established in Italy, held meetings and did his best to encourage our people. He performed six baptisms, renewed one and blessed eleven children.

Brother Griffith reported we are still in the process of having the Church registered in Italy and hope to have this done in the near future.

Mexico

The work in Mexico is progressing well, even though there were no baptisms reported in the past six months by Brother and Sister Edward Perdue, who are in charge of the work. They have many visitors showing desires to become members of the Church but are in need of more understanding. There has been another car purchased in place of Brother Perdue's old one and they are very pleased with it. The Board was very pleased with the Government extending until April 15, 1965 the time limit under which our present full time Missionaries can elect to be covered under Social Security. The Board unanimously accepted by motion the decision of Brother Perdue to be covered under Social Security and authorized the back payments to 1962 as is required by the law. As suggested by the Board in October, 1964, Hospital Insurance has been secured for Sister Perdue. Brother and Sister Perdue, along with the Mission Board, appreciate the assistance given this work in Mexico by the entire California District and other visiting Elders.

Six Nations and Muncey Reservations

The Secretary read a report from the Michigan-Canadian District Mission Board which has been placed in charge of the Missions at the Six Nations and Muncey Reservations in the absence of permanent Missionaries. Brother Joseph Milantoni (in charge) with the help of Brother Anthony Scolaro have been serving the Muncey Mission during the past six months. At present Brother Milantoni is going to Muncey every other Sunday and is also visiting the Reserve on Saturdays, when possible. Brother Scolaro goes every other week on the alternate Sundays. Other Elders have participated in the weekly trips. Many young people gave valuable assistance by driving the church bus and station wagon and teaching Sunday School. There are 21 dutiful members attending the Mission. A new ten-passenger Ford Station wagon was purchased to replace the old one at a net cost of \$2,650.00 to the General Church.

Brother Anthony Lovalvo (in charge) with the help of Brother Ralph Leet has been serving the Six Nations Mission for the past six months. Other Elders have participated in these bi-monthly trips. As in the past, Brother Jerry Benyola and Brother John Veltman have given valuable assistance by driving the church station wagon and teaching Sunday School. There are

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BOARD OF MISSIONS REPORT

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13 dutiful members at this mission. The Branches of the Michigan-Canadian District have supported this work in various ways and without this help our missionary effort would not be as beneficial to the people of the Missions served.

San Carlos, Arizona

A very complete report was read from Brother Daniel Picciuto, who is in charge of the San Carlos, Arizona Mission Work. He stated that during the past six months they have had good attendance at their meetings. Had one baptism and several visitors have been coming to the meetings who seem very interested. They have had several visiting brothers and sisters from the California District and even from back East which has been very uplifting. Brother Picciuto stated that they glorify the name of God for the many blessings they have received, having seen the lame to walk, the blind to see and those afflicted with cancer delivered. They have a dutiful membership of 25. The 16' x 24' divided room addition to the church building to accommodate their large Sunday School has not been completed. The five year lease on the land on which the church property is constructed expires in 1966 and a motion was passed to have Brother Picciuto try to renew the lease for as long a period as he can secure.

South Dakota

The Secretary read a very good report from Brother Richard Christman who is in charge of South Dakota Mission work. He stated they had a membership of 19 dutiful members. They have been very active the past six months, holding meetings in the Wakpala church building, Eagle Butte and Faith, South Dakota. They have been having nice attendance at Wakpala with an average of 20 persons present. Their most significant progress is in the increase of 16 children to their religious education classes held every Monday in Brother Christman's home. They only had one child attending a year ago.

Brother Christman stated that the Indian work is so great and so many needing help, that our Mission work could best be improved by a full time permanent Missionary being located at Wakpala or Mobridge, South Dakota. Due to the rough transportation problem on the South Dakota Reservations, a motion was passed to have Brother Christman make a study of his transportation needs and submit a price and type of vehicle required for this mission field to the Board of Missions.

We are very pleased to have Brother John Ross, Jr. and his family at Pine Ridge, South Dakota and as of January of this year Brother Richard Scaglione and his family have moved to Eagle Butte, South Dakota. They have become very much a part of the church work there with the Indian people, being of assistance to Brother Christman and teaching in the Indian Schools.

The Mission Board is continuing their program of encouraging qualified people to secure employment with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, working with the American Indians.

The committee for improving and establishing security for our full time missionaries is encouraged with what has been done to date. We can see the Missionary work of the church becoming a very desirable endeavor in the near future with ever-increasing members wanting to be a part of this greatest work on Earth. We are so thankful for those Missionaries and their families who are in the field today, laying the groundwork for the promulgation of the Gospel of Peace to all people. We

Obituary**GEORGE ONDRASIK, SR.**

Brother George Ondrasik, Sr. passed away on April 26, 1965. He was born in Czechoslovakia on November 14, 1879 and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ at Aliquippa February 12, 1939.

Funeral services were held April 29th with Brother Dan Cassasanta officiating. Prayer was offered at the cemetery by Brother James Moore.

THOMAS JONES

Brother Thomas Jones passed away on April 10, 1965, having been stricken with a stroke while at his work. He was born December 10, 1909 and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ at Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania in September, 1951. He and his family moved to Los Angeles, California in November, 1951 and have been members of the Bell Branch since that time. He is survived by his wife, Sister Goldie; two sons, Thomas and Kenneth; a daughter, Mrs. Calvin Burleigh (all are members of the Church); and three grandchildren.

Brother Jones helped a number of our members find employment and many are grateful for his helping hand. We pray that God will comfort his family in his passing.

ROBERT W. METZLER

Robert W. Metzler, 45, husband of Sister Charolene Heath Metzler of the Glassport Branch, and son-in-law of brother Frederick and the late Martha Heath of Detroit, Mich., was pronounced dead on arrival at McKeesport Hospital, April 4th, after suffering a heart attack.

Born February 18, 1920, in White Oak, he was a son of Mrs. Frances Brathoover Mackey of McKeesport and the late Herman P. Metzler. He leaves, in addition to his mother, his wife, Charolene; a son, Alan Robert, at home; a sister, Mrs. Lillian Brant, of Green Valley; and brothers, John of White Oak and Herman of Green Valley.

Funeral services were conducted at the Willig Funeral Home with Brothers Alma Nolfi and Rocco Tassone officiating. Burial followed in the soldiers plot of McKeesport and Versailles Cemetery.

sincerely acknowledge their priceless contribution to the work of the church.

A motion was passed to set up our Missionary Budget for all General Church Proposed Missionary Work for our accounting year ending March 31, 1966 at \$32,561.00 based on our past year's expenditures. This Budget is divided by our total dutiful membership reported to last October conference and referred to each District on this basis as a goal to strive for in the coming year, that we can continue our Missionary work.

A motion was passed, at the request of the Atlantic Coast District that they might have a representation on the Board, to recommend that Brother Rocco Enzana be elected to the Mission Board in the place of our late Brother Benyola.

A motion was passed re-electing Brother Joseph Bittinger, Chairman and Brother M. R. Griffith, Secretary of the Mission Board.

Brother Dominic Moraco was elected Assistant Secretary by motion.

A motion was passed to recommend that Brother Daniel Picciuto be elected to The Board of Missions in place of Brother Mark Randy.

Respectfully submitted:

Joseph Bittinger, Chairman
M. R. Griffith, Secretary

DIVORCE

By V. James Lovalvo

Divorce is a subject which has baffled the most learned men of all ages. It has tried the patience of judges, it has frustrated the wisest of men, the greatest theologians, the most eminent psychiatrists and psychologists, the medical man, the legal man, the scholar, the educator and the clergyman. Volumes have been written on statistics, psychological and moral reasons behind divorces; and yet, what person is there in the whole world that can truly say he is an authority on "Divorce".

I do not claim to be an authority on this subject either; however, if this article can clarify the underlying reasons that eventually lead to a dissolution of marriage and help someone save his marriage, I will then consider the time and endeavor spent on this subject of some avail and will be grateful to God.

Universally, divorce has become somewhat of a "fad", the thing to do; because "our friends are doing it or our relatives are doing it". The statistics of marriage and divorce in the United States of America are staggering and beyond imagination. The U.S.A. has the largest divorce rate in the world.

The following statistics were taken and compiled by the U. S. Bureau of Vital Statistics

In 1960 there were 1,523,000 marriages and 396,000 divorces in the U.S.A.!

MARRIAGES

1946	2,300,000
1958	1,451,000
1960-62	1,580,000 (yr. aver.)

DIVORCES

1941	300,000
1946	610,000 (war years)
1960	396,000
1963	400,000

In many cities and states, divorces have become very simple to obtain insomuch that some people on the very smallest of excuses immediately seek a divorce.

The ease with which divorces are obtained is not altogether a modern practice. In the days of the Rabbi Hillel, the philosophy on divorce was that it could be obtained for any and every cause. The advocates of the School of Hillel said, "If a man sees a woman handsomer than his own wife, he may put her away" and "If she find not favour in his eyes". Again they propounded, "If the wife cook her husband's food ill by over-salting or over-roasting it, she is to be put away". (J. P. Dummelow's Commentary on the Bible).

Nevertheless, the opposing School of the Rabbi Shammai said, "The putting away of a wife is odious", thereby condemning divorce except for adultery.

Jesus answered these proponents of the two philosophies saying, "Have ye not read that He which made them at the beginning made them male and female and said, For this cause shall man leave father and mother and shall cleave to his wife and the twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder". Seeing that they could not trap Jesus, the Pharisees asked, "Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement and to put her away?" Jesus answered, "Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives; but from the beginning it was not so." Matt. 19:4-8.

Following is a writing of divorcement (by J. Lightfoot, historian).

"I (name of man) have put away, dismissed and expelled thee (name of wife) who heretofore wast my wife, so that thou are free and in thine own power to marry whosoever shall please thee: and let no man hinder thee. And let this be a bill of rejection from me according to the law of Moses and Israel.

Witness
Witness"

It is as easy today to obtain a divorce as it was in the days of Moses. Divorce just doesn't "happen". There are and must be underlying reasons that eventually lead to the Divorce Courts.

Legal grounds stated by the U. S. Bureau of Vital Statistics are Cruelty, Desertion, Indignities, Incompatibilities and the highest grounds are Infidelities.

While the legal reasons are stated above, the true reasons according to eminent psychiatrists and psychologists are as follows:

1. Immaturity
2. Biological incompatibility
3. Mixed backgrounds
4. Inability to adjust to religious differences, social differences and intellectual differences
5. In-law relationship
6. Inability to adjust to each other's personality

I shall not endeavor to explain each reason as it would require a volume of writing.

In visiting the Divorce Courts the most selfish reasons in seeking a dissolution of the Marriage Covenant are heard and in many cases the patience of the Court is even taxed.

Because of this unwillingness to bend, to yield or to compromise, families are broken, children no longer have respect for parents because parents have no respect for themselves. In more than 95 per cent of delinquent children cases, the underlying fault is usually a divorced couple, couples continuously quarreling in front of children, either one or both are alcoholics, an unclean home or a home where there is very little or no religion at all.

Divorce is a Monster, a "Frankenstein"; result of distrust, intolerance, dislike, hatred and malice which finally reaches out and destroys its creators. Divorce is a social disease which is eating at the very heart of civilization.

Those who are seeking divorces ask yourself these questions, "Have I contributed to this dissolution?"; "Is it altogether my mate's fault?"; "Did I marry a person whose religious views totally differ from mine?", etc. These and many other things are contributing factors in bringing about a Divorce.

A successful marriage is usually based on two mature people being able to adjust to each other through the years in a loving, tolerant manner. It is the ability of a husband or wife to anticipate the needs and requirements of each other and responding to such, not grudgingly as a duty but gladly as a delight.

It is written, "Wives submit yourselves unto your own husbands as unto the Lord — Husbands love your wives even as Christ also loved the Church — So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself — Nevertheless let everyone of you in particular so love his wife even as himself. And the wife see that she reverence her husband." Eph. 5. You see, therefore, that if two people would follow the above advice of Paul, the Apostle, there would be indeed beautiful marriages and no divorces.

Some marriage counsellors suggest that in some cases it is the inability to adjust to each other that causes trouble; however, I believe that in many in-

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DIVORCE

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stances it is the **unwillingness** to adjust to each other. For example, if a misunderstanding arises between a married couple, each one may think, "I am right and he (or she) must bow to me." How wrong this is! How much rather to feel upon reflection, "I could have been wrong." Where one allows himself the probability of error there is always a peaceful solution forthcoming. The unwillingness to compromise or to adjust is like a cancer that eventually will destroy. It reduces affection and love becomes cold. Finally bitterness sets in and the result can be Divorce.

Following are some hints and suggestions that can help to maintain a happy marriage:

HUSBANDS

1. Compliment her on her cooking (even if she is not the best cook). Never compare her cooking to your mother's cooking.
2. Never compare her to anyone.
3. Compliment her on her grooming.
4. Tell her each day how nice she looks.
5. Tell her often how much you love her.
6. Make her feel that she is truly important in your life.
7. Be a gentleman to her at all times.
8. Be hygienically aware of yourself. Be clean in body, mind and spirit.
9. Never embarrass her in public, either by word or action.
10. Be gentle, kind, tolerant, and loving toward her at all times.

WIVES

1. Compliment him on the little jobs he does around the house, even if he doesn't do them well.
2. Tell him often how well groomed and good looking he is even if he has become bald.
3. Tell him often how much you love him.
4. Be a clean housekeeper.
5. Learn to be a good cook.
6. Be hygienically aware of yourself. Never let yourself become disheveled or unkempt.
7. Be a "lady" to him at home or when he takes you out.
8. Never embarrass him publicly or otherwise.
9. Try to anticipate his likes and dislikes and either fulfill the likes or avoid the dislikes as the occasion arises.
10. Be gentle, kind, understanding, tolerant, and loving to him at all times. Make him feel 10 ft. tall.

In the marriage vows there are promises to love, cherish in sickness or in health, in poverty or in wealth **until death us do part!** How soon these are forgotten in the selfish unwillingness to please or adjust one to another.

When Divorce begins to raise its ugly head and infiltrate itself in our Church then it is time we begin to analyze the reason. It is time to pray, it is time to awaken to the reality of this monstrous disease and look well into ourselves seeking the answer to this dilemma by the grace of God. Let us eliminate Divorce from within the Church.

I wish to counsel our young people especially. In the words of Paul, the Apostle, "Be not unequally yoked together." When you are ready for marriage, pray to God Almighty to help you find or select a mate who will bring joy and happiness in your life and, if possible, of the same faith or religious background. If it is outside the realm of the Church, then pray to God that

GREENSBURG NEWS

Everyone recognizes April as the month when God once again looks upon His creation and remembers it with showers of rain which wash away the soot and grime of winter; which plead with the earth to once again begin the nourishment of her seeds which have been asleep; which increase the faith and hope of all His children that they are not forgotten. Once again this year, as before, the trees will bud and leaf, the flowers again will be attired with brilliance to honor their Creator. The crops will once again spring from the earth, and God's children will be nourished that they may have strength to honor His holy name.

How glorious are the products of the showers of rain we receive in April! But in Greensburg during this month of April we witnessed something even more glorious. God showered us with His Spirit, even greater then we had felt it before. His Spirit in our midst on Easter Sunday, April 18, was manifested so greatly that even as I know the rain will bring forth the earth's increase, also, I know as surely that God's people will bring forth their spiritual fruits in great abundance.

In the testimony meeting of this day everyone present experienced the divine feeling of humility and personal appraisal of our lives. We realized forcefully the greatness of our God, and our own unworthiness. Many were the tears that streamed down our faces.

Various saints realized their need for added strength that they would be able to fulfill the covenant they made at the shore of the river to serve God all the days of their life. While Brother Fred Fair laid hands on the head of one of our sisters and prayed, he was blessed with the gift of tongues. We thank God that a young man, Brother Avril Pickford, was given the interpretation as follows: "I, the Lord, am pleased with your hearts at this moment. This is the way I would have it to be."

As springtime alone would not be complete without the warmth of summer which follows, so God also realized our spiritual need and caused His power to be instilled in the soul of Gerald (Mike) Hildenbrand who arose to his feet and said, "I want to be baptized." How great was our joy! How thankful was the heart of his young wife who is already a member of our church!

We, at Greensburg, are blessed with a beautiful, quiet place where we can baptize—clear, blue water with pine trees in just the right places to add to the beauty. As our new brother was immersed by Brother Paul Gehly, I believe even the children present recognized the greatness and goodness of God.

At the end of such a wonderful day a six year old child remarked, "That was really a good meeting, wasn't it?"

We thank God for His blessings.

Carolyn Gehly
Branch Editor

he will help you find a mate that will be at least tolerant of your religious belief, tolerant of your friends, tolerant of your social life, etc.

As an example, I recall in part that a certain brother fell in love with a girl from Jamaica, and when he reminded her that she must bear in mind that he was an Elder of the Church and a latter day Christian, she answered him by letter saying, "Your people shall be my people, your God shall be my God." This proved to be true because shortly after their wedding I baptized Sis. Muriel Miller, the wife of Bro. Matthew T. Miller.

BRONX, N.Y.

Dear Gospel News Readers,

Greetings to one and all from the Bronx Branch. We feel to extol God's holy name for the wonderful Gospel of Jesus Christ and for that great salvation which he made possible for us all if we trust in the Lord and serve Him faithfully for the remainder of our days. It has been quite some time since I have written to The Gospel News to let you know that the Lord certainly has not forgotten us in this part of His vineyard. Tongue cannot express the gratitude within our hearts for His constant kindness unto us, unworthy as we may be.

On April 11, a wonderful day was shared by everyone at the Bronx Branch when we witnessed another soul brought unto the Lord, Ralph Zinzi, oldest son of Brother Nick and Sister Pearl Zinzi. The baptism was officiated by Brothers Salvatore Feola and Vincent Lupo. Brother Ralph Zinzi had had an experience the week before his baptism while he and two friends were on their way back to college in Buffalo. It was snowing quite heavily, visibility was poor, and it was quite dark on the road. Brother Ralph found himself skidding off the road knocking down some of the dividers and going down into a ditch. At that moment he realized he might have been called from this life. Then the thought ran through his mind, "If I were called from this life, would I be saved?" Right then and there Brother Ralph made up his mind to be baptized the following Sunday. He managed to get out of the ditch and started out on the road. For some unknown reason he immediately found himself driving on the opposite side of the road. For the second time he realized his danger if a car had been coming towards him. "Blessed are they who hunger and thirst after righteousness for they shall be filled." May the Lord bless Bro. Ralph and keep him among the faithful.

Betty Catalano — Bronx Branch Editor

NEWS FROM SAN CARLOS, ARIZONA

We are thankful to God for His blessings and would like to relate some happenings that caused us to rejoice. We have had many visitors (brothers and sisters) from various parts of the vineyard and have enjoyed their fellowship. It is surely wonderful to have brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the nation. It's wonderful to have this common interest. We have seen new faces and heard new testimonies, but nothing is strange for we are one in the Lord. Although we had just met, and spent only a short time together, it was hard to separate. Oh, how wonderful is the love of God!

We are happy to report that God has blessed us with two new sisters. We were privileged to meet at the river two Sundays in succession, holding both services along the river surrounded by trees. How beautiful to sit in the midst of God's creation with His covenant people! The windows of heaven were opened unto us and the power and glory of God was there. We witnessed the gift of tongues and a wonderful spirit of humility prevailed. The first Sunday we met at the river a brother was healed of severe pains in his body, and the next Sunday a sister was healed of an abscess which had troubled her for some time.

How wonderful God is to His people! He is a true and living God who blesses us in our unworthiness and hears our prayers in times of distress. Surely we can sing with the writer of that wonderful hymn, "Blessed be the name of the Lord." Pray for us that God will continue to bless us; that we may see more of the seed of Joseph come into our midst. We long for the day when all Israel shall be gathered and Jacob's face will no longer wax pale but will shine as the noonday sun.

Barry Mazzeo
Branch Editor

Justification By Faith

Part I

By Rocco Tassone

This thesis is for the purpose of setting in order a fundamental truth with which all who have embraced the Gospel should come to an understanding. Much of our maturity in Christ stems from these roots from which all branches and fruit-bearers hang.

The justifier of all men is God. I speak to declare at this time His righteousness: That He might be just, and the justifier of them which believe in Jesus Christ. It is "another Gospel" if we seek to be justified by any other means, for then we are fallen from grace.

How can man be right with God?

How can one who has been guilty of sin be forgiven, pardoned, and justified?

The answer to these questions comes from the very heart, or hub, of the Gospel which is in Jesus Christ. He is the solution for every problem or situation in life.

Paul insisted that the whole world is in need of righteousness, for all are under the condemnation of God. Paul declares that this righteousness is provided and offered freely to all, "whosoever will," but on the grounds of faith alone.

This righteousness whereby one is declared justified is manifested in the Gospel. It is apart from the Law. It is secured by faith, and not by keeping the Law, whether morally or sacrificially. However, it is in accord with the Law, for it is witnessed by the Law and the Prophets.

The Law and the Prophets can never save; we are saved only by Jesus Christ, of Whom both the Law and the Prophets testified.

Read the account of the transfiguration. See Moses and Elijah (**the Law and the Prophet**) give way to Him who was transfigured (**Jesus Christ**); and God, bearing witness by none greater than Himself, utters: "This is My beloved Son, hear ye Him."

Paul set forth this cardinal faith in the epistle to the Romans, as elsewhere, when touching the same point of issue. In the Gospel where Christ is the Head we find both Jews and Gentiles, of which we have all nations, kindred, tongues and people. Therefore, what Paul penned as to this truth is to be accepted by both the Jew and the Gentile.

The Jews were a Law-abiding nation, while the Gentiles were a lawless, Godless, defiant, heathen nation. The Gospel will settle both the Jew and the Gentile in their understanding of one another, that both are equally guilty before God, and none can seek glory. For whereof is his boasting? It is excluded. By what Law? The Law of faith.

How can the Jews claim anything over the Gentiles? The Law which they had, demanded righteousness; yet they could not attain to it. Why? They sought to attain it not by Faith in Jesus Christ, but by works. Therefore they are sinners like the Gentiles.

If this righteousness of God could be attained by Law — works, or by deeds of the Law, then Christ died in vain. If some are to be saved by Law-works, and others by a Faith Law, then there must be two Gods; an idea which is abhorrent to the Jews. However, since there is one God — the God of the Jews, who, verily, is the God of the Gentiles — there could be but one way of obtaining salvation, and only one possible means of justification, and that is by faith in Jesus Christ. "Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord, Jesus Christ."

Now Paul raises the imaginary objection: does jus-

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JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH

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tification by faith make the Law of none effect? On the contrary, the Law is established by faith. The circumcision shall be justified by faith, and the uncircumcision through faith.

All believers in Christ establish the Law when they confess transgressing it and acknowledge that by the Law they were justly condemned. By the Law is the knowledge of sin and not the remission. The Law only administers death and not life, for verily if there could have been a Law that could give life, then Christ died in vain.

Again we establish the Law in that we died its death in Christ and meet its demands in Christ, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit; for we are not accounted for as one in the flesh, but rather as one of His own sons in the Spirit.

Now is justification a New Testament teaching only? The Apostle Paul turned for confirmation of its truth to the Old Testament. Paul's yearning desire for all Israel was that they may be saved, for he bore them record that they had a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For being ignorant of God's righteousness, they went about to establish their own righteousness, having not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. Paul laid down the truth, "For Christ is the end of the Law for righteousness to everyone that believeth."

(To be concluded)

The following experience and dream was had by Sister Theresa Berg of the New Brunswick, N.J. branch April 15, 1963. This was the day Brother W. H. Cadman passed away.

ELIJAH AND BROTHER CADMAN

On the morning of April 15, 1963, I had barely opened my eyes to see the light of day, when I heard a familiar voice say: "Brother Cadman is going to die today; that is, his body will die, but his spirit will live forever with Elijah, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Lehi, Nephi, and Alma."

I noted that he kept on mentioning blessed men of old. In amazement and shock I responded by saying: "This is the second time my wish won't come true. I wished Brother Joe Corrado could live forever and he was taken away, and now the same thing is going to happen with Brother Cadman; and what will happen to our Church?"

The voice replied, "Their work is finished on earth. They are needed in Heaven. God will take care of His Church; another shall be appointed to feed the sheep and the lambs." Then there was silence.

I knelt down to say my morning prayer and asked God to forgive me for questioning His messenger. Had not Jesus told His disciples they were the light of the world? I thought the light had dimmed when Brother Corrado passed away, and would be much dimmer when Brother Cadman would die also. I also remembered saying Jesus said we should love one another, and when brethren such as Brother Corrado and Brother Cadman were so beloved, one could not help wishing they would never depart.

I proceeded to go about my daily tasks and mysteriously forgot what happened. Then suddenly around 11:30 a.m. I heard the voice speak again: "Don't forget Brother Cadman is going to leave us today. He is going to be with Brother Bickerton, Brother Cadman Sr., his father, Brother Cherry, Brother Joe Corrado, Brother Ashton, Brother Smith, and your brother Nicky Faragasso." This time I noted he mentioned the latter day brethren. I felt a tug

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erecting of this building also. Our Sisters worked very hard, along with the Brothers, but the blessings of God greatly overshadowed any efforts or work put forth. We have seen great things here in Fort Pierce. We have had our trials, but God has brought us safely through thus far. Tongue cannot relate the experiences and revelations that God has given to us, nor can it tell of the joy and peace and love in our hearts. We can never thank God, nor praise Him enough for all He has done for us. Members have been added, some have left, but we shall still strive on to the end of our days, that we may be worthy to go before God, and see His face in peace. At present we have three Elders—Brother Patsy, who presides; Brother Frank Rogolino; and Brother Domenic Giovannone, who has also moved here with his family from Ohio. We desire, and need greatly, the prayers of all the Saints for we desire to see this Gospel spread in this part of the vineyard. We long to see many enter into this great family here upon the face of this earth.

Juanita Rogolino
Fort Pierce, Florida

at my heart strings again, but was contrite and breathed a deep sigh of "the Lord's will be done on earth as it is in Heaven". Then there was silence again, and I forgot.

Then a few minutes after three o'clock in the afternoon my eyes lifted automatically to our kitchen clock. Again the voice spoke, this time gloriously: "Something beautiful is happening at this moment. Elijah has come for Brother Cadman; Enoch's holy band is playing, and there is rejoicing in Heaven."

I stood almost petrified, my eyes never leaving the clock. A few more minutes passed and then finally: "Brother Cadman is dead: Brother Cadman is dead, yet he lives, yet he lives." I want to relate I heard the most beautiful bells ringing, then silence.

For some mysterious reason I never mentioned my experience to my husband or mother. The following day my mother attended a circle meeting at a sister's home and upon returning she broke the news she heard of Brother Cadman's passing away the day before. I told my mother, "I know it already." I had been ironing. I put my iron down and when I went in my room I cried and cried; then I knew it was the time to relate my experience, and the time for weeping.

On the third day of Brother Cadman's passing, after attending Wednesday night services, I had much to reflect upon the beloved brother, and wondered if my heart would ever stop aching. Upon retiring for the night I had a dream that seemed to continue or be a sequel to my experience in the daylight.

I dreamed I was in the house of the Lord, and walking through the corridor I came to a huge room and heard beautiful singing of male voices. One voice in particular sounded more familiar than the others I knew in life. As I looked into the room, I could not enter as it would seem for men of authority. I noticed it was filled with all ages of men and they were in beautiful harmony. There was Brother Cadman Sr., Brother Cherry, Brother Bickerton, of whom I know only through revelation, and there was Brother Isaac Smith singing in his high pitched voice, Brother Ashton, Brother Joe Corrado and my brother Nicky. And who was leading them in song but Brother Cadman, our beloved president. I shall never forget those wonderful voices singing that beautiful hymn No. 406, especially the chorus, "He will be waiting for me, Jesus so kind and true, On His beautiful throne, He will welcome me home, After the day is through."

The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

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The Church of Jesus Christ
339 Ontario Street
Lockport, New York

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LOCKPORT, N.Y.

It was during the years that the brethren from Rochester, New York were holding meetings on the Tuscarora Reservation in the state of New York that the mission work at Lockport was commenced. Brother Perry Simone and his family moved to Lockport in 1937 and gradually others were added to the fold. Brother Paul D'Amico was the first elder to reside in Lockport. He moved here from the Brooklyn Branch in New York, in 1947. With the assistance of the brothers from the Rochester Branch, the little flock was fed spiritually and as a result of these efforts, Lockport became an established mission in July, 1948.

In April, 1950, Brother Perry Simone was ordained into the ministry of the Church and by October of the same year, Lockport was organized a branch with Brother Paul D'Amico as Presiding Elder; Brother Paul Petrangelo, as First Counsellor; and Brother Perry Simone, as Second Counsellor. In April, 1958, Brother Henry Berardi of Lockport was ordained into the Priesthood of the Church.

OUR MISSIONARY IN EAGLE BUTTE, SOUTH DAKOTA RECEIVES AWARD TO FURTHER HIS SCHOOLING

The following is a reprint taken from The Eagle Butte News.

CHRISTMAN OF CEB RECEIVES AWARD

Richard T. Christman from Cheyenne — Eagle Butte school in Eagle Butte, South Dakota has been awarded a stipend of \$375.00 plus travel and dependents allowances to attend a Summer Institute in Earth Science at Arizona State College in Flagstaff, Arizona this summer. This institute has been made possible by a grant to Arizona State College from the National Science Foundation.

Mr. Christman was one of fifty stipend awardees selected from about 2,000 applicants according to Dr. Richard W. Rush, Director of the Institute. Selections were based upon at least three years of teaching experience, past performance as a student, recommendations of supervisors and expressed willingness to utilize the information that the institute could offer.

The institute will begin on July 10 and continue until August 21. The five week institute is intended to improve the quality of science instruction in the secondary schools of the Nation.

From the branch of Lockport in the years gone by, efforts have been made to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ among Gentiles in Niagara Falls and Toronto, Ontario, as well as among the seed of Joseph on the Tonawanda and Tuscarora Indian Reserves. It is hoped that in God's due time, we may see the results of our labors.

We now have a few members within the Niagara Falls, New York and nearby areas, as well as two members in Lackawanna, New York. Recently, Sister Alsina Williams of the seed of Joseph was transferred to our branch from the Muncey Indian Reservation. She is now a patient in the Old Folks Infirmary in East Bethany, New York.

(Continued on Page 2)

Examine The Motor

By C. W. Holmes

Are you being taken for a ride? Is some salesman pointing out to you how smoothly things run in the machine he is trying to sell you? If so, you would do well to examine the motor before you decide to buy.

A cartoonist once depicted a comic situation wherein a customer was so influenced by a salesman's spiel, pointing out the quiet, smooth-running merits of a car during a demonstration drive, that he decided to buy it. Only after he was unable to drive it home, and discovered that there was no motor under the hood, did the customer realize the salesman had been coasting the car down a hill during the demonstration.

You don't need a motor to ride downhill. But if you want to go home, and your home is up above, you need power. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth (Rom. 1:16). It is the motor provided to carry the church-machine full of saints uphill to their eternal homes in the Kingdom of God.

If a look under the hood reveals that someone is trying to sell you a spiritual machine without power, or empowered by some feeble gospel other than the unperverted Gospel of Jesus Christ, don't buy it! It will never get you home.

A Brief History . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

During the past eighteen years, many were baptized into the Church from this Branch. Some have gone to their reward, some have become undutiful, while others have been transferred to other branches of the Church.

We are still holding fast and firm to the rod of iron and each Saturday we meet in fasting and prayer for many causes and interests. We have reason to believe that someday the Lord will answer our prayers as He has often done in the past.

With many cities and towns surrounding the city of Lockport, we are confident that, in the Lord's due time, we will see many souls embrace the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and that someday this Branch of Lockport will be a "Spiritual Mother" unto many other nearby missions and branches of the Church.

May God bless all the branches of the Church that we might work in unity for the building of Christ's kingdom here on earth; that, when our call comes to leave this earthly dwelling place, we may go to our eternal abode to reign with Him forevermore. This is the goal for which we are striving.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul D'Amico, Presiding Elder

Rosa M. Williams, Branch Editor

'A 28-DAY VISA ISSUED AUTOMATICALLY'

The Nigerian Federal Government in its official publication 'Federal Nigerian' of January 1965, has announced a new arrangement whereby a visa for a 28-day visit will be issued automatically to businessmen and tourists planning to enter Nigeria. The visa is issued automatically upon the payment of the requisite fee to the Nigerian Missions abroad.

I am sure this new arrangement can afford an immense opportunity for members of our church who have been considering to see and encourage our work in Nigeria to undertake a short visit in the future. Thank goodness that modern science has made it possible for one to have breakfast in the United States and supper in Nigeria. It is then left with us to utilize this for the glory of God.

Applications for the visa should be directed to any of the following:

Embassy of Nigeria
1333 16th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Consulate General of Nigeria
575 Lexington Avenue
New York, 22, N. Y.

The inflow of correspondence from our people in the Nigerian Church to me asking for missionaries has inspired me to direct the above announcement to be passed on to our brothers and sisters in the Church in the U.S.A.

Moses E. Akpan
Dept. of Government
Southern Illinois University
Carbondale, Illinois

THE HAND OF GOD

*Did you ever watch the hand of God
Before you go each day?
I see it here and see it there
Put every plan in play.
Sometimes we doubt a little
And say this cannot be;
The hand of God is not for us,
This burden should not be.
But then as time goes by, we see
That all along it was
The hand of God preparing,
Just as it always does.*

by Kenneth Hatch

READ YOUR BIBLE

Holy Bible! Book divine!
Precious treasure thou art mine!
Mine to tell me whence I came;
Mine to teach me what I am;
Mine to tell of joys to come,
In the saints' eternal home:
O thou holy Book divine,
Precious treasure, thou art mine!

All that is necessary for the forces of evil to win in the world is for enough good men to do nothing.

THE GOSPEL
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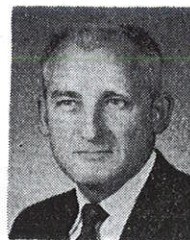
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Editorial Viewpoint



George A. Neill

More true Christians are needed in the drivers' seats because more love is needed on the highways. Christians should always show courtesy and respect toward others, and this surely applies when driving an automobile. Driving today is clearly a situation that requires such amenities.

A genuine saint is a saint all the time, wherever he may be. He should be a true Christian at home as well as at church; away from home as much as at home. A man should be a Christian in his business; in fact, if a person is a Christian at all he must be one at all times. Our Church teaches that we should be Christians under all circumstances; I believe, above all, this should make us law-abiding citizens; in fact, the very best citizens in our community.

Should this principle stop when we get behind the steering wheel of a car? Do we still remain Christians when on wheels? Are we still law-abiding citizens? Driving an automobile today ought to be considered a privilege rather than a right. We are living in a day when more Christians are needed in the driver's seat. When we travel in our cars today we are literally taking our lives in our hands. We don't know what will happen before we return home. There are acts of hate demonstrated every day on our highways and perhaps some of you readers have seen them. Just recently I saw — or so it appeared to me — a driver deliberately force another driver off the road because he had inconvenienced him a few miles back. This might have resulted in an accident in which each of them and myself could have been involved and perhaps seriously injured. For a moment this man apparently allowed himself to be ruled by hate. Drivers who allow themselves to crowd and deliberately inconvenience other drivers are surely a menace on the highways. More true Christians are needed in the drivers' seats because more love is needed on the highways. Christians should always show courtesy and respect toward others, and this surely applies when driving an automobile. Driving today is clearly a situation that requires such amenities.

Figures on last year's automobile accidents have just been released, and the appalling facts bring this thought to my mind: "More saints are needed in the drivers' seats as well as in the pews." Death on our highways last year climbed to an astounding high — almost 48,000, according to Dr. Paul V. Joliet, Chief of Accident Prevention. Since the invention of automobiles more people have been killed by them than by gunpowder. United States has had more casualties on her highways than she has had on her battlefields. When I was living in Miami, Florida in 1951, an article appeared in the Miami Herald to the effect that the millionth soldier had been killed (this was during the Korean war) dating from the time the first minute man had fallen. I don't remember just what month that occurred, but if my memory serves me right, they were predicting the millionth traffic death would happen in November of that same year.

It seems to be a part of my nature to always want to bring things home, or in other words apply them to myself and to the Church as well. Paul tells us, "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatever ye do, do all to the glory of God." I firmly believe every Latter Day Saint ought to obey this text. If God was so concerned about the redemption of man that He gave His

(Continued on Page 4)

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

(Continued from Page 3)

Son, it seems to me that whatever redeemed man does should be for the glory of God. If "whosoever" means any person, "whatsoever" means anything. Therefore anything we do should be for the glory of God, and we will also find it will be for the good of us as saints. Let us remember this as we drive our automobiles. Christian charity is surely needed today on our highways and streets, so let us prove that our religion is practical in this respect. If someone wants to turn in ahead of us, let us show a little charity and allow him; if someone is waiting to enter your line of traffic, slow down and let him in.

While traveling one time on a Kansas turnpike, I stopped at a restaurant where I picked up the following poem composed by a Baptist Minister by the name of George W. Smart. I think this prayer is very fitting for all travelers:

*Lord, grant a steady hand and watchful eye,
That no man may be hurt when we pass by.
Thou gavest life; let none who drive a car
Be careless once, life's gift to steal or mar.
Teach us to use our cars for other's need,
Nor miss this world's beauty through love of speed.
Shelter those, dear Lord, who bear us company
From accident and all calamity.
Guard trooper and traveler on this pike;
Safe be Father, Mother, and tiny tyke.*

A modern Apostle Paul might write, "Though I drive a car with all the safety gadgets and have not charity, I am become as a savage driving a death machine."

DEATH'S MODERN THRONE

*Some years ago we saw our boys depart,
The fields of battle they were headed for;
We waited, wept, and prayed with aching heart
That they'd return, uninjured, from the war.
And now in peace, but with no thought of prayer,
Out on the highways we see people go;
Yet life is not a great lot safer there
Than on a battlefield, statistics show.
On highways "Death has reared himself a throne,"
From which to shorten lives in wild array;
And to proportions monstrous it has grown,
Yet few there are who show the least dismay.
Car drivers ever should Death's presence feel —
Be vigilant and prayerful at the wheel!*

Troy G. Kniffin

RECIPE FOR HAPPINESS

Take 2 heaping cups of patience
1 heartful of love
2 handfuls of generosity
Dash of laughter
1 headful of understanding
Sprinkle generously with kindness
Add plenty of faith and mix well
Spread over a period of a lifetime
and serve everybody you meet.

What Is The Church?

by David Campitelle

"A collective body of Christians", is the definition given in our dictionaries.

Jesus Christ in His many sermons, teachings, and finally His sacrifice on the cross, gave us many clues to the functions and applications of this spiritual world He brought forth. ("My kingdom is not of this world.") Knowing fully that this flesh would return to the dust from whence it came, His sole mission was to prepare the other half of man for the eternal glories and life everlasting which extended beyond this earthly life, or as we know it as the "grave".

His knowledge of human behavior was out of the infinite, His love for His fellow man was beyond the scope of human endeavor, and that love was proven, tried, and eventually fulfilled with the shedding of His own blood. "Father forgive them for they know not what they do."

From His own life we find He not only was a marvelous teacher, but in the final analysis a confirmed doer. Jesus ardently promoted the brotherhood of man and fellowship with God; and all the sayings he so beautifully stated, all the parables he expounded, and all the miracles he performed, would have been in vain if this great, emotional, upheaval of surrender that He was capable of mastering through His love for His fellowman, had not taken place.

It is fitting that this should be, for after all His teachings, He condensed the whole law into two channels, one of a heavenly nature, the other earthly. "Love the Lord thy God with all thine heart and love thy neighbor as thyself." Each is synonymous with the other!

To what letter or degree can we apply this to the church for which He gave His life? I can only quote His own replies, when in those days they asked Him how would they know who were His disciples. His answer to that question was very clear, concise, authorized, and final. "By the way you love one another the world will know you are my disciples."

The early Church fell because of its failure to labor for it, pray for it, and above all to exercise it, although on one occasion they were warned they had lost their first love.

A great powerful and mighty Nephite nation deteriorated and eventually collapsed because they had forgotten that this great law was the source of their strength and prosperity.

After the days of the restoration, the church for a time received this love and it was exercised to the extent where God was able to use, motivate, and lead them, for they were stripped of envy, void of malice, and labored for the benefit of His Kingdom in the scope of eternal love toward one another. When elements contrary to this divine law entered in, the church divided.

Love is a heavenly gift and those who have received it through baptism and the laying on

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WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

(Continued from Page 4)

of hands, are indeed required to retain it. If we possess all other things and lack this one, we are simply without spiritual form, naked and destitute in the eyes of God.

It is a simple matter in this day of prosperity, not only to neglect this love, but to actually forsake it! With higher levels of education, greater areas of opportunity, we can become complacent in the thought, "I don't need anyone." "Parrot philosophy" at its best, dangerous, hazardous and perilous.

If we can accept this era of knowledge and growth in the light that God has given us, it should cause us to be increasingly humble, prospering and growing in his love, for we know from whence it came.

The Nephite nation achieved its infamous destruction, not because of prosperity, but for reasons of pride, vanity, class distinction, and general inflating of self-esteem, which was the direct opposite of His commandment. These are the fruits of self-love. The commandment is "Love ye one another."

The greatest test of divine love centers in and through the Church. It is in this area that it must function first and foremost. If it can not operate within the confines of the believer, it cannot expect to be a dynamic and inspirational force to the world. It has been commanded, deemed absolutely necessary, and it is the trade-mark of His Church's identity. Anything less than this dwells in the realm of Pseudo-Spiritualism.

Remember, we, you and I, are the Church.

Weddings**BROWN - CARR**

Janice Carr and Phillip Brown were united in marriage by Brother Paul Gehly, on May 7, 1965. The beautiful ceremony was held in The Church of Jesus Christ, South Greensburg, Pennsylvania, followed by a reception for friends and relatives of the couple. Sister Janice is the daughter of Brother and Sister Jesse Carr.

May God continually enrich their life together with His spiritual blessings.

THOMAS - LENKEY

The Church of Jesus Christ at Bitner, Pennsylvania was the setting for the wedding Saturday evening, April 17, 1965, of Miss Patricia Lenkey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Lenkey of Vanderbilt, Pa., and Robert Thomas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Thomas, also of Vanderbilt.

Brother Oran Thomas, retired Minister of the Church and grandfather of the groom, officiated at the double ring ceremony. Following the wedding a reception was held at the home of the bride's parents.

The newlyweds are at present residing with the parents of the groom in Vanderbilt. May God bless them with a long and happy married life.

Never Man Spake Like This Man**By James Heaps**

The Chief Priests sent two men to bring Jesus. They had an idea that He would come to the Feast so they were sure that was where they should go to get Him. It was the Feast of Tabernacles and His brethren asked Him to go up with them. He said, "My time is not yet fully come," and the Jews sought Him out that they might kill Him. The last day — that great day of the Feast — Jesus went up to the Feast, and when He saw them in their sacrilegious worship He stood and cried saying, "If any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink. He that believeth on me as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake He of the Spirit, which they that believe on Him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)" And there was division among the people; some said He was a Prophet, others said that this is the Christ. Some would have taken Him but no man laid their hands upon Him; for His time was not yet. The Chief Priests said, Why did you not bring Him? But they answered, "Never man spake like this Man."

He was not a great preacher; He chose only one text and that was when He went into the Temple and picked up the Book and read these words, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach the Gospel to the poor; He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord. And He closed the Book and gave it again to the Minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened upon Him. And all bear witness and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth." St. Luke 4: 18-20, 22. No man ever spake like this Man. Is this the carpenter's son? And they were astonished at His doctrine. What a word is this! For with authority and power He commanded the unclean spirits to come out, and the fame of Him went throughout the country. Words don't

(Continued on Page 11)

Justification By Faith**Part II****By Rocco Tossone**

Paul selected a very wise and crucial case to vindicate his teaching on "Justification by Faith" when he chose Abraham, their father. "If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham," is what Jesus said. Paul in no wise differed from this truth. The case of Abraham is decisive, at least to the Jews, for he was known as the "friend of God," but they were

(Continued on Page 8)



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

Dear Girls and Boys,

"If thou art God, wilt thou make thyself known unto me?" Alma 22, 18.

Dear Girls and Boys,

I want to tell you about a wonderful miracle that happened on this land in the days of Aaron. Aaron and his brethren were led by the Spirit to the land of Nephi. The king here was an old man, the father of king Lamoni. Now king Lamoni had been converted by the teachings of Ammon, one of God's servants.

Aaron and his two companions went to the king's palace. Aaron bowed before the old king and said, "Behold, O king, we are the brethren of Ammon whom thou hast delivered out of prison. And now, O king, if thou wilt spare our lives we will be thy servants". The king was happy to hear this. He thought he could learn more of Ammon's teachings from them. He said, "Arise, for I will grant unto you your lives and I will not suffer that ye shall be my servants. I have been somewhat troubled in mind because of the generosity and the greatness of the words of thy brother Ammon, and I desire to know the cause why he has not come up out of Middoni with thee?" Aaron explained that the Spirit of the Lord had called him another way. He had gone to the land of Ishmael to teach the people of Lamoni. The king was interested and asked, "What is this that ye have said concerning the Spirit of the Lord? Behold this is the thing that doth trouble me. Also, Ammon said, 'If ye will repent, ye shall be saved and if ye will not repent, ye shall be cast off at the last day?'" Aaron asked him if he believed there is a God. The king replied that he knew some of his people believed in God and he had given them the right to worship and build sanctuaries. Then he added, "And now if thou sayest there is a God, behold I will believe". When Aaron heard this, his heart rejoiced. He said, "Behold, assuredly as thou livest, O king, there is a God". The old king asked if God is the Great Spirit that brought their fathers out of Jerusalem. Aaron told him God is the Great Spirit. He then explained the gospel to the king, beginning with the creation of Adam.

The king believed the words of Aaron. He knelt down and prayed, "O God, Aaron hath told me that there is a God, and if there is a God, and if thou art God, wilt thou make thyself known unto me, and I will give away all my sins to know thee and that I may be raised from the

dead and be saved at the last day?" When he had said these words he fell to earth as if he were dead. He was overcome with the Lord's spirit.

The king's servants ran to the queen and told her what had happened. She came to where the king lay. She saw Aaron and his brethren standing there as though they had been the cause of this. She was angry and commanded the servants to take them and slay them. But the servants had seen all that happened and they knew Aaron and his brethren were not at fault. When the queen saw how frightened the servants were, she too began to fear lest something should happen to her. She ordered the servants to call in the people of the city that they might slay Aaron and his brethren. Aaron knew if all these people came and saw the king lying there and heard the accusations of the queen, there would be trouble. He did not want a disturbance among them, so he went to the king and touched him. He said, "Stand", and the king received his strength and stood upon his feet. When the queen and the servants saw this, they were afraid. The king began to speak. His words were so wonderful that his whole household was converted to the Lord.

Soon a great multitude came when they heard of the miracle. But when they saw Aaron and the brethren they began to murmur against them. The king told them the truth and pacified them. He called Aaron and his brothers to come and preach the word to the people. Then he sent a decree among all the people that no one could harm Ammon, Aaron, Omner nor Himni, as they preached the gospel. The men went from city to city, from one house of worship to another and established churches everywhere. Thousands were converted by them and they laid down their weapons of war. The king wanted to distinguish the converted ones from the others so they were called Anti-Nephi-Lehies. So through the king accepting the Lord, all these wonderful things came to pass. Today our God is still a God of miracles.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

1. The king gave his kingdom to his son. What was the son's name? Alma 24: 3
2. Did they take up arms again? Alma 24: 6
3. What did they do with their swords? Alma 24: 15, 16, 17.
4. Why did they do this? Alma 24: 18
5. Why do miracles cease? Mormon 9: 20
Read about miracles in Mormon 9: 15, 20

PEN PALS

Judy Alberts would like a pen pal. Her address is Muncey, Ontario, Canada. She is ten years old. She attends Sunday School on the Indian Reservation. Her grandfather was the late Brother, Chief Nicholas.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

M.B.A. Highlights

MBA-WIDE TRIP PLANNED TO CHURCH MISSION FIELD

by Carl J. Frammolino, GMBA Editor

A future trip for the entire MBA to one of The Church's mission fields emerged as one of the major outcomes of the General Missionary Benevolent Association Conference held at the Osborn Auditorium in Detroit, Michigan on May 15.

The trip, which will be made to the Muncey Indian Reservation in Ontario, Canada, is scheduled for the weekend of August 28-29. Plans are being finalized to allow all people who will be converging from the United States and Canada to attend meetings on both Saturday and Sunday. In addition, tours of the Indian locality will be taken.

The August assemblage will be the first major project which will be undertaken by the GMBA as a result of the recently-adopted MBA By-Laws Revision. Under the revised structure, activities are authorized at the Local, Area, and General levels of the organization.

Sub-Committee Chairman

Isaac Smith, GMBA Vice-President, has been appointed Field Trip Sub-Committee Chairman. As such, he will be immediately responsible for coordinating the Muncey trip. He will be assisted by Joseph Milantoni, GMBA Chaplain, and Anthony Scolaro, GMBA Treasurer, who are both active in the missionary work at Muncey.

Brother Smith said, in accepting his assignment, that all of the individuals who will be making the trek to Muncey will undoubtedly find it to be rewarding and very satisfying. "Everyone is invited to join in this trip to one of The Church's cherished Indian reservations. We believe that the weekend will prove valuable and edifying, and, therefore, we shall do everything within our power to make certain that it be successful."

He stated that geographically Muncey is suited more ideally for most people to reach than are other Church Indian missions. As a result, it was chosen to allow as many persons as possible the opportunity to see the kind of missionary work which is being done at Church missionary sites. At the same time, it was emphasized that all participants would be able to get together for a weekend of spiritual solitude and worship at one of the most scenic and restful areas available.

Other decisions made by the conference included the creation of two other sub-committees, one to seek further ways to sponsor missionary and benevolent efforts and the other to devise courses of study for the Association. Besides aiding Brother Smith, Brother Scolaro has been chosen as the chairman of the sub-group for GMBA Fund Raising Drives, and Brother Milantoni has been placed in charge of the sub-division

on the MBA-Wide Study Plans.

Reports Accepted

In further conference matters, officers' reports were accepted. Among these was the news that a new Local had been formed in Miami, Florida, where Brother Frank Rogolino is the Organizer. Also, for the first time since the expanded MBA structure was put into effect, progress information was given by the Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Michigan-Canadian Areas, as they reviewed how they have initiated activities to comply with the new By-Laws.

Donations made by the conference from the General Fund included grants of \$1,100 to the GMBA Land Purchase Fund and \$500 to the General Church Missionary Fund. The financial status of the GMBA, after the discharging of all obligations and donations, reflected a balance of \$441.66 in the General Fund and a total of \$4,904.54 in the Land Purchase Fund.

The gathering also officially sanctioned the establishment of a new monthly publication, the **MBA Bulletin**, and a new feature, "Letters to the GMBA Editor." The bulletin will be circulated to Locals and will carry significant news about all units of the MBA. In it, all segments of the Association will be able to transmit information which they feel will be of benefit to other MBA groups. The letters, although addressed to the Editor, will be answered by the appropriate GMBA Officers if they are not of a general nature. The letters and answers will appear in either "MBA Highlights" or in the **MBA Bulletin**.

The next general conference was appointed for Youngstown, Ohio on November 13, 1965. Another motion was passed to thank the Michigan-Canadian Area for its hospitality and for its generosity in defraying all the expenses of the gathering. Months of preparation and activity were cited as making the event successful.

Evening Program

The host Michigan-Canadian Area gave a program, "Seek Ye First The Kingdom of The Lord," on Saturday evening to conclude the day's activities. A 100-Voice Area Choir was featured, and narratives were presented to augment the program. Younger children of the Area also took an active part.

The presentation was built around a skit of a disillusioned man who was reviewing the futility of his life and his unworthiness before God. Upon being invited to one of our Church meetings, he was exposed to the musical and verbal renditions offered. At the end of the program, he was left with the challenging passage found in **St. Matthew 7:7**, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."

The Sunday morning worship service, which was held at the Detroit Institute of Arts Auditorium under the auspices of the Michigan-Canadian District of General Church, found Brothers Gorie Ciaravino, Vincent Gibson, and George Neill addressing the congregation. The topic was the importance of patience and devotion as typified by Job and the Apostle Paul.

JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH

(Continued from Page 5)

yet to know him as "father of all" who exercise faith like him.

Otherwise, if Abraham were not justified by works, then no one else could be; while on the other hand, if it could be proven that he was justified by faith, then there could be no other way. Our content is as follows:

"Justification by Faith"

Romans, 4th Chapter—

Justification is apart from works, verses 1 thru 8.

Justification is apart from ordinances, verses 9 thru 12.

Justification is apart from Law, verses 13 thru 22.

"If Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. For what saith the Scripture? Abraham believed God and it was counted unto him for righteousness."

Why?

For if he were to be rewarded because of his works, then it could not be God's grace, but rather God's debt. Paul contends with such a thought: Who hath first given to Him (God), and God will have to recompense it unto him?

What did Abraham do that God justified him?

Not one thing that he did, but the One in Whom he believed. For Abraham believed God, is the answer. Abraham did not earn anything, but received God's promise as a gift.

Paul calls upon another witness to bear confirmation of the truth: "Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin."

Cometh this blessedness upon the Jews only, or upon the Gentiles also? For we have proven according to the Scripture that faith was accorded to Abraham for righteousness by only believing. How was it accounted unto Abraham? After he was circumcised (works), or before he was circumcised (works)? Paul answers: not when Abraham had works whereof he could boast, for God reckoned righteousness unto him before he was circumcised. For this reason Abraham is the father of all them that believe, even them of the uncircumcision (Gentiles).

Therefore we are justified independently of all ceremonies, rituals, and laws. Justification is apart from Law-Works, for Abraham was justified of God as heir of the world when as yet the Law was come 430 years ahead. For if Israel was an heir because of Law-Works, then faith is made void, and the promise of no effect.

Paul turns the Jew's boast upside down. It is not the Gentiles who must come to the Jew's circumcision for salvation, but the Jews must come to the Gentile's simple faith; for of such was Abraham a figure. Abraham was not circumcised to be saved, but he was saved by faith, and circumcision was a seal of this.

Faith saves. Nothing else ever did or ever will. There is no conflict with Scriptures, but

rather conflict is where there is no understanding of Scriptures. James differed not from Paul in his writings on Abraham, for the Holy Spirit led both to write that by two or more witnesses this truth is once again confirmed.

James said faith if it hath not works is dead. Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? And the Scripture was fulfilled which saith, "Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness, and he was called the friend of God."

Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only. Where is the contradiction?

If you say, "I repent of my sins and have faith in Jesus Christ to save me" — if this is a Godly sorrow, it will produce works. For the faith you claim is now demonstrated by being baptized; or, otherwise, God's Faith produces Godly Works. Not that I work to obtain faith, but rather by my faith first. I will show you my works second.

This that James is speaking of is works of faith, by faith, and through faith; not vice versa. Surely we don't wash the saints' feet, or have ours washed, to be justified, do we? Rather, we wash feet (works) because we are justified (faith). We must have the latter first, or else the former is self-derived.

When Abraham offered up Isaac, how long had it been since he was justified before God? Surely if Abraham was justified 14 years before Ishmael was born, and then at 100 years of age when Isaac was born, and then a period of so many years of Isaac's life before this offering, how much more can a man be justified?

To be justified by the blood of Jesus Christ is once and for all, for there are no degrees of glory in justification. In Christ we are complete. We neither lack nor want for anything. I am not being justified every time I take Sacrament, but because I have been justified once and for all I, therefore, continue in taking Sacrament always. Not works but faith, and by faith and because of faith you have not your works but faith works.

I have written this article only to serve as a means to strengthen your faith in Christ, and not in things, events, or ordinances. "The works that I do are the works of the Father. This is the works of the Father: to believe on Him whom He hath sent." Esau was a type of works by flesh, and Isaac a type of Spirit by promise. We are as Isaac, for we are the children of God by a promise; otherwise, if we yet claim Abraham as our father, and are like Esau, we will not abide in God's house. For thus saith the Scripture: "Cast out the bondswoman and her son (flesh works) for they are not the heirs."

Let us conclude — Romans 3:24, 25: "Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness."

SOUTH GREENSBURG, PA. NEWS

On Sunday, May 2, 1965, the McKees Rocks Branch met with the Branch at South Greensburg. The meeting was very well attended by members of both branches as well as by other visiting brothers and sisters. Besides the elders from both branches, we were privileged to have Brothers Thurman S. Furnier, Rocco Tassone and S. J. Kirschner with us.

The morning service was opened by Brother Chester Nolfi. He took his text from the 9th chapter of Acts concerning the conversion of Paul, dwelling on the fifth and sixth verses. Brother Nolfi asked if we have asked the same questions as Paul, "Who are thou, Lord?" and recognize Him as our Saviour. He stated that it is very important that we live in the spirit and not in the flesh — we should be the clay and the Lord the Potter. He also stated that we cannot look to the time of Zion, but must live today as if it were our last, for the Lord said "I shall come as a thief in the night."

He was followed by Brother Dan Casasanta. He exhorted that we must turn around as Paul did and find the avenue that leads to Christ, for it is by Christ that salvation comes, and He is the only way to Heaven. He stated that the world today, like Paul, in all their learning can't understand The Church of Jesus Christ because no man can know Christ except the Lord reveal it. He said that one day the Lord spoke in our hearts and said, "Why persecutest thou me?" We hearkened as Paul did and were baptized. We then received our spiritual eyesight.

He was followed by Brother Dick Lawson. He stated that the world today has no regard for Christ and His followers, just like Paul before he knew Christ. He pointed out that life is but a short time, and in this time we must find Christ in order to have eternal life. He said it is easy for men to say that they are Christians, but they must live a Christ-like life, not seek to please only themselves.

Brother Paul Gehly, presiding Elder of South Greensburg Branch, made the closing remarks, and then closed the morning meeting in prayer.

The afternoon service was opened by Brother Thurman S. Furnier. He spoke concerning the blessings of God on the early church and in the days of William Bickerton. He said the blessings today are not in abundance as they were in those days. He stated that it is very important for us to strive to live as the man in the first Psalm and God would surely bless us.

The meeting was opened for testimony. It was very active and a good spirit prevailed. Brother Rocco Tassone, being filled with the Holy Spirit, spoke to us. He stated that the great thing that separates us from the churches of the world is the working of God's Holy Spirit with us. He pointed out that it is not education that will convince men of Christ, but the Holy Spirit. He stated that we should seek to lift Christ up and give to Him all the honor and glory. He said that we must

return to our first love and clean up the Church, and God would restore the gifts and blessings. While he was speaking in this manner, Brother Furnier arose and sang these words in the spirit: "Master we will come to you in whatsoever manner that you see fit to be your people. Come, oh Master, to your people and we will endeavor to do your will. O come and purify us from every wrong." Brother Fred Fair also spoke in the gift of tongues and the interpretation was, "This is my will, do it." A sister also related a dream which pertained to the cleaning up of the Church. Brother Paul Gehly made the closing remarks, and we were dismissed in prayer by Brother Sam Kirschner.

May God bless you all and may we desire more of things which are of the spirit, not of the flesh, and God will surely bless us. Remember, "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." (Romans 8:14)

Paul Ciotti

DETROIT, MICHIGAN NEWS

BRANCH #2

Dear Gospel News Readers:

On a beautiful Sabbath morning we were honored to have with us Brother Dan Piciutto from the San Carlos Reservation in Arizona. He spoke of many experiences showing God's protection over him and his family. We also heard of the many healings among God's chosen people that Brother Dan is ministering unto.

The following Tuesday evening we were honored with the presence of two visiting Apostles from the California district. Their exhortation proved to be a blessing to all who were present. We had a good representation from the Michigan-Canadian District. The meeting was an inspiration to all, and a good spirit prevailed.

On a Sunday morning several weeks previous to this we enjoyed the fellowship of the Windsor, Ontario saints. Brother Frank Vitto was our guest speaker. He spoke on the 4th Chapter of 1st Peter, 17th verse, "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God etc.," followed by Brother Allan Henderson from Windsor, Canada, with reference to the same subject. They both spoke with great liberty, creating a wonderful impression in our hearts.

The afternoon meeting was opened by Brother Clifford Burgess with an inspiring recitation of the mercies of God, and how the Lord, in a mysterious way, works wonders with His children.

Surely we can say that the spirit of God was with us throughout the day. Blessed be the name of the Lord, and if our fellowship in Jesus here below be so sweet, what heights of rapture shall we know when round His throne we meet!

We, the Detroit West Side Branch #2, salute you all throughout the Church with God's love.

Anna Carlini, Branch Editor

BLESSING IN CALIFORNIA

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We would like to share with you some of the blessings we have felt in the past several meetings.

On Sunday April 11th, Brother William De-Franco opened the service speaking on the passage of the Book of Mormon regarding the journey of the Jaredites to the promised land. We were reminded how the brother of Jared molted sixteen stones out of rock and prayed that God would cause these stones to bring forth light so that they might light up their vessels that they would not have to cross the sea in darkness. The Lord fulfilled this request by touching each of the stones with his finger in making them give forth light. Brother Louis Ciccatti followed on this same thought of how God has illuminated our spiritual vessels so that we don't have to travel on the sea of life in darkness.

In the afternoon, we had our feet washing service in which four ordinations took place. Sisters Violet Thomas and Marcia Liberto were ordained as deaconesses, and Brothers Jan Van Buren and James Tucker as teachers. A wonderful spirit was felt in these ordinations, and testimonies were given by some who had dreams to confirm the calling of those to be ordained in office.

On May 2nd, our building was filled to overflowing. We had visitors from all the branches on the West Coast, as well as from Phoenix, Arizona, and Lorain, Ohio. The brothers and sisters from the newest mission in California (Yucaipa), were there also.

Following the opening of our service, four brothers were ordained into offices in the ministry. Brothers Samuel Ciccatti, and Thomas Liberto were ordained as elders, Brother Benjamin Ciccatti as an evangelist, and Brother Domenic Castelli was reinstated into the ministry. We can truly say that God's spirit was felt in these ordinations.

Following the ordinations, Brother James Lovalvo spoke on III Nephi, 28th Chapter, concerning the twelve disciples on this land. Jesus asked them what they desired of him after He would have gone to His Father. The nine desired that when they reached the age of man, that their ministry would come to an end and that they might speedily go unto the Father in His kingdom. The other three desired to live until the Lord would come again. The question was put to the congregation — What would you desire of Christ?

There was a wonderful spirit in the meeting. Our prayer is that God will bless those eight who have been ordained into their respective offices with His spirit and also give them the desires of their hearts as was given to the twelve disciples.

Marlene Ciccatti, Branch Editor

NEWS FROM DETROIT, MICHIGAN**BRANCH #4**

Our Sunday morning service of May 2, 1965 began by singing several hymns. Brother Gorie Ciaravino opened the meeting by reading the Gospel of St. John, Chapter 13, verses 1 thru 18 concerning feet washing. Brother Gorie stressed the importance of washing one another's feet. Jesus said that He had set the example, that we should do as He has done. If we know these things, happy are we if we do them.

Brother Anthony Gerace, our presiding elder, followed on the same subject. He also related an experience he had about feet washing. Then he told us about his trip to the Muncey Indian Reservation the previous day. During the day the Indian Brothers and Sisters held a rummage sale at their Council Hall; they had a very good turn out and did very well. In the evening they held a prayer meeting at the home of Sister Nicholas' daughter, Gladys Deleary. Gladys was very ill so the Brothers and Sisters offered prayers in her behalf. There was a wonderful feeling of the presence of the Spirit of the Lord. The only light they had was an oil lamp, but the light of the Spirit was shining bright. At the present time Gladys is not a member of The Church of Jesus Christ. After the meeting she expressed her thanks and gratefulness for the hymns that were sung and for the prayer offered in her behalf.

In our afternoon service we participated in the ordinance of feet-washing and also the passing of sacrament. In this meeting Brother Leonard Lavalvo was ordained to the office of a teacher.

Elizabeth Gerace, Branch Editor

NEWS FROM ROCHESTER, N.Y.

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

The members of the Rochester mission would like to share our joy and blessing with you. We are fairly well and enjoying God's richest blessings daily, still zealous and striving to serve the Lord. Whenever we meet we feel God's spirit in our midst even though we are few in number.

On February 28, 1965 transfers were given Brother and Sister Garmoe who moved to Cleveland, Ohio and will be attending services at Branch #1. Our hearts were saddened by their departure.

Brother and Sister Anthony Gentile spent a six weeks vacation in Florida. There they were shown love and hospitality by Brother and Sister Mazzeo and the saints. Being impressed by the love given them when they returned to Rochester, they were restored to fellowship in the Church.

My prayer is that God will keep us all humble and faithful until the end. Love to all from all the saints here.

Carmella D'Amico

NEVER MAN SPAKE LIKE THIS MAN

(Continued from Page 5)

mean anything without power and authority behind them.

We have had a good report. When I came home we were told about a lady that was full of cancer. The Doctors had opened her up, then told the family she could only live two weeks; that she would not go out of the Hospital alive. Rusty, my son, and Brother Harry Marshall went in to see Brother Kirkpatrick and he told them of this woman. She could not eat a thing and had to be fed through the veins. They prayed and anointed her and now she is eating and holding everything on her stomach; she is at home now. This report spread through the Hospital like wildfire; the nurses told it to everyone. What a word! She said she had never prayed, had never read the Bible. She was only 34 years of age with four children and had no hope; no faith that she would ever get better. Then Jesus came! Now she has hope and faith; she wants to live. There are many sitting alongside the highways begging. When Jesus comes he will heal them. He has to come through you and me. Was He a prophet? was He Christ? they began to ask one another. But when they saw the devil cast out, they said, "What a word!" How many of the covenant people had missed a blessing while the woman ate the crumbs from the Master's table? How many of the Church are missing a blessing? While this poor woman that had never prayed had no hope or faith; but then, what a word! God's covenant people had lost the blessing because they took it for granted. They said, "We are Abraham's seed." Jesus said He could raise up seed out of those rocks. They were selfrighteous and wouldn't mingle with other people. Jesus came to break down the middle wall of partition. He was more than a Hebrew Messiah; He was the Redeemer of the world. He does not lay down laws; He gives principles of conduct. He does not prescribe rules; He describes character. He is interested in showing His followers what they must be rather than what they must do. The world has its own standards for estimating a man's worth, and its own ideas of happiness and success. The teaching of Jesus cuts across these standards. The happy man, according to his teaching, is a peacemaker. He is like salt that gives savor; like a light in a dark place. Character is the one thing no man can keep to himself. He shows a willingness to go over and beyond. The most that men may demand which is abstaining from wrongdoing, is not enough. We must be occupied in doing good. Christ's call is to live unselfishly; to give gladly and generously; to break through the tyranny of class and reverse the usual order of things. No new generation has improved upon the teaching of the Savior, and no new civilization will supplant it; but the principles abide. Every age has found its highest ideals embodied in Christ. He has

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Obituary

PANFILIO DiCENZO

Panfilio DiCenzo of McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania passed away May 10, 1965 at his home. He is survived by his wife, Sister Velia DiCenzo; a son, Panfilio; and a daughter, Sister Nina.

Brother George Ondrasik officiated at the funeral services assisted by Brother Chester Nolfi. May God bless and comfort his family in this their time of need.

SANTINA CANTAMESSA

Our beloved Sister Santina Cantamessa passed from this life suddenly on May 6, 1965. She was born in Italy on November 16, 1911, and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on January 20, 1929. She was one of the earliest converts in the Metuchen area and was a faithful and devoted member of the Church. In her testimony given at the last meeting she attended, she requested that our Presiding Elder go to the Hospital to anoint her after her operation. Her desire was fulfilled.

Sister Santina is survived by her father, Brother Emil Cantamessa, three brothers, two sisters, nieces and nephews. She will be sadly missed by her many brothers and sisters of The Church as well as a host of friends.

Services were conducted at The Church of Jesus Christ, Metuchen, New Jersey, with Brothers Carmen Sgro and August D'Orazio officiating.

MARY CONCETTA TASSONE

Sister Mary Concetta Tassone, 73, a member of the Glassport branch, died May 13, 1965, at McKeesport Hospital. A daughter of the late Guiseppe and Maria Tassone, she was born December 8, 1891, in Italy. Sister Tassone was baptized in the month of April, 1933, and had, until the time of her death, been a faithful member.

Widow of Luigi Tassone, she leaves daughters, Mrs. Rose De Augustine, Mrs. Mary Urbansky, Mrs. Margaret Gueth, Mrs. Christina Long and Mrs. Stella Heslop, all of McKeesport, Mrs. Lucy Yorio of Jeannette and Mrs. Eva Urbansky of Glassport; sons, Peter and Rocco, both of McKeesport, Joseph and Frank, both at home, Thomas of Erwin, Angelo of Port Vue, Sgt. Samuel, with the U.S. Air Force in England, and John of Glassport; 33 grandchildren; 24 great grandchildren; and a sister, Mariana, in Italy.

Funeral services were conducted in the Church at Glassport, with Brothers Anthony DiBattista and Alma Nolfi officiating.

To The Editorial Staff Of The Gospel News:

With the help of God I shall attempt to share with you the thanksgiving in my heart for our wonderful Church paper, The Gospel News. I pray that these words, nourished by the spirit and love of God, will continue to inspire the hearts and minds of our brothers and sisters, and those who have labored so diligently to make The Gospel News a blessing unto all who read it. It refreshes my soul and stimulates my heart to thanksgiving unto God. As we read The Gospel News we can see the blessings of God upon His Church. We can see the working of the Holy Spirit when we read the testimonies of our brothers and sisters.

We rejoice to know when our brothers and sisters are united in marriage; we rejoice to read of the death of the faithful for we know of their hope; we rejoice to read of the manifestation of the Spirit of God in the meetings of the various branches throughout the Church. The Gospel News has stirred up my spirit for the saints far away; it has united us once again in love; it has deepened my love for the seed of Joseph, and stimulated my prayers for all who have not known of our joy in The Church of Jesus Christ.

The Lord has blessed our church paper with the inspiration and love of His spirit. This is why our hearts are full of joy. Our prayer is that God will continue to inspire the hearts and minds of our brothers and sisters, increase the messages of love and truth, and cause the staff to continue to labor in diligence. We know that God has spoken to His people; He is speaking to His people, and that He will continue to speak to His people, even through the means of The Gospel News.

We give thanks to God for your labor of love May God bless your efforts is my humble prayer in Jesus' name.

Meredieth Martin
Sharon, Pennsylvania

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been the perfect truth to all ages. He quickens the dead letter and put life into every part of the written word; He is the hope of those who seek peace in the world. And then, marvel of marvels, He was all that it taught. Will His teachings work? Put them to practice and see. Jesus has always been the embodiment of every word of His teaching; not only does He say "I know"; He adds, "I am."

*The Christ of our hearts and homes
Our hopes and prayers and needs;
The brother of want and blame,
The lover of women and men;
With a love that puts to shame
All passions of mortal man.*

Readers Write . . .

It is wonderful to read The Gospel News and we are happy to receive it on time.

It gives us a lot of pleasure and it is so good to know what is going on in the other parts of God's Vineyard.

We of West Palm Beach are all well, thank God, and enjoying His blessings. May God bless all of you.

Brother and Sister Maffeo
West Palm Beach, Florida

I received my copy of The Gospel News today and surely enjoy reading all it contains. It is truly food for the soul. Thank you again for renewing it on time, and may God bless you.

Sister Ann Draskovich
Greensburg, Pennsylvania

Enclosed is \$2.00 for the coming year's subscription to The Gospel News which we all enjoy very much. We hope and pray that God will give all of you the wisdom and strength to carry on this great work which you have started. God bless you.

Sister Ann Radd
West Palm Beach, Florida

Sorry we are late with our renewal of The Gospel News but we do enjoy receiving it each month and reading of the experiences of our brothers and sisters elsewhere in the Church. Hope this finds you enjoying God's richest blessings. May God bless and guide you all.

Brother & Sister Thomas M. Ring
El Cajon, California

We are happy indeed for this little paper called The Gospel News. It give us the privilege to express our thoughts on how God, in His excellent way, works wonders with His children.

Sister Anna Carlini
Detroit, Michigan

I have just finished reading the February issue of The Gospel News; it seemed to lighten my burden and give me courage to go on. The life that we lead is so dependent on our Lord because we are so weak. Fellowship and communion with the saints are so essential, and we experience these things somewhat when we read The Gospel News.

Sister Ilene Smith
Fairless Hills, Pennsylvania

We enjoy reading The Gospel News. May God bless you in the work appointed to you. We miss reading the editorials of our beloved Brother Will Cadman; however, we find yours are interesting too.

Brother John Azzinaro
San Fernando Valley, California

The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

August 1965

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**The Church of Jesus Christ
Imperial, Pa.**

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST IMPERIAL, PA.

In the spring of 1953, Brother Jacob and Sister Martha Christman were desirous of buying a home. After extensive searching, Sister Martha became discouraged and petitioned God earnestly that they might find a place where they could be happy and content.

One night in a dream she was told, "Buy the house at the crossroads and build your home on this stump." After looking at many houses, they finally came to one in Imperial in which place, Sister Martha said, she had given no serious thought of residing; however, they decided to look at it. The first visit to the house was at night. Brother Jake noted a large garage and commented that it might be a good place to start a repair and welding shop. Being interested, they decided to look at it in the daylight. This time, Sister Martha found in the back yard a large stump with the roots growing under part of the house. It must have been there for years as the roots were large and the stump was old in appearance. That night at home, she remembered her

Conference Notice

The semi-annual conference of The Church of Jesus Christ will convene on Friday, October 1, 1965, at 2:00 P.M. in Detroit, Michigan.

The FRIDAY & SATURDAY sessions will be for the PRIESTHOOD ONLY and will be held at Branch #3, 13420 E. Seven Mile Road.

Sunday meeting will be open to all members and visitors and will be held in the DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS.

Nicholas Pietrangelo

General Church Secretary

dream and felt it was God's will that they buy this house.

After moving into the home, Brother Jake, his son Brother Dick, and Sister Martha's father began to remove the large stump. Sister Martha cautioned them to watch for a treasure under it, thinking this to be the interpretation of her dream. After some time, an idea to hold Wednesday evening meetings in the garage was conceived. Because of the winter weather, road conditions, and the number of brothers and sisters in the Imperial vicinity, they decided to seek permission to meet here and on November 17, 1954, Brother James Moore requested and was granted permission from the McKees Rocks Branch to hold meetings. Attendance at the Wednesday evening meetings gradually increased and soon Sunday evening services were also conducted and more visitors came.

About this time Sister Eva Moore testified that her mind was troubled. She experienced an unsettled feeling and although she knew God was working, she could not understand His plan nor how it was to work in our midst. She was glad of the opportunity for two weeks vacation in California to visit her family and the saints there. She visited many brothers and sisters but remembered particularly her visit with Sister Evelyn Perdue and her husband, both of whom are very

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A Brief History . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

zealous in spreading the Gospel. Sister Eva received much counsel and advice from them—Sister Evelyn gave her scripture to read: Job 29, Alma 34, and Isaiah 58—and her mind became more clear concerning God's plan for us.

About one week after her visit with Sister Evelyn, Sister Eva dreamed of a newborn child although she was not aware at this time that meetings had started in Imperial. The next day after her dream, while alone in prayer, a great blessing came upon her. She arose from her knees and went to the mail box to find a letter from home telling of the first meeting in the garage or "the birth of the Gospel in Imperial". This first meeting was held November 22, 1954, and a great blessing was experienced by all who attended. This caused the brothers and sisters to wonder if it might not be in God's design and purpose to establish a mission. However, Sister Martha worried over separating from the McKees Rocks Branch until God gave her another dream:

"It seemed they were living in a large home together with the church people. Brother Martin Michalko was in one of the rooms doing some work for the Church. He came to the door and asked Sister Martha to help. She agreed but said she must first lock her door. As she went to lock the door, she heard a knock and found two children waiting to come in. Her first thought was that if she let the children in she would not be able to help Brother Martin, but loving children so much, her heart softened as she looked at them and so she let them come in. As she started to shut the door, there was another knock but this time it was an old man and he, too, was let in. Sister Martha's heart was heavy for while she wanted to admit these people, she felt a responsibility to go help Brother Martin. There was a third knock at the door and she found a large number of people wanting to come in. This time she opened the door wide and invited them to enter. Then she turned to tell Brother Martin that she could not help him and he seemed to understand as he smiled and nodded his head." So it was revealed to her that the treasure she had expected to find under the large tree stump was the beginning of the work of God, "the Pearl of Great Price."

The Sunday and Wednesday evening meetings continued. Our first pulpit was made by Brother Jake from an old piano he had bought without knowing that the felts were moth eaten. Our first piano was a gift from a lady in McDonald who said she was glad to give it for church work. Chairs of all sizes and colors were given by the Brothers and Sisters. A picture of a baby had been found in the garage. Sister Arlene Buffington cleaned it and wrote on it the verse "Unless we become as a little child." We pray that God will continue to grant us this hum-

bleness.

Brother Harry Hendler also had a dream which greatly encouraged us to continue our work of spreading the Gospel. Brother Harry dreamed he was in the McKees Rocks Branch. All of the Elders were on the rostrum when suddenly he heard Brother Isaac Smith ask the Elders, "Where is Brother Harry?" They answered that he was around somewhere but Brother Harry was seated behind one of the pillars that seemed to be in the room. Brother Smith appeared around the column and exclaimed, "Oh, there you are!" and continued, "There are twelve of you, aren't there?, and you have promised to pay the electric bill." Brother Harry answered, "Yes". Brother Smith pulled a scroll out of his coat pocket and said, "What about the other seven?" After hesitating a moment, he said, "Oh, well, we'll forget about them just now." Then he disappeared.

By this time everyone believed it was God's will for us to have an established mission and permission for this was granted at the October, 1955, Conference. On October 11, 1955, the organization meeting took place at McKees Rocks. On October 16th, Brother Jim Moore served our first communion, the wine for which was supplied by Brother Basilio DiMasso. Brother Moore's sermon was taken from the 2nd Chapter of Philippians, 3rd verse. It had been revealed to him while praying to teach the Brothers and Sisters to esteem one another higher than themselves. The writer remembers another sermon in which Brother Moore said his prayer was that whatever God had for him to do, he might do it well, be it ever so little. God grant this to us all.

On October 30, 1955, we had three baptisms which completed the seven baptisms that God had revealed in Brother Harry's dream. Also, four children have been blessed. Our Sunday School was organized November 27, 1955, by Brothers Idris Martin and Alma Cadman.

Since our Mission began, much work has been done. Concrete blocks were contributed by Brother Fred and Sister Ruby Weinheimer; also light fixtures which they found in one of the buildings on the property they recently bought. Brother Ervin Buffington did the wiring and contributed much of his time even before his baptism. Brother Harry Hendler gave paint and other necessary articles. Brother Basilio DiMasso built the pulpit we now have and also donated the communion table. My son George painted our beautiful outdoor sign, THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST, and his wife, Eleanor, gave of her time as well as articles which were dear to her, saying that she knew of no better place for them to be of service. Pews were purchased recently. Brother Jake Christman carried the responsibility of all the improvements and work in the Mission, although everyone concerned took an active part in helping to build this tiny temple to our Lord.

This brief history has been written with the hope that all who read may realize God never

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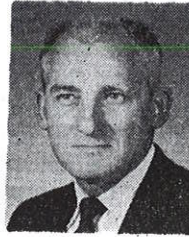
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Editorial Viewpoint



George A. Neill

It is true that your neighbor cannot get all of you on his scales, but he does weigh your reputation, your character, and disposition.

"How much do you weigh?" isn't a very polite question; in fact, sometimes it's unwise to ask such a question since many people do not like to tell their weight, especially those among the weaker sex. I remember when I was a small boy I attended country fairs a number of times, and there was always a particularly large man who, if I'm not mistaken, called himself a weight guesser. He had a large scale rigged up from three poles, and a metal seat attached to it with chains. For the sum of a dime this man would guess your weight. If he missed within two pounds either way you got a prize, but if he was within the two pound limit you were out your dime. People of all sizes — the tall, the short, the thin ones, and the plump ones — were willing to have their weight revealed for a twenty-five cent prize. I am sure if you dared to ask some of these people at another time how much they weighed you were sure to get a black look. One thing that surprised me was how accurate this man was at weight-guessing. He would actually guess the exact weight of many individuals for he didn't give away too many prizes.

Let us press the question further: "How much do you weigh?" We are not speaking now of mechanical scales, but of moral scales. How much do you weigh spiritually? How much does your character weigh? How much does your reputation weigh? Your faith? How much do you think you weigh by your own scales? Step in front of the mirror of your own opinion. Some of us would like to gain a little weight for we feel we aren't as heavy as we ought to be spiritually. There may be others who feel they are heavy enough, but may I warn you that we are never as heavy as we look to ourselves. I believe a humble man will more accurately guess his correct weight than will a self-righteous one. As we go through life we get on and off our own scales and perhaps never weigh the same. We should be a little careful of judging our weight by our own scales. I don't know if you ever thought about it or not, but it is not possible for us to go through life without being weighed on our neighbor's scales. You may think this is foolish, for each neighbor will figure your weight differently. Some of them are really mistaken; to some you are heavier than they think and to others you are lighter than they would realize. It is true that your neighbor cannot get all of you on his scales, but he does weigh your reputation, your character, and disposition.

My mind goes to a man who weighed heavy on the scales of his neighbor, as well as to two servants, and a soldier. This man was Cornelius. Those who weighed him testified to Peter concerning him: "A just man, and one that feareth God; and of good report among all the nation of the Jews." Cornelius weighed just as heavy on God's scales. He was told by the angel that his prayers and alms had come up to God as a memorial. I have often said when our neighbor can bear that kind of a testimony about us, surely all is well. If our neighbor's scale weighs us this heavy we need not fear to step on God's scale.

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

(Continued from Page 3)

There was once a king who weighed heavy on his own scales; he apparently weighed pretty heavy on his neighbor's scales also, for I suppose to all the people in Babylon Belshazzar was heavy enough. However, he weighed light on God's scales for Daniel told him, "Thou art weighed in the balance and art found wanting." This should remind us that God's scale is more accurate and delicate than either ours or our neighbor's. Now then, just how much do you weigh?

A Brief History . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

changes. He is the same God yesterday, today, and forever. He will reveal His will if we have the desire to stand humbly before Him until the end of our earthly days. Our reward? "Eye hath not seen nor ear hath heard the things that God has prepared for those who love and serve Him."

Isabel Hendler

I was requested to repeat this experience for the benefit of our Gospel News readers to show how God will provide in times of need.

We, in Imperial, have been worshipping God in a small building without water and restroom facilities for a period of ten years. We have been very happy and blessed, but about five years ago we decided to look for ground suitable for building a larger church. During these five years we inquired all around our community but could not find what we wanted. About two months ago my husband, Brother James Moore, was working for a farmer and was telling him about our church and our need for a larger building but that we could not find a piece of ground which we liked. The farmer said, "I have two hundred acres of land. If you can find what you want here I will sell it to you. My neighbor has some land too that you can look at down this road." So the two men got in a car and drove up the road. After viewing the farmer's land they drove to the neighbor's farm. Immediately, my husband saw a tract of land set by itself. He said to himself "This is it." He thanked the farmer and came home. He said to me, "While I wash, call the Church trustees and tell them to meet me at the Church in about an hour." I called Brother Jacob Christman's home and told them Brother Moore had found some land. They said they had found some land too but had not yet told anyone about it. Then I called Brother Harbaugh's home and told them that Brother Moore had found some land. They too said "We found some nice land too, but haven't said anything to anyone yet." I told them that Brother Moore would like to inquire about his that very evening; so the three brothers met at our church building and had prayer that God would direct them in this matter. They got into the car and drove to the land only to find that all three had selected the same land.

A Word Of Thanks

I wish to thank all throughout the Church for their prayers in my behalf, and for the wonderful cards I received during my recent illness and stay in the West Virginia University Hospital, Morgantown, W.Va. I enjoyed all the cards I received. Most of the cards had words of faith and encouragement written in them that filled my heart and soul with joy. I was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ at Bitner Branch, Pa. on March 14, 1965. As I sat in the Church during the afternoon service the Spirit of God entered into me and I felt so full, as if my chest was going to burst. I next found myself on my feet asking for baptism. This was the happiest day of my life. Then when I went to the hospital, God showed me that I had many friends in the Church, for cards came from all over the church — five, six or more a day. Many came from brothers and sisters I didn't know. I was in the hospital for sixteen days and for a while after I came home the cards kept coming. I thank God for the wonderful friends I have found in The Church of Jesus Christ. I am a diabetic and need your prayers. Pray for me that I may be healed and kept strong in the Lord, and I'll pray for you as I always do. My dad is Elmer R. LaRew, Elder at the Bitner Branch, Pa. Again I thank you. May the blessing of God be with all. God has shown me we are not strangers even though we have never met, when we are Children of God.

Jean LaRew

QUINLAN-PADOVINI

On June 12, 1965 at two o'clock, Sister Violanda Padovini, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. C. Padovini and Ross Quinlan, son of Mr. & Mrs. R. Quinlan were united in marriage.

The double ring ceremony took place at The Church of Jesus Christ, Branch No. 3, Detroit, Michigan, and was officiated by Brother Silverio Coppa.

We extend our best wishes and God's blessing all the days of their life.

So they felt it was God's choice for us. They went to see the owner and he told them he would let them know if he would consider selling this land. In a few days we got a call that the land would cost about seven thousand dollars. Our Branch savings amounted to about seven thousand dollars, so our Trustees said they would take it. After we paid for the land someone remarked "We've spent all we had for the land, how are we going to build a church"? In a few days a sister had a dream that "God would provide."

In this tract of land we have five acres and a stream of water for baptizing. We are happy in the service of our King.

Imperial Branch Editor

Eva Moore

WEST COAST NEWS

June 19, 1965

To the Editor:

I am at present at the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation to hold meetings while Brother Dan holds meetings at Yucaipa, California. Brother Ben Ciccati will be here later this week so that he may attend next Sunday's meeting.

Brother Dan has truly improved this place since I was here last. The Sunday School rooms, plus a patio, is finished enough to hold meetings in it. Also, he built a car-port, planted a few fruit trees, and built a storage room. I visited Brother and Sister Christman. Brother Christman came to Phoenix to study for his Masters degree. His study involves the manner of teachings in different Indian tribes and their needs. He is truly a blessing to the Kingdom of God and an example as to what our young people can do.

The Mazzeo's came to the reservation to stay. Tony and Roger opened a barber shop in Globe, about twenty miles from here. They are a wonderful family full of hopes and love for the Redman. They will reside at Globe. Barry has an application with the Post Office. I do pray that he will receive his heart's desire.

In Modesto we were wonderfully blessed with the presence of Brother Gorie Ciaravino, and John Dulisse. Their two days visit was a welcome one. Brother Gorie spoke of the Faith of our Fathers and what it will do for us today, using Hebrews Chapter 11 for his text. Brother John Dulisse followed him on the same, relating how by faith we have been brought to the gospel.

The saints in Modesto were recently blessed with a baptism, and the meetings are richly blessed.

Brother Michael Randazzo and his family have moved to Sacramento after serving two years residency to become a specialist as Doctor of Anesthesia. The church in Modesto had a congratulatory party at his father-in-law's home. We are happy to have him and his family near us.

We pray that the church may start in Sacramento. Sister Eva Bair, formerly of Kansas also lives in Sacramento.

Dr. Leonard Lovalvo moved to Fresno bringing him a little closer to Modesto, only 90 miles south.

The Church must reach every city and community.

Greetings to the saints everywhere.

Yours in Christ,

Mark Randy

ARIZONA NEWS

On May 30, 1965 the Phoenix Mission was privileged to have Brother Gorie Ciaravino, our new president, visit here. Our little church building was filled to capacity and, for those of us

Jesus Said

By Samuel J. Kirschner

"But I say unto you, that whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause, shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say unto his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire." I wish also to insert here that every transgression receives its just recompense of reward. In the sight of God he that breaketh the least of the commandments is guilty of breaking them all, and brings upon himself the judgment, which is death. "For the soul that sinneth must surely die."

He that is angry with his brother without a cause is brought to (or is in danger of) the judgment — a Jewish Tribunal which inflicted death by the sword. If one were to call a brother Raca, which means vain, empty, a word of reproach, he was in danger of the Council, which inflicted death by stoning. But if he were to say, "Thou

(Continued on Page 7)

who attend our meetings every Sunday, this was an unusual sight. Our membership is small and we've grown accustomed to seeing faces of the faithful few. So this was a day of rejoicing and excitement for all of us. We enjoyed Brother Gorie's preaching and fellowship and can say that his visit was a real blessing for us.

Among the visitors were Brother Tony Marone and family from New Jersey, Brother Alfred and Sister Carmen Luna from Bell, California.

Just recently the brothers here have had an opportunity to visit and preach the gospel to two Indian families in the Phoenix area. They have been receptive and we hope and pray that this is the "Open Door" among the Seed of Joseph in this location.

We send our regards to the saints throughout the Church and we ask that you continue to pray for the work in Arizona.

Phoenix Mission Editor

Ann Damore

BRONX, N.Y. NEWS

We, the saints of the Bronx Branch, are enjoying the love and blessings of God, and I know that the brothers and sisters here are all working for their soul's salvation. On April 18, Easter Sunday, a joyous day was witnessed by all. We are happy to report two more baptisms — Sister Mary Oliver and Brother Alex Prudenti. A group of saints gathered at the river shore to witness their baptisms. As always, we pray that God will bless this new brother and sister and sustain them with His Holy Spirit along life's way. It was a day well spent in the service of the Lord.

Bronx Branch Editor

Betty Catalano



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"Surely the Lord is in this place." Genesis 28: 16

Dear Girls and Boys,

I think you will enjoy this story about Jacob and his dream, found in the Old Testament.

Jacob had a twin brother named Esau. He had trouble with his brother over their birthright. Jacob had been selfish and traded unfairly. Esau became jealous of Jacob because of the blessing their father, Isaac, had placed on Jacob. He hated him and desired to kill him. At the time of this trouble neither of the boys were married. Jacob's mother did not want him to marry one of the daughters of their neighbor, Heth, because they did not believe in the true God. She talked to her husband about this, and Isaac told Jacob he must not marry an unbeliever. They decided that Jacob should go to his Uncle Laban's home in Padanaram. Maybe here he would find a suitable girl for his wife.

The journey to Padanaram was long. When night came Jacob had not reached Laban's home. He lay down on the ground and went to sleep. He took a stone for his pillow. While he was sleeping he had a beautiful dream. He saw a ladder set on earth and the top of it reached up into heaven. The angels of God were going up and down upon it. The Lord stood above it and said, "I am the Lord God of Abraham, thy father, and the God of Isaac; the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it and to thy seed; and thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south; and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed. And behold I am with thee and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of." Jacob awakened out of his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place and I knew it not."

Jacob rose up early in the morning and took the stone that had been his pillow and set it up for a monument to mark this place. He poured oil on top of it and called the place Bethel, which means, "house of God". He also made a promise that if the Lord would bless him with food and clothing he would worship God and pay tithing or one tenth of all he owned.

Jacob continued on his journey to Laban's home. There he lived for more than fourteen years. He married Leah, Laban's daughter and later her beautiful sister, Rachel. He became the father of twelve sons for whom the twelve tribes of Israel were named. The Lord blessed him with

LORAIN, OHIO VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Another year has gone by and the school students have told their friends and instructors good-by for summer vacation. Vacation Bible School is in full swing once again with fifty of our young children learning more about the ways of God. This year's theme is "Faith and Victory." The school was directed by Sister Marie Caldwell who was ably assisted by other sisters and willing helpers.

The children find pleasure in setting aside their public school books and home work and picking up the Bible and Book of Mormon to learn; also to work on projects that pertain to learning about the scriptures and our church. They also made get well cards for the brothers and sisters who were hospitalized.

After the two weeks are over, they present a program for the parents and all who wish to come to see what they have accomplished. It's wonderful to note that our Sabbath School doors always stay open, whereas the public school doors close for summer vacation for some of the children. Besides receiving their individual awards they also attended a picnic after the session was over.

Betty Alessio, Branch Editor

many herds of sheep and cattle.

At last Jacob decided to return to his father's house. He wondered about his brother Esau and how he would receive him. He gathered together all his possessions, his family, servants and herds of sheep and cattle. As they came near the land of Canaan, Jacob stopped and sent a present to his brother. It was a wonderful gift. There were two hundred and twenty goats, two hundred and twenty sheep, thirty camels with their colts, fifty cows and thirty donkeys. Some of Jacob's men went on ahead with the gift. Jacob waited and prayed.

One morning Jacob saw in the distance some men coming. It was Esau with four hundred men. He was not angry. He ran to meet Jacob. They kissed each other and cried, they were so happy. All was forgiven. Esau had plenty and did not want to accept the gift. But Jacob said, "Take my gift and my blessing because God has been gracious unto me." Esau returned to Seir and Jacob came to Shechem. There he bought land and pitched his tent. This was his new home.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

1. How did Jacob obtain his father's blessing deceitfully? Genesis 27:1
2. Who said, "I am weary of my life"? Genesis 27: 46
3. Who said, "Let us not be weary in well doing"? Galatians 6: 9
4. How much money did Jacob give for the land on which to spread his tent? Genesis 33: 19
5. What was the name of the altar he erected there? Genesis 33: 20

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

My Testimony

To my brothers and sisters everywhere, many of whom I have come to know and love so dearly, may our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. I have a strong desire to write and feel within myself that I am talking to you personally. Sometimes I feel a bit of loneliness in my heart, perhaps from the cares and problems of life, which can't be helped. Yet within my heart I sing praises to our Lord, for when we are weak we are strong. I have found a true friend in Jesus who really loves me just as I am. At times I feel my problems become so heavy that I can turn to no one but God, and I am not alone for our Lord has granted me wonderful brothers and sisters in Christ. Everywhere my family and I have visited among the saints we were shown love, not as the world loves, but the love that God puts in their hearts — a sincere love.

It is almost three years since my baptism into The Church of Jesus Christ and I do not have full knowledge of everything yet, but know it takes time. The road has not been easy to travel and many times I've told the Lord in prayer that I am not worthy of His love and kindness, but He has given me an assurance that He will never leave me alone. Sometimes I feel that He speaks these words to me: "My dear daughter, I took you out of sin and iniquity and from almost losing your life, and put you on the righteous pathway, a good clean life, to make you be that someone you never thought you could be." Yes, I can hear within my heart the Saviour speak to me kind and loving words. Oh, how the devil is trying to take these blessings and the love of God from me. He will try even harder now because he sees that everytime he tries to destroy my faith, God gives me more of it. If Jesus was tempted, so can I be; if my brothers and sisters are tried and suffer for Christ, so can I. Jesus is real to me and He lives in my heart and as long as I seek Him and do His will, He will see me through, no matter how big the mountains may seem.

The important thing now is that I may always have true love for my brothers and sisters everywhere, especially to those here in Lorain; that I may show them kindness and have a true testimony so that along the way someone may see thru me that this wonderful restored gospel gives hope and life. I ask my Saviour to bless my brothers and sisters, especially those that have been like father and mother to me, such as Brothers Joe and Frank Calabrese and Sister Helen Tisler. May the Lord bless my Spanish brothers and sisters, the Polacios and Gonzales, that altogether we may bring other Spanish people to the gospel. I ask a special blessing for my husband Joe, who since the New Year started giving a testimony whereas before he could not find the strength to testify.

Oue Dios les bendiga a todos. Oue les proteja, que les guide, Oue les libre de tode mal. Son mis deseos. Please pray for me as it is my de-

M.B.A. Highlights

GMBA CONTRIBUTIONS SUPPORT WORTHY CAUSES

by Anthony Sclarro, GMBA Treasurer

As has been approved in the recently adopted By-Laws, the Missionary Benevolent Association has embarked on various projects so that it can be of greater assistance to its membership and of The Church in general. Among these projects are endeavors to raise funds for worthy purposes.

In analyzing the reasons for the expansion of the MBA to allow for these projects, it may be asked, "Why are fund-raising drives necessary?" Indeed, some may have wondered why the amount being requested from Locals has been changed from giving "the total receipts of the last meeting of the month" to giving "at least one-third of the total free-will receipts to the GMBA." An even more basic concern may be posed, "Why are donations from MBA Locals needed in the first place?" A brief history of the GMBA financial picture, along with a review of past accomplishments, will make it obvious why these measures are important.

Since the inception of the MBA in 1904, locals have been contributing into the GMBA treasury. At first, this was done on a quarterly basis, but in later years it was changed to semi-annually. Invaluable assistance has been rendered with the funds received. In addition to meeting the direct obligations of the Association, The Church's missionary and benevolent efforts have benefited.

Ten-Year Contributions

In the last ten years, the GMBA has contributed over \$11,000 to The General Church's missionary efforts, has provided \$1,545 for relief to needy persons, and has paid over \$3,465 for

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Jesus Said...

(Continued from Page 5)

fool," he would be in danger of hell fire. This was to die the death of a malefactor and have one's body thrown into the Valley of Hinnom, where it was to be burned.

All three dangers that beset us by the transgression of the sixth commandment are punishable by death. How careful we ought to be in conducting ourselves toward our brother. I have seen many transgress in this manner. Jesus said, "Love one another even as I have loved you."

sire to serve our Lord until my days are ended here on earth, as there is a better place up in heaven where there is always peace.

Alice Garcia, Lorain, Ohio

M.B.A. Highlights . . .

(Continued from Page 7)

GMBA Conference expenses. While these may appear as impressive figures, it must be remembered that The Church, as well as the MBA, has been growing in scope and actual financial liabilities. To help the General Church with the increased responsibilities, the GMBA has raised its sights and has attempted to help as much as possible.

The number of Church missions has grown and continues to grow. This is highly encouraging because the will of God in preaching the Gospel is being fulfilled. Many missions are endeavoring to defray some of their own expenses, but they are somewhat limited in their ability to do so. Realizing that it takes money to service these missions and to meet future expansion, the GMBA wants to provide as much help as possible.

At both the local and general levels of the MBA, a Relief Committee is appointed to handle needy cases. As was indicated in the recent survey of locals, there is a unified desire for MBA areas to look more deeply into helping needy people and to have them work more closely with all locals in helping persons in distress. By dispersing financial aid to needy persons, the Association has enabled the General Church to reduce disbursements from its Welfare Fund.

Auditorium Fund Established

The necessity for spending more money on GMBA conferences becomes apparent when it is noted that attendance at these gatherings has steadily increased over the years. Naturally, everyone is happy and glad to see the lively interest and participation experienced in these recent meetings. To house the rising numbers however, the organization is required to rent and use larger meeting places. Compounding the problem is that it is becoming progressively more difficult to secure schools or auditoriums because many localities restrict uses of their facilities. Making it even more challenging is the fact that costs have tended to rise at a very rapid rate.

To meet the higher requirements for General Church gatherings, as well as GMBA conferences, the parent body is now processing plans to erect a suitably-located auditorium. Several years ago the GMBA established a "GMBA Land Purchase Fund" to assist the Church in obtaining this large auditorium. To date, the Land Purchase Fund has a balance of \$4,904.54. The importance of this fund can better be understood when it is emphasized that the amount spent by the Association during the last ten years does not include the donations made by the sponsoring locals.

Future Hopes

From this discussion, it can be surmised that expenses are increasing. To meet these higher needs, the MBA is dedicated toward devising

The History Of The Ladies' Uplift Circle from 1960 to 1965, as read at the 45th ANNI- VERSARY MEETING, June 26.

I too, wish to welcome the Circle sisters and visitors to our 45th Anniversary. I would like to tell you about the organization of The Ladies' Uplift Circle.

In January 1920, at the General Church Conference, my mother, Sister Sadie B. Cadman, asked permission to organize the sisters into a group to study the Scriptures and help the Church with missionary work. She was granted the privilege to do so. The Church president at that time was Brother Alexander Cherry.

A few sisters met at our home in Riverview, near Monongahela, Pa. to discuss this. They felt this was prompted by God. Sister Rebecca Behanna said she had felt the need of the sisters meeting together, possibly in a cottage prayer meeting. Other sisters had realized the need of an organization for Sisters. They felt a joy in discussing these things. As a result an organization was formed and given the name, "The Ladies' Uplift Circle of The Church of Jesus Christ." This name was suggested by Sister Vio-

(Continued on Page 9)

methods to raise funds which are so sorely required. Besides the revenue received from the member locals, fund-raising drives of various forms are being undertaken. Bake sales, newspaper drives, car washes, and other means of raising money are being employed. At present, pictures of the GMBA conference are being offered at a nominal amount to help in the total effort.

If members of Locals cannot participate in these projects, or indeed if they would rather not take part, they are at liberty to refrain from doing so. One of the Church's long-standing policies of not obligating any person to participate in any endeavor is, naturally, a policy of the Association. Of course, individuals and locals can contribute to any GMBA existing funds above the amount requested regardless of whether they participate in the fund-raising drives or not.

In short, the GMBA depends on local contributions and fund-raising drives to assist the General Church missionary work, give aid to the needy, and to provide funds for the GMBA Land Purchase Fund.

To be emphasized is that every dollar given to the MBA or to the General Church is like putting money into the bank; you will be surprised at the dividends received. It does not cost to help the Church. It pays.

CORRECTION:

In the listing of Ohio Area Officers in the June issue, Anthony Calabrese was listed as Auditor. This should have read, Anthony Calvarese, Auditor.

The History Of The Ladies' Uplift Circle

(Continued from Page 8)

let Sarver of Monongahela, one of our charter members who is with us today.

At this meeting an order of conducting their business and weekly meetings was discussed. The study of God's Word was to be foremost in their meetings. Two Circles were organized that day, one for the sisters in Monongahela and the other in Dunlevy, Pa. The first General Circle was appointed for July 15, 1920 at Monongahela. The first officers were, President, Sister Sadie Cadman; Vice Pres., Sister Minnie Kennedy; Secretary, Sister Mary Wilson (who still holds this office); Treasurer, Sister Violet Sarver. Sister Elizabeth Toye of West Elizabeth, Pa. is the other charter member with us.

The next Circle to be organized was in Coal Valley, Pa. A Circle was organized soon after this in Glassport, Pa. for our Italian sisters. Many could not understand English so their discussions were in the Italian language. This was a great blessing to them. To date we still have three of these first Circles.

The Sisters saw the need for printing literature to explain the faith of the Church. They financed this work with the Church's approval, and the first article, "The Way of Salvation" was printed in 1921. Other leaflets were, "What Is the Indian Mission?", "Brief History of The Church of Jesus Christ", "Retrospection of the Primitive Church", and "Sunday School Lesson Books". There was an Italian Sister, Marietta Veneri, of Monessen, Pa. who translated some of these articles into Italian. This was a great help to the Italian people in spreading the Gospel. At one time we had a printing fund, but now we donate directly to the Church. Bibles and Church literature have been sent by Circles to many places.

The past five years have been a time for sharing. The Lord has blessed us abundantly. Our recent project, "Baby Clothes for Mexico" was very rewarding. We also sent clothing, slates, and educational supplies to our missions in Africa and the Indian Reservations here in the States. The Home Circles have their own projects and have helped the poor in many ways.

Our first Circle Sister to go to Africa was Mary Ross of Aliquippa, Pa. She and her husband, Brother John Ross, spent three months doing missionary work there. The Circles held a farewell meeting in September, 1962 for Sister Mary and her husband. A travel clock and money were presented to her. With the monetary gift she purchased an iron and ironing board for the Mission House in Nigeria. When they returned, they told us of the need for hymn books in the Sol-Fa Notation. The Africans selected seventy hymns from our Church Hymnal, so with the General Church's approval we paid \$575.00 for 2500 books. These were printed in Africa. This was paid for from our Special Fund and then this fund was discontinued.

In 1961 we sent 100 New Testaments to Africa

and again in June 1962. We gave \$50.00 for our missionaries to use for educational supplies and raised \$2,280.00 for the African Mission House. We exceeded our goal of \$1500.00. We now are helping with the African Secondary School Fund. One hundred dollars was given as a loan to the African Educational Fund, for Sister Martha Akpan of Nigeria, who is attending college here in U. S. When this is returned it will go to the Church's African Fund. The sisters of the Aliquippa Circle paid for a book on "Child Care" in the Efik language for the work in Africa. The printing cost was approximately \$150.00.

In 1961 we held a fasting and prayer meeting in all Circles for the Lord to show us how to proceed in helping with our missionary work. A sister in a Detroit Circle had the following dream, "I dreamed I was in our Church building and a Brother, who is an Apostle, came to me and said, 'You Sisters get together and sew and use your talents the best way you can, but get busy and do something and use this money for missionary work.' As a result, every goal we have set, we have gone 'over the top'. At a General Circle in Detroit, it was revealed to a sister that we were to have a special collection taken that day and give this to the Indian Mission Fund in memory of Sister Sadie Cadman, our late president. Another sister confirmed this by saying she was told in a dream the night before to give all she could at the Circle meeting. Our offering that day was \$121.32.

A new project has been started, the proceeds to go to the Missionary Funds of the Church. It is the Circle Cook Book. This is being handled by the Circles in the Michigan-Canadian District. Favorite recipes have been contributed by sisters throughout the Church. We appreciate the efforts of our sisters in this work.

Many Circles have had interesting projects to raise funds for our work. They are too numerous to mention, but I will tell of the one Lorain, Ohio had. In 1964 they had a Rummage Store and as a result gave the General Circle \$719.14, which was divided equally into our Missionary Funds.

In 1937 our sisters made a suggestion to the General Church in regard to Home Missions. We had a plan we hoped the Church would accept and we were willing to finance it; but this proposition was tabled. In Sept. 1963, at the suggestion of several of our brethren, we again offered our help in the mission field here in the States. The Church this time accepted our offer. Our new fund is called "The Home Mission Fund". We set a goal of \$1000.00 and raised \$1,145.70. We will try to keep a balance of \$1000.00. Already the Church has sent brethren on missionary work and we have paid their expenses.

The Lord has blessed us both spiritually and naturally. Dreams have been related at our General Meetings and several sisters have seen visions. We have enjoyed searching God's Word

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The History Of The Ladies' Uplift Circle

(Continued from Page 9)

for the answers to our questions and roll call. Many testimonies have been given which have lifted us up and made us more determined to continue on. Our brethren who have visited our General Circles have spoken many encouraging words in appreciation of our work. All these things make our work worth while. We have held 180 General Circle Meetings, meeting every three months. We know this work is of the Lord. The new Circles organized since our last Anniversary meeting are Greensburg, Fellsburg, Monongahela Evening Circle, McKees Rocks, Imperial, and Fort Pierce, Florida. Roscoe and St. John, Kansas were reorganized. There are 11 Circles in Africa.

Our sisters in 1920, forty-five years ago, have sown good seed. Let us work to see it grow. They would not want us to look back but to take up the work where they left off. May those who follow us reach higher goals than we.

Our financial report from Sept. 1960 until this date June 26, 1965 is; Total donations to the General Church: \$11,021.00, including Indian Missions, Church Missions, Conference, Printing Fund, & Gospel News; African Missions, \$5,627.85. Total, \$16,648.85. In Circle Funds: Memorial Fund, \$675.12; Home Mission Fund, \$1,276.62.

Mabel Bickerton

THE FORTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LADIES' UPLIFT CIRCLE

A combined meeting of the Ladies' Circle's quarterly and forty-fifth anniversary was held in Youngstown, Ohio, June 26, 1965, in The Church of Jesus Christ. Sisters attended from Pennsylvania, Ohio, New York, New Jersey, Arizona, South Dakota, Michigan, and Canada. Other Circles were represented by letter.

Reports of committees were given. The Circle Cook Book, being compiled by the Michigan and Canadian District Circles is still in process. Plans are to have it completed by the next general meeting in September. The proceeds from the sale of this cook book will be given to the Church's Missionary Fund. The Circle's Home Mission Fund has financed three trips for the Church.

In our election of officers Sister Mary Wilson was replaced as secretary by Sister Sara Vancik. Sister Wilson, a charter member, has held this office for forty-five years. She was commended for her long and faithful service. She will be presented a Bible in appreciation for her work. All other officers were retained.

A letter was read from Brother and Sister Burgess of their work for the summer in Eagle Butte, South Dakota. Sisters Connie Ross and Lou Scaglione, also of South Dakota, told of their experiences among the Indian people there. They both enjoy the work. Their husbands are teach-

Dedication Service

Lorain, Ohio

On Mothers Day, May 9, 1965, the saints of Lorain, Ohio, were indeed blessed with a special blessing as we dedicated our new pulpit chairs in memory of our dear Sister Theresa Calabrese and Brother Patsy Fyre. Very inspiring talks were given by Brothers Joseph Calabrese and Alfred Dominico. They used the passage of Scripture taken from the 6th chapter of Ephesians, verses 1 and 2, exhorting our youth to follow the commands of God in honoring our fathers and mothers. An illustration was given showing the carelessness of parents towards their children, and how many homes have been broken up because of the lack of religious training. The 49th chapter of Isaiah, 15th verse, was also read. Along with the teaching of our brothers, a word of advice was given to all mothers exhorting them to be good mothers and bring their children to know the love of God.

(Continued on Page 11)

ers in the government schools on the Reservations.

At the conclusion of the business session, the meeting was in charge of the Ohio Circles with Youngstown as host. The scripture was read from Psalm 121. Three Charter Members were honored, namely; Sisters Elizabeth Toye, Violet Sarver, and Mary Wilson. The history of the past five years was read. There have been five new Circles organized and two reorganized during this time.

The Erie Circle was in charge of the Memorial Service. The deceased sisters' pictures and names were inscribed in a book. Their favorite hymns were played on the organ by Sister Esther Dyer while the obituaries were read.

Delegates from each Circle told of their blessings and gave their histories of the past five years. Each felt rewarded in their work. Brothers Timothy D. Bucci and Ralph Bernardino spoke about the good the Circle has done. It was said that without the help of the Circle, the Church could not have advanced as much as it has. We were urged to continue to be strong and faithful in The Church of Jesus Christ. The Youngstown Circle presented a panel discussion on the lives of women in the Bible. Their works and services to the Church were stressed.

A number of selections were sung throughout the day, which were enjoyed by all. A vote of thanks was offered to the hostesses, Sisters of Ohio, for their kind hospitality. We were blessed and the Spirit of God was felt in our midst throughout the day.

The next General Circle meeting will be held in Edison, New Jersey, September 18, 1965 at ten o'clock in the morning.

General Circle Editor,
Mary Tamburrino

Dedication Service . . .

(Continued from Page 10)

The following program was composed by Sister Josephine Dominico in honor of our brother and sister: "The families of Sister Theresa Calabrese and Brother Patsy Fyre presented to the Church three ministerial chairs, dedicated to the memory of a courageous mother, Sister Theresa Calabrese, and a minister father, Brother Patsy Fyre, whose whole life was centered around the Church. I am sure, as we look upon these chairs, we vision a mother whose prayers, like a fiber of thread, are woven into the lives of her sons and daughters. (Brother and Sister Calabrese raised a family of thirteen children). They were always kind and generous to everyone. She never baked, cooked, or canned, nor did Brother Tony ever garden, that they didn't share with others. They were cheerful givers, given to hospitality and visiting the sick. The Church was the center of their lives and they were given to spending much time in prayer. The words of the following poem might well apply to both of them:

"O God," I prayed, as busily
I scrubbed up spot and stain;
"Dear God, what must You think of us,
Who have so much of goods and gain —
When our world brother stands in need,
Not only of material aid, but our concern,
That he shall have a chance to live abundantly.
Give a willingness to share;
But most of all, dear Lord, to care
What happens to Thy children everywhere."

Brother Patsy and Sister Theresa were baptized into the Church on the same day, November 5, 1922, and were among the first members of the Lorain branch.

Brother Patsy and his first wife, Sister Rose, always kept their home open; it was a stopping place for the Cadman family and visiting brothers and sisters from Pennsylvania, who found a warm welcome there. Sister Rose was our head deaconess, working along with Sister Carolyn Chester. They were also diligent in Sunday School work, teaching classes of children. Sister Rose passed away about fifteen years ago on Mothers Day. The Fyre home continued with its hospitality under Sister Mary Fyre, who was Brother Pat's second wife. She also was an ordained deaconess.

As we pause to remember the mothers and fathers who have gone before us we are reminded of the wonderful heritage they have left us — the heritage of "Faith, Hope and Charity," and the wonderful memories that weave a tapestry of many colors. They have left their footprints on the sand of time for us to follow, along with many others. The list of names grows longer as the years go by and, though we will not mention their names, their lives have left an imprint on

the souls of those who remain never to be forgotten.

In concluding this dedication memorial address, I would like to leave this thought: As the elders rise from these memorial chairs that represent the authority of our priesthood, we should never forget the messages preached from this pulpit by our deceased brothers, namely: Leonard Allesio, Hermanguildo Ciccatti, Sam Ambrose, and Vernon Chester; "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God."

When troubles assail you and friends prove untrue,

When rough seems the path you must trod;
Keep looking to Jesus (He careth for you)
And seek first the Kingdom of God.

Tho' storm clouds should gather, obscuring the blue,

Take courage as onward you plod;
For storm clouds will scatter and light will shine thru'

When you seek first the Kingdom of God.
Then let us press on whom the Son has made free,

For He giveth the staff and the rod;
But all things will be added — just trust Him and see,

If you seek first the Kingdom of God.

Bertha Meyer

In our closing prayer we are reminded of the prayer of our deceased Chaplain of the United States Senate — Peter Marshall. "On this day of sacred memories, our Father, we could thank Thee for our mothers who gave us life, who surrounded us early and late with love and care, whose prayers on our behalf still cling around the Throne of Grace, a haunting perfume of Love's petitions; help us, their children, to be more worthy of their love. We know that no sentimentality on this day, no material gifts, no flowers, or boxes of candy can atone for our neglect during the rest of the year. So in the days ahead, may our love speak to the hearts who know love best — by kindness, by compassion, by simple courtesy, and daily thoughtfulness. Bless her whose name we whisper before Thee, and keep her in Thy perfect peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen."

May we share this same feeling for years to come that as we, who are parents now, see the fruits of our labor through our children as they grow, may they too remember the words of our Saviour, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God."

Vera Naro

The question is not so much, is your spiritual yoke fitted so as to remain in place during the short runs? — but rather, is it fastened securely enough to stay on throughout the long hard pulls?

Mary Sanders

Obituary

HARRY D. WARREN

Harry D. Warren, husband of Sister Elizabeth Cratty Warren of Monessen, Pa., died July 3, 1965 after an illness of several weeks. He is survived by his wife, four sons, and two daughters.

Funeral services were conducted at the Melnyzer Funeral Home, Monessen, by Brother George A. Neill.

OLIVA PULGINO

Funeral services were held for our former Sister Oliva Pulgino, wife of our late Brother Albert Pulgino. The service at Voran's Funeral Home, was conducted by Brother Reno Bologna, the Presiding Elder of Detroit Branch No. 2

PASQUALINA SALSONE

Mrs. Pasqualina Salsoni, 68, passed away on June 7, 1965. She was the mother of Sister Mary Cucuzza of Lorain, Ohio branch.

Mrs. Salsoni came to the United States from Italy on February 5, 1965, and made her home with her daughter. She also leaves two sons, Vincent of New York, and Joseph of Italy.

Services were held at The Church of Jesus Christ on June 9, 1965 with Brother Joe Calabrese officiating and Brother Jim Velardi assisting. May the Good Lord comfort the bereaved in their sorrow.

ANTOINETTE FIORI

Our sister in Christ, Antoinette Fiori passed away early Friday morning, May 28, 1965 at the age of 82. She was born on September 14, 1883. Sister Fiori was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on March 26, 1944. She leaves to mourn her passing, her husband, Antonio; and five children, Rose, Joseph, Kay, Angela, and Lee; eight grandchildren, and a host of friends and brothers and sisters in Christ.

Brother Dominic Moraco officiated at the service assisted by Brother Tony Gerace. Brother Tony Loyalvo sang two of her favorite hymns, "After" and "O Paradise".

Sister Fiori was faithful to the end. She was an outstanding example to her family. She held high the standards of the Restored Gospel. In it she found joy and peace. Her trust was in the Lord, and she was faithful to the covenant that she made at the water's edge.

"Poetically Speaking"

PRAYER OF REPENTANCE

My Father,
Saviour and guider of my soul,
Look down upon me now
as I come to thee
With repentance and burden
on my brow.
It is said thou hast forgiveness
and mercy.
Father, I ask these of thee.
It is said thou has the kindest
of all hearts.
I beg thee, Father, have mercy
on a sinner of sorts.
I have wandered far from thy path;
Show me the road by which to come back.
Rest, my Father; allow me
to bear my cross
And tell others of thy glorious cause.
Look down upon me, O mighty Lord,
Look down upon me now.

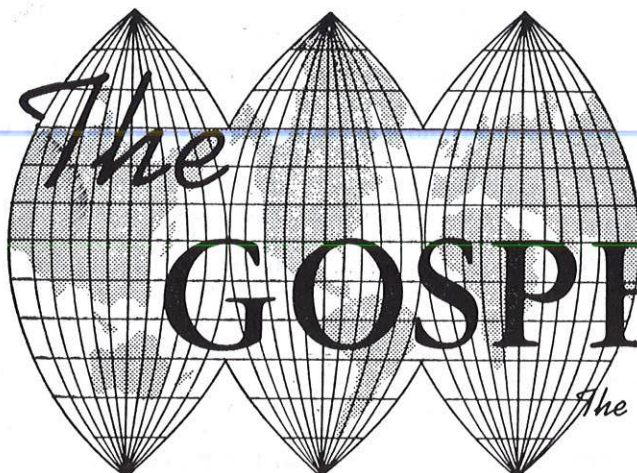
Amen.

Hyrum Hale Huskey, Jr.

RESTORATION

Our Church once graced this evil world
with spirit and truth and banner unfurled;
In fullness it dwelled for many years,
drowning the sins and oppressing the fears.
Then the words of Christ did manifest,
and evil arose for the mighty test.
Not only without did it take its stand,
but within the Church, amongst the band;
Mighty he fought for the living souls,
pride and greed his mighty tools;
The battle raged, until at last
the word withdrew into the past
And rested there, and angels fed,
and dwelled with God, her mighty Head.
Times, times, and a half she did stay,
watching and waiting for the day,
Waiting for one who was in his youth,
a humble young man seeking the truth.
Many men asked, "Where is it today,
the Gospel of Christ in Truth arrayed?"
They sought and sought and could not find
this power of release and content of mind;
Then one day in fullness and bliss,
the Gospel was given to Joseph Smith;
For to the Lord he took his plea.
he desired the truth that he might see;
So to the world was given the key—
salvation great for you and me.
So let's uphold this mighty fount
even unto the highest mount;
Let not our greed and lust destroy
our Church restored to a humble boy.

Kenneth Hatch



The GOSPEL NEWS

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September 1965

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The Rise And Fall Of Israel

By James Heaps

"Righteousness exalteth a nation but sin is a reproach to any people." That little word **sin** has been the downfall of any nation or people. In Exodus 32:21, "And Moses said unto Aaron, What did this people do unto thee, that thou hast brought so great a sin upon them?" Aaron replied; "For they said unto me, Make us gods which shall go before us: for as for this Moses, the man that brought us out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him." You know the story; as soon as Moses was out of their sight (when he was on the mountain getting the commandments) they made themselves a golden calf. One of the commands was, "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth." They must have had their minds on Moses instead of God. While Moses was the meekest man upon the earth, we still cannot put our trust in man. One of the writers says, "Cursed is the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm." So what caused their fall? Why did their bones bleach in the wilderness? Because they sinned in not trusting in the heavenly God. Only two men who were over the age of twenty years when they came up out of Egypt entered into the promised land; and Moses said of these two, "There is a different spirit in these two men." They were Joshua and Caleb.

Joshua, with a spirit of leadership and good courage, took them over Jordan. God renewed His covenant with them; He blessed them with gold, flocks of sheep, and chariots, and Solomon said that every man sat under His own vine and fig tree. It was a type of the great blessing that is to come when the people shall turn again unto the Lord. Solomon said, "Thou hast made Thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in, and Thy servant is in the midst of

THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST, A LIVING ORCHID

The Gospel of Christ within us, may be likened unto a rare and living orchid plant.

It must be kept moist with the tears of spiritual sorrow for the world; it must be shielded from the heat of anger; it must receive the filtered rays of pure love for one's fellowman; it must be nurtured, time and again, with massive doses of charity.

Periodically, it should bloom, producing beautiful and exotic flowers of varied markings, known as good works and deeds. The attendant must pluck these blooms and present them to the Master Gardener. He need not keep count of these blooms, the Master Gardener will do this. . . .

If, for any reason, the plant fails to blossom, the Master Gardener may have to examine the apparently healthy plant to see if there be any hidden disease lurking in its roots.

Sometimes the plant must be destroyed because it is useless, but this is a sad and rare step. Usually if it has been a good, healthy plant, well tended, a good feeding of a balanced mixture of faith and hope is sufficient to prompt it to produce.

And above all, it cannot be set in a pot of sandy loam, nor may its roots be sunk into smothering clay . . . it must be attached to the bark of a tree, or at the very least, the plant must be set into the center of a pot containing the ground bark of the once living tree.

This is the only foundation for the plant to grow and prosper.

Catherine Vultaggio Poma

Thy people which Thou hast chosen." He was the greatest man on earth when he said this; "Give therefore Thy servant an understanding heart to judge Thy people." That is what we need today — men with understanding hearts to judge God's people.

No wonder Israel rose to the greatest heights; their leaders were humble men and their prayers pleased the Lord. When the Lord is pleased with a people they shall be blessed indeed. When He is displeased He will let them go their own way and destroy themselves. "And God said

(Continued on Page 2)

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unto Solomon, 'Because thou hast asked this thing, I have given thee an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee.'" And what is the secret of all this blessing? Here is the answer: "If thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments."

"And Solomon awoke; and behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark (which represented the presence of God) and made a feast." The hymn says, "There's a feast of good things for the righteous preparing." God is just waiting to pour out His blessings upon us when we get ready for them.

What does all this mean to us as a people—Zion, Jerusalem, the ark, peace offerings? "So Solomon overlaid the house with pure gold." What does it mean to us? Are we His chosen people? Are we not the covenant of the Lord? Why are we lacking? There is no lack with God. Is His hand shortened that it cannot save? A few years of blessings, and the same people in the days of the prophets are told, "Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the Lord hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me." Notice "they have rebelled against me." God does not rebel against any people that will keep His commandments. "My people," said the next prophet, "have committed two evils; they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and have hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns that can hold no water."

Is Israel a servant? Yes, she is a servant; she has become a slave. Why is she spoiled? For she is spoiled. Can you see the prophet weeping over Jerusalem? "What seest thou? And I said, I see a seething pot; and the face thereof is toward the north." God has put them in the seething pot and turned their faces toward the north. Where is the north? It is Russia. "Hath a nation changed their gods, which are yet no gods? But my people have changed their glory for that which doth not profit." For Jerusalem is ruined and Judah is fallen because their tongues and their doings are against the Lord.

What a picture I seem to be painting! It makes my own heart bleed when I read these things; to see a chosen people, a people who were blessed and could have always been blessed, but — that little word, **but**; also that little word, **sin**. Jesus said, "How oft would I have gathered you but ye would not. Your house is left unto you desolate." Now, let us look on the bright side a little. In that day the branch of the Lord shall be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and comely for them that are escaped of Israel. "And it shall come to pass that he that is left in Zion shall be called holy." It is the belief of apostate Christendom that the Hebrews, God's ancient people, have lost their place in the restoration of the world and will never again be restored to the land of their fathers. There is no scripture what-

soever to support such a theory. If all the prophecies in both the Old and New Testaments concerning the restoration of Israel were eliminated, there would be little left in the Bible. The promises for Israel involve a great future. "For the gifts and callings of God are without repentance," and are in fulfillment of His promise. God is not a man that He should lie; therefore, His word must be fulfilled.

Until this day the Hebrews have maintained their racial identity, refusing to marry among the Gentiles, thus showing that God's hand is still upon them. God says, "For behold, I am for you." Concerning the land, He says, "And ye shall be tilled and sown. And I will multiply men among you; all the House of Israel, and they shall increase and bring forth fruit." There was a time when God's vineyard brought forth wild grapes but the time will come when it shall bring forth sweet grapes. "Now I will sing to my beloved a song of my beloved, touching His vineyard. My beloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill, and He fenced and gathered the stones out of it and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it; and He looked that it should bring forth grapes and it brought forth wild grapes." Yes, we see a people that could have been blessed, but (and I could go on and on). However, there is still a little wine in the cluster; "And to this man I will look; a man with a broken heart and contrite spirit." If God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest He also spare not thee. Let us not boast ourselves against the root. Behold, therefore, the goodness of God if we continue in His goodness; if not, severity on them which fall. "Therefore, ye sons of Jacob are not consumed." Here is a plain statement. Even though the sons of Jacob have been dispersed it is evident that they cannot be consumed. If God had changed His mind they would have been consumed long ago; but God's word is true. "O Israel, O Israel, in all your abidings; Prepare for the Lord, When you hear these glad tidings."

(to be continued)

JESUS SAID

By Samuel J. Kirschner

"Judge not that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye."

How easy it is for those who do nothing to sit in judgment of them who are workers. Although these workers may indeed be imperfect in their seeing the issues correctly, yet the do-nothings only complicate them more by their blindness. This is the sum of the matter; "As a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

THE GOSPEL NEWS

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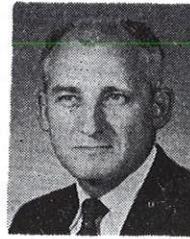
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Editorial Viewpoint



George A. Neill

To know the truth and have that same truth make us free, we must demonstrate more than just a casual interest in His words. There must be an "abiding by" and a "continuing in."

"Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on Him, if ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." A man may merely recognize Jesus as the Son of God, express his belief in Him, and even assert that he believes that Jesus was the one sent to save man; all this is not sufficient for discipleship. One must continue in His word to be a disciple, for Jesus said, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed."

This Man from Galilee has the words of eternal life. Peter made this awesome discovery after following Him for a short time. When many of the disciples turned back and Jesus asked, "Will ye also leave me?" Peter said, "To whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life, and we believe and are sure that Thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God." Peter also made a statement a little later in his life to the effect that there was no other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved. King Benjamin told his people on one occasion, referring to Christ, that "under this head ye are made free, and there is no other head whereby ye can be made free," (I might add, whereby man can be saved from greed, lust, pride, hatred, and even the act of war).

I firmly believe the words of eternal life spoken by Jesus are to produce eternal life, just as a grain of corn is to produce an ear of corn. Thus if both are planted in productive soil and are properly nurtured, they will produce fruit of their own kind. However, let us remember this: to know the truth and have that same truth make us free, we must demonstrate more than just a casual interest in His words. There must be an "abiding by" and a "continuing in." It is only by heeding His words and applying them in our lives that we will receive the revelation of the truth about God, and even the truth about ourselves, thus making it possible to harmonize and live with the will of God.

Someone has said, "Truth delivers from bondage," and I believe there is great truth in that statement. For instance, the knowledge of the laws and rules of good health — what to eat and how to cook what we eat; knowing also that our bodies need a certain amount of exercise and adhering to these truths about our physical natures — these things will help to free us from sickly bodies. We also know that many diseases have killed man and many more are still bringing death to him. But, as the truth concerning them is discovered and applied, man is delivered from them. The farmer knows about the laws of agriculture and naturally he applies them. In so doing he delivers himself from crop failure and thus provides food for all. Knowing the truth that fire will burn and living by that truth delivers us from being hurt by fire. Knowing the truth about the law of gravity, one would be foolish to mount a high building and step off in defiance of this truth. We could go on and on but I am sure sufficient has been said to prove that truth, if applied, will make us free.

Likewise, the truth about our spiritual nature, if discovered and obeyed, will deliver us from bondage. Jesus said, "I came to bear witness of the truth." No true disciple will avoid the truth but will rather seek it and live by it, thus delivering him from sin and its consequences. Our Church teaches us not to reject the truths and the counsels of God, but to receive and apply them, thus becoming the children of God. If we ignore the truth about health rules, pain, sickness and physical death result; likewise to ignore the spiritual truths and the Gospel rules brings sin and spiritual death. To be carnally-minded is death, but to be spiritually-minded is life and peace.

An Enjoyable Trip To California

My wife Vicky, my son Joel, and I had made plans along with Brother George and Sister Mary Jones to go to California. We began our journey on June 18, 1965. We had a pleasant journey across the country. Our first stop with the saints was in Yucaipa, California. Upon entering the city, we called Brother and Sister Plummer whom we had never met. They welcomed us enthusiastically. We also met Sister Dolores Picciutto and learned that Brother Dan Picciutto and Brother Heaps were taking a brother, who was returning East, to the station.

Soon after, we met Sister Spata whom the Lord had directed to this city, along with her companion. She was very happy to see us. Soon afterward Brother Dan and Brother Heaps returned. After a relaxing time in the atmosphere of Sister Spata's home and garden, we ate supper which was prepared by Sister Spata and Sister Plummer. Just as we were about to be seated, several saints from Los Angeles came in — the senior Watsons, Sister Hemp, Sister Mayo and her mother, Dorothy Henderson and all of their children, totaling about 25 people. Yet she graciously fed all of us.

From there we went to the church at which the California district had planned a week of evangelistic meetings. We met many other saints of the California district and enjoyed a wonderful meeting, with Brother Dan Picciutto being the principle speaker. After his talk Brother Bob Watson, the presiding Elder of the mission, informed us of a wonderful experience of his future son-in-law, Dwayne Jordan, had which led him to ask for his baptism. Brother Dwayne related his experience. He had an open vision in which he saw a scroll. Before he could have his name on it he would have to be baptized. (There is more to the experience but I'm sure the California District will be forwarding the same for the benefit of all). Experiences by Sister Sarah Watson and Margaret Henderson were given also, adding to the blessings of the evening. At the conclusion we left Yucaipa for Northridge, the home of

Brother and Sister Watson. We enjoyed a meeting with the saints in the Valley Wednesday night, returning to Yucaipa Thursday night.

On Friday we attended the funeral of Brother Frank Braiotta, an elder at the Valley Branch. We then made plans to go to Modesto, where we had the privilege of attending the wedding of Sister Sharon Lovalvo and Brother Joe Paravano on Saturday.

In Modesto we stayed at the home of Brother Mark and Sister Mary Randy. Brother Mark has a ranch which is a very relaxing place. He has a 65 acre peach orchard which will be ready for harvest in August. He also has a Palomino mare and colt which were of special interest to Joel. Needless to say Joel and the horse became friends quickly.

We stayed in Modesto for the Sunday meeting which was thoroughly enjoyed. There we witnessed the baptism of Brother Dwayne Jordan. At Brother Dwayne's confirmation Brother Dan saw a vision of a flame of fire cross Dwayne's face verifying the reception of the Holy Ghost.

We returned to Northridge on Monday, and attended services at the Bell Branch on Tuesday night. Wednesday we left for San Diego and were very happy to see our relatives Brother Nick and Sister Lena Liberto. Upon our arrival we learned that their son Tom had a son born that morning. This is their first boy after three girls.

We made plans to go to Tijuana Friday, where we met Brother and Sister Perdue and enjoyed a day with them talking and visiting with the saints of Old Mexico. God surely has blessed these saints and Brother and Sister Perdue.

In our visiting we were told several experiences, one of which a Sister had concerning her daughter who was given up by the doctors because of tuberculosis in the extreme stage, beyond recovery. When she pleaded with the Lord, she had the experience where she saw Christ come into the room and touch every part of the girl's body, making her whole. Surely the promises of God are wonderful among His chosen people, as soon as they exercise just a little bit of faith.

On Saturday and Sunday the area M.B.A. called their conference. This is the conference at which the new by-laws were to be put into effect. (Other areas will hold their meetings on July 17). Because of the distance between branches in the California District they appointed their meeting for the long holiday week-end.

The business, and the organization and election of officers, was well conducted by the area chairman (who now is the area President), Brother Ben Ciccatti. Saturday evening the San Diego young people gave the program "The Harvest is Great" which was enjoyed by all.

(Continued on Page 8)



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"His word was with power," Luke 4: 32

Dear Girls and Boys,

Are you using some of your vacation to read God's Word? I want to tell you about the Words of the Master. After Jesus was tempted by Satan in the wilderness, He went to Galilee. He taught in the synagogue there. He had good news for the people. He told them, "The time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent ye and believe the gospel." Throughout the cities he went with glad tidings. He had come that they might have life and have it more abundantly. He said, "I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. I know my sheep and am known of mine."

Jesus healed the sick and cast out devils. Once a leper came to him. Kneeling down he said, "If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean." Jesus had pity for this poor man. He was badly afflicted. Jesus touched him and said, "I will, Be thou clean." Immediately the leprosy left him. Oh, how happy this man was! Jesus told him to tell no one of this, but go to the priest and offer for a testimony, as Moses had commanded. But the wonderful miracles Jesus performed could not be hidden. News traveled from city to city that Jesus was coming. The people came from far and near. Sometimes they went to the seashore where Jesus taught them from a boat.

One Sabbath, Jesus went to Nazareth, a city where he had spent most of his life. It was his custom to go to the synagogue, or church, on the Sabbath Day. The man who had charge of the service was called a minister. The one who read from the book, or scroll, always stood. This day the minister gave a book to Jesus, on which was written the words of the prophet Isaiah. Jesus opened the book and read, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor: he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives and recovering of the sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord." Then he closed the book, handed it back to the minister and sat down. All eyes were upon Jesus. He began to speak to them. He said, "This day, this scripture is fulfilled." The people would not believe him. They asked, "Is not this the carpenter's son, the son of Joseph? Is not his mother Mary?" They would not believe Jesus was that prophet Isaiah referred to. The people became angry. They gathered about Jesus and led him to a hill. They wanted to throw him headlong

down this hill, but Jesus walked away unharmed. He said, "No prophet is accepted in his own country."

Since Jesus was rejected in his home town, he went to live in Capernaum. Here the people were astonished at his doctrine; for his word was with power. He taught them as one having authority. Even the officers said of Jesus, "Never man spake like this man." The wise King Solomon wrote in Proverbs, "The heart of the wise teacheth his mouth and addeth learning to his lips. Pleasant words are as honeycomb, sweet to the soul and health to the bones." So the words of the Master are as honey and sweet to the souls of those who serve Him.

Search the Scriptures

Read what the Master tells us about;

1. Salt, Matthew 5: 13, 16
2. Your light, Matthew 5: 13, 16
3. How did the Master say to build a house? What did He mean? Matthew 7: 24, 29
4. What were His words about seeing faults in others? Luke 6: 41
5. Whom are we to love? Matthew 5: 43, 47

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

A NOTE OF THANKS

To the readers of the Gospel News:

I wish to extend my thanks and appreciation for the many beautiful cards and gifts I have received from so many brothers and sisters throughout the church.

At the present time I am feeling somewhat improved with the help of God, though I am still with much affliction upon my body.

May I ask that you continue to remember me in your prayers for I know the Lord can do all things and that He will give me strength and patience to endure to the end.

Again I thank you all for your kind thoughts.

Your Sister in Christ,
Julia D'Amico
Rochester, N.Y.

A NOTE OF THANKS

To all the brothers, sisters, their children, and friends.

Please accept our warmest thanks and sincere appreciation for your prayers, cards, and thoughtfulness to us in our months of convalescence. We are feeling better and grateful to attend the morning or afternoon meetings every Sunday. May our lives as well as our lips continue in praise to our Heavenly Father for His mercy towards us.

Bro. and Sister Matthew Miller
Psalms 26-8 Lord, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honour dwelleth.

DIVORCE

By V. James Lovalvo

Divorce has been a real problem since the dawn of time. There have been, and are at present, those who will seek to be separated from their mates whatever may be the reason. However, thanks be to God that the majority of mankind has sought to maintain and retain the marriage status and covenant. In my previous article I showed how easy it was to obtain a divorce under the Law of Moses. The rabbis of that day regarded the liberty of divorce as a special privilege conferred by God upon the chosen people. Rabbi Chananiah said: "God has not subscribed His name to divorces except among Israelites, as if He said, I have conceded to the Israelites their right of dismissing their wives; but to the Gentiles, I have not conceded." — *Dum-melous Commentary*.

However, while we perhaps stand in judgment of Israel, we cannot close our eyes to the fact that today in the world and especially in the United States, it is as easy to obtain divorces as under the Law of Moses. But from the beginning it was not so. Jesus answered them that the right to divorce was not a privilege but a disgrace to all Israel, as Moses only allowed it because of the hardness of their hearts. His words fell like bolts of lightning as He spoke, "And I say unto you, whosoever shall put away his wife except it be for fornication and shall marry another, comitteth adultery and whoso marieth her that is put away doth commit adultery."

Without question, the reader will agree with me that divorce, according to the word of God, is permitted only on the grounds of adultery. Why did Jesus emphasize this only permissible reason? He knew that man is not truly capable or qualified to reasonably judge impending divorce cases; hence he gave this one and only reason for divorce. — Matthew 19:9. Consider the way in which men today differ in opinion on divorce or remarriage, and the many excuses given for a dissolution of the marriage covenant; then we can see the great wisdom of Christ in His Divine answer.

How can we avoid this social disease divorce, or prevent it from making a disastrous headway in our church?

1. Give our children a stable home life, an environment of happiness, security, maturity, tolerance, kindness, love devoid of prejudices, hatreds, and malices; a homelife of faith, hope, and charity. Then rear them in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

2. Teach our children to love the Church and what it stands for; not by force but by persuasion, that it may become a sanctuary, a haven of peace to their souls.

3. Teach them to love God that they will grow to know that He is an understanding Being, a loving Father to whom they can always go in

prayer regardless of circumstances that may arise.

If the problem is immaturity, I say to pray to God for His Grace that you may develop into a mature person. We must be childlike in spiritual things but not childish, either in religious affairs or marriage.

If the difficulty is mixed backgrounds, where one is of a different faith than the other, or where one is not a religious person, then since you have chosen to marry a person of different religious background, it is your task to pray that God will give you grace and wisdom to cope with the situation.

If the problem is in-law relationship or interference, then I would speak to the in-laws. Do not try to run or adjust your children's lives after they are married. Do not make decisions for your married children. Allow them to make a life for themselves. If they make mistakes, help them by wise counsel and prayer. Do not attempt to domineer or dominate their lives. You must be like a low wall that your children can lean on for support. You must be like a fountain of fresh water that they can drink from when life begins to scorch them a little. You must be like a tree whose branches will overshadow them when the heat of the day has overtaken them. In conclusion, stay far enough from them that you do not crowd them with too much fatherly and motherly counsel that sometimes becomes interference. Stay near enough that when they need your support and your love, they can easily find it and know that you are like money in the bank.

Divorce has always been an enigma, a puzzle for which many learned men have dedicated their time and effort to find a happy and lasting solution.

I will not attempt at this time to counsel anyone outside the realm of religion, because I am interested primarily with people who have a background of religious training and environment. It is bad enough when those without a religious background abuse the marriage covenant and upon any pretense or excuse, seek and successfully bring about its dissolution. But when divorce or the shadow of divorce hovers over the homes of those who have had a religious foundation, then it becomes a frightening thing.

(Continued on Page 7)

THE LORD'S PLANT

*Our soul is such a small plant
In the great garden of God.
He cares for us lovingly
As on the road of life we tread.
If we follow quite closely
In the pathway where He leads,
My Lord's help will be given
To supply our many needs.
Like a small and precious plant
The Lord gently nurtures us.*

Rose Sirangelo

One begins to question whether or not God truly has been in the hearts and homes of those involved. The question arises, "When did our marriage begin to fail?" "Whose fault is it: the husband's or wife's?" If it is a biological incompatibility, then both husband and wife should be honest with themselves and seek the proper medical help to stave off, if possible, a greater breach between them. However before doing this I would advise all concerned to first take your problem in prayer to God who, can be the greatest helper. Next seek the advice and help of a competent minister of the church, one who is qualified to give this sort of counsel.

To our young people I counsel:

1. Learn to pray sincerely to God. Know that He will answer prayer. Learn about the church and what it stands for.

2. Let most of your friendship be in association with those who have a comparable background.

3. If you are at the age of dating, be wise in your choice. Let your parents know with whom you are going out. Be prayerful, even in this.

4. If you are considering marriage, seek a companion who has a comparable religious background. Pray to God that He will help you to find a worthy mate.

Seek a mate who is mature, one who reciprocates your love.

Do not seek to marry too young, but wait until you feel you are mature enough to embrace the responsibilities which marriage will impose upon you.

5. After you are married, never forget God. Let Him be the Unseen Guest in your home always.

6. Live such a life that your mate will be proud of you, that he will grow not only to love you but to respect you.

7. Be easily reconciled. Do not let hurt feelings overcome your better judgment. Above all, do not forget Jesus.

We must all make a concerted effort to stamp out divorce from our Church. If we are not careful the disapproval of God might fall upon us.

In our History of the Church, there is recorded an experience had a few years ago by Sister Sarah Randazzo (Watson). It is found on pages 305 and 306.

"In my dream I found myself at the closing of a meeting at Branch No. 1, with Brother Furnier in charge. In his closing remarks he said: 'Brothers and Sisters, please be quiet and remain seated. There is a sister among us who has had a dream, and in this dream I see a prophecy. I don't mean to say that she is a prophetess, but that this dream is a prophecy.' These were the exact words of Brother Furnier.

"In my dream, I didn't remember having a dream; yet I know I had the dream Brother

Furnier was referring to. Therefore, I began to speak words which were given to me to speak. These are the words which were given to me to speak: 'Dear Brothers and Sisters, the time is rapidly coming when some people of this Church will seek divorces and separations from their husbands and wives; and there shall be murmurers and many wicked works done. And it shall come to pass that in the world there shall be wars, rumors of wars, and destructions. Woe, woe be unto these (meaning those that shall seek divorces, separations, and commit wicked works) for in that day they shall be found without a house, suffering along with the world. But to you that are trying to serve God, be faithful and humble for in that day you shall be found with a house.' At this juncture, I awoke, still feeling my lips moving."

Let us sincerely pray that this condition will never come to pass in our midst.

I will continue this subject next month.

(To Be Continued)

Fort Pierce, Florida

Greetings to all the brothers and sisters;

Last Sunday we were truly blessed of God! Just before the preaching meeting was over, a young man asked for his baptism. Then another arose and asked to be baptized also. The Spirit of God was manifested among us in so many ways. Tongues were spoken, a Sister arose and spoke in the spirit, and several visions were seen. Tongue cannot express the joy we all felt in our hearts. Still another blessing, the wife of the first young man to ask for his baptism, stood and expressed her desire to follow her husband into this Gospel, that they might serve God together. What a glorious day!

Then today during our testimony meeting, the wife of the second young man stood and asked for her baptism. Our new Sister is from Okinawa. So during the last two weeks we have had four baptisms and seven blessings. Both Sundays our little building was almost full. Our colored Sisters also were in our midst, after being away from us for a season. As one Sister said today, our meeting was like a bouquet of flowers. Every color, every nation and kindred of people, gathered together in one accord and in perfect harmony.

For all of these blessings we are so thankful to God. We send our love and regards to all of our brothers and sisters and we desire that all of you would remember us in your prayers. Our desire is to serve God to the best of our ability, and to tell of God's love and goodness to all who will hear us.

May God bless and keep you. Your Sister In Christ.

Ruth Morris

(Continued from Page 4)

Sunday morning we met at Wilson Junior High School where many of the California District saints were gathered. I was chosen to introduce the meeting and used as my text the 46th chapter of Alma, where Moroni speaks of raising the standard of liberty. The meeting was continued by Brother Dan Picciutto, Brother Dick Christman, and Brother Heaps. We felt that wonderful spirit of God present as each of the brothers spoke to us about the liberty we enjoy in the Gospel and that we ought to have volunteers for Christ in our day as Moroni called for volunteers to uphold the standard of liberty.

Sunday afternoon we met in the San Diego Branch building. Brother V. James Lovalvo introduced the meeting speaking from the Book of Mormon about the 2000 young striplings. A wonderful discourse was enjoyed. Brother Ben Cicatti then asked for testimonies from the young people. Many were blessed. A strong spirit was felt by myself to have Brother Jim Lovalvo sing "There's Room at the Cross For You". As he sang he asked us to change the words to "There's Work for the Young to Do." Here God began to pour His blessing upon us. I asked at this time that we all kneel in prayer. As we arose from prayer Brother Jim said he could forcibly see the figure three in front of him, as I was praying. As he was speaking of this, the spirit of God took hold of Dave Cicatti who leaped to his feet and asked for his baptism. Immediately his brother Dan leaped to his feet also and asked for his baptism. The spirit also touched John Azzanaro Jr. who promptly asked for his baptism, thus fulfilling Brother Jim's experience of three. The meeting was then closed but after the meeting the spirit and power of God was felt as two more asked for their baptism, namely Leana Liberto and Joe Kraznoski. The Elders made arrangements to take care of the baptisms the next morning. We all gathered at Mission Bay along the Pacific Ocean. While preparing the candidates for baptism the spirit of God fell on Chris Poma who asked for his baptism. He has been attending the church for 30 years. There they were all immersed to the honor and glory of God. We returned to the Church where they were confirmed. This was a joyful moment; also a sorrowful moment, as we had to leave for home. And it was made even more sorrowful, as one of our main reasons for coming to California was to leave my son Dennis, who is now a permanent resident. He is now enrolled in the San Fernando Valley State College and should graduate next year. He intends to make the West Coast his home.

Here we wish to thank all the California District brothers and sisters who made us so comfortable and for sharing with us their blessings both naturally and spiritually.

Joseph Calabrese
Lorain, Ohio

(The following article is the second to be presented about a specific area of the Missionary Benevolent Association. An account of the California MBA Area appeared in the June "MBA Highlights." Stories on the Ohio, Michigan-Canadian, and Pennsylvania MBA Areas will be published at various intervals in the future. — Editor's Note)

M.B.A. Highlights

THE ATLANTIC COAST MBA AREA

By Joseph Perri

Atlantic Coast MBA Area President

A milestone was reached in July when the Atlantic Coast Area, as well as the other areas of the Missionary Benevolent Association, was permanently organized along the lines of the Association's newly adopted by-laws. In reality, what this means is that the eastern region, like the others, is now in a position to work in a unified way for all its locals and at the same time pursue meaningful objectives for the area and the GMBA.

There are seven locals in the Atlantic Coast Area. They are the New Jersey local, comprised of the Branches in Edison, Hopelawn, Metuchen, and New Brunswick; the Bronx and Brooklyn, New York locals; the Washington, D. C. member unit; and the Fort Pierce, West Palm Beach, and Miami locals in Florida. The jurisdiction of the Atlantic Area covers the entire eastern seaboard.

At the first annual Area Conference held in Hopelawn on July 17, permanent officers were elected for the constitutional one-year terms, and the framework for future activities was put into effect. The results of these efforts have left the area with enthusiasm and definite goals to ignite and guide future action.

Elected Officers

Besides the author who was elected President, the following officers were selected: Dominic Rose, Vice President; James Benyola, Chaplain; Anthony Vadasz, Corresponding Secretary; Michael Feher, Treasurer; Norbert Schmitt, Auditor; and Theresa Vadasz, Editor.

The local representatives, who will be working with area officials on the Atlantic Coast Activities Committee, are George Benyola, New Jersey local; James Link, for both the Bronx and Brooklyn locals; Aldo Angelo, Washington, D. C.; Frank Rogolino, Fort Pierce; William Mazzeo, West Palm Beach; and James Sheffler, Miami. These representatives will relay the needs of their locals to the Area Committee, and they will also coordinate the roles their locals will play in the area's projects.

First Activities

To begin the Area Activity Program, two projects have been started. The first is to charter a bus for the GMBA Conference in Youngstown on November 13. The other is the banding together to help needy persons in the area.

As time progresses, other activities will be worked upon for the betterment of the locals, the area, and the GMBA. There is no question that, if our efforts are diligently directed towards the honor and glory of God, blessings will abound.

An example of how all parts of the MBA can help the Association and the Church was furnished by the GMBA Activities Committee over the July 4 weekend. Committee members journeyed here from various parts of the country to meet in sessions to work in planning, directing, and coordinating activities for the entire MBA. While doing this, spiritual encouragement was given, and our area members are still testifying of the tremendous uplifting and edification which they received.

Two Saturday Sessions

Two open Committee sessions were scheduled in Hopelawn on that Saturday, and a General Church district gathering was held in Edison the next morning. The Committee members were present at these meetings, in addition to being in the regular Sunday evening MBA assembly in Hopelawn.

These meetings were a great inspiration to us, as altogether they seemed like one of our old-time Church conferences. After committee reports were given on Saturday afternoon, various addresses and sermons were delivered by the visiting GMBA elders, Dominic R. Thomas, Isaac Smith, Joseph Milantoni, and Anthony Scolaro and by Gorie Ciaravino, General Church President, who accompanied the committee on the trip.

The emphasis made that the MBA, the Sunday School, and the Ladies' Circle were parts of The Church and not aside from the Church was the springboard for the Saturday evening keynote talk presented by Brother Milantoni, GMBA chaplain. Having earlier explained that all true Church devotees should be "ten-feet tall" in regards to spreading and working for the Gospel, he cited the case of Moroni in laboring for the Church. As found in *Alma, 46th chapter*, he resoundingly recalled Moroni's desire and his devotion to God and his people. He pointed out that the prophet's courage, faith, love, and determination are examples today as they were in days when Moroni, as one man, tried with the Lord's help to strengthen the Church.

Theme Continued

Brother Milantoni's stirring and rallying theme of devotion was continued at our July 17 Area Conference where the topic "Faith of Our Fathers" was vividly presented by Paul D'Amico of Lockport, New York, followed by

Ansel D'Amico of Rochester, New York. The subject and experiences recited were of special significance for the area; and the brothers further exemplified how people from different sections of the MBA can stimulate one another, as they are both from the Ohio MBA area.

Although they did not take leading speaking parts at this particular meeting, Perry Simone of Lockport and William Mazzeo of Florida were welcomed and beloved visitors, offering further proof of the growth and bonds of the MBA and the Church. Our hopes are that the Atlantic Coast Area can constantly be a vital and enthusiastic contributor to further development and to this unity which will continue to be possible if we adhere to the teachings we have received.

* * * * *

NEW AREA MBA OFFICERS

Officers, besides those of the Atlantic Coast MBA Area, who were newly elected at the July Area Conference are as follows:

CALIFORNIA: Thomas Liberto, Vice-President; Samuel Ciccatti, Chaplain; Thomas Jones, Treasurer; Delio Carnaval, Auditor; Barry Mazzeo, Editor.

MICHIGAN-CANADIAN: Paul Vitto, Chaplain; Jane Coppa, Assistant Corresponding Secretary; Roland Paleno, Co-Auditor.

OHIO: Mary Santilli, Corresponding Secretary; Raymond Cosetti, Treasurer; and Jerry Giovannone, Auditor.

PENNSYLVANIA: Richard Lawson, President; John Manes, Vice-President; Isaac Smith, Chaplain; Anthony Ross, Treasurer; Joseph Ross, Auditor; John Griffith, Editor.

The names of the officers who were serving and who were re-elected appeared in the June "MBA Highlights" for the California, Ohio, and Pennsylvania Areas, while the Michigan-Canadian officials were reported in the February issue of *The Gospel News*.

* * * * *

There is a story that goes something like this: A small boy, enjoying his play outdoors, was called for dinner but nothing happened. His mother called him the second time and again nothing happened. After calling her son the third time, she went ahead with the meal. When he finally came in, the family was seated at the table eating. No one paid any attention to the boy, and after a while he felt something pricking his conscience. He thought he had better explain so he said, "Mother, I didn't hear you the first time you called." She asked, "Which time did you hear me?" and he answered, "The third time."

Is it possible that some of us are that way? Do we heed the Lord the first time He calls us or does it take three callings before we respond? Have we set up an environment that makes it hard for us to hear His call — the call for a closer walk with Him? — Editor

I Had An Experience

By Alfred Dominico

*I live today by the Grace of God; why I do not know.
I was given the gift of an extended life when I was but
a teen-ager.*

*I defied the rules of nature and lived when doctors
thought I would surely die.*

*I praise my Lord and Master of my soul that I was
given the opportunity to dedicate my restored life
to His honor and to His glory.*

*I pray that God is pleased with me in the way I have
spent that renewed life-time.*

One day in 1930 at the age of 15 going on 16, when working in a factory, I doubled up and fell to the floor with a perforated ulcer in the stomach. The contents of my stomach, the lunch, which I had previously eaten, spilled out into the chest cavity and inner organs.

I was rushed to the hospital, where the doctors performed an emergency operation, giving little hope to the family that I would survive. (These were days before the use of sulfa, penicillin and other wonder drugs, that help clear up infections.) When the doctors saw that I was hanging on to life, which I feel was due to the prayer service held in my behalf, they performed a second operation. A severe peritonitis infection had set in my system. My body became hard and distended with the infection. The doctors operated again and placed a tube for drainage, but that was all they could do. The rest was up to the Lord and my body.

When I finally recovered from this condition, after many prayers by the brothers and sisters of our branch and my family, and the marvelous relief that an anointed handkerchief brought me, I went to the doctor for my final checkup. His words to me were "There's a mystery in you that I don't understand. I thought for sure that you would have a job playing a harp with the angels." For many years afterwards whenever I would meet him at the hospital or in business places, he would always remark on the miracle of my recovery to the people he was with or just to me.

I know it was all done by the hand of God. In the prayer service that I mentioned earlier, the Lord showed my sister, Carrie Altomare, in a vision, that I was being lifted from a coffin, and she spoke in the gift of tongues. My father-in-law, Brother Vincent Aquilino interpreted the words, "He is in MY hands." The brothers and sisters at church were sure that I was in the capable hands of the Lord and that I would recover. It brought much comfort to my family.

After all this I was still waiting for the Lord to call me into the Church. One day, after having problems with my health again, I went to my doctor for a check-up and to see if he could help me. He told me that I was lucky to be alive, and that as far as he knew, there wasn't anything else that could be done for the rest of my life. He advised me to see a chest specialist to make sure that nothing new had developed. Instead of going to the other doctor, I went home and did

some serious thinking. Up to this time I had the attitude that I had to wait until God called me to become baptized into the Church. I began to realize that God surely had done enough for me. I fell on my knees in my bedroom and prayed to God for the spirit of repentance, and it fell upon me immediately. I recall that I shed tears for days. My family wondered what was wrong with me, but they soon understood, when I arose to my feet in the church service on Sunday and asked for my baptism. The date was November 20, 1932.

I thank God for these thirty-two years of spiritual blessings I have received in the Church. I'm thankful that I have had a full normal life, have watched our two wonderful sons grow into manhood, and have lived to see our first four grandchildren added to our family tree. I had never expected to live to see this day. I sing with the composer who wrote these words:

*"Thank you, Lord, for saving my soul.
Thank you, Lord, for making me whole.
Thank you, Lord, for giving to me,
Thy great salvation so rich and free."*

Getting The Dirt Out

By C. W. Holmes

A civil rights worker who was blasted with the epithet, "Agitator," is reported to have replied, "That is the part of the washing machine that gets the dirt out."

Our world would be in a much further advanced state of degeneration if God in His mercy did not furnish Agitators from time to time to trouble the waters of complacency and bring the accumulating muck to the surface.

If we don't like to see what the Agitator has stirred up, we have two main choices of action: either establish true purity by purging the exposed condition, or somehow inactivate the Agitator and wait for things to settle down again.

The first course is the way of life, for love of purity is an effect of the love of God; but more often than not we have chosen the latter course, which is the way of death, for God cannot tolerate whited sepulchres.

Obituary

CHARLES C. MOORE

Brother Charles C. Moore, 74 years of age, passed away July 11, 1965. He was born June 6, 1890 at Stillwater, Kentucky and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on June 28, 1959 by his brother, James T. Moore of Imperial (near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania).

He is survived by two sons; Hobart and Rex, both of Middletown, Ohio; three grandchildren; one sister and three brothers.

Funeral services were held at the Powell Funeral Home in Clay City, Kentucky with Brother George Neill of Monongahela, Pennsylvania officiating.

Dedication Of Fort Pierce, Florida Church Building

Greetings to all the Saints from Fort Pierce Mission:

We wish to tell you of the dedication of our Church building on May 2, 1965. Many brothers and sisters from all over the state of Florida were present, as well as a few friends. Our little building was almost filled, and a wonderful Spirit prevailed, as our brothers in the Priesthood from various parts of the state brought forth messages of great spiritual value.

We wish to thank all missions, branches, the General Church, and the brothers and sisters who helped make it possible for us to have a little building here in this part of the vineyard. Our desire is that it shall be a haven for all Saints who come this way, and that God may see fit that the Gospel of Jesus Christ may sound from its portals, and call the lost of this world into the newness of life.

God bless each and every one.

Your Sister in Christ,
Ruth Morris, Mission Editor

A GIFT OF APPRECIATION

Dear Mr. Neill:

Just a few words of explanation: I spoke to you briefly near the end of Mary Kathryn Klein's reception. You may remember you were talking to my father, William Love.

I just want to say I enjoy The Gospel News when I get a chance to read it. It seems I just can't find time to read all of the issues, but seldom lay one down until I have read nearly the whole thing once I start.

I have joined the Baptist Church since I came to Maryland but still have a great fondness for The Church of Jesus Christ since I was reared in that Church as a boy.

God is blessing us well here and I hope you will accept this check to be used for God's work in The Church of Jesus Christ as you and your staff see fit. May God bless all of you.

Sincerely yours,
David Love

We wish to extend our sincere thanks to David Love in behalf of The Gospel News in accepting his generous gift with reference to the above letter.

May God richly bless him in his efforts and he may be assured that the donation will be used to good advantage in the furthering of God's work through The Gospel News. — Editor

The Lord Is Good

We are happy to report a baptism here in Warren, Ohio. Sister Ruth Howry has been very afflicted and had very serious head surgery. Many prayers were offered to the Lord in her behalf and her life was spared. As Sister Ruth began to recover she told the brothers and sisters

who visited her that if she would have the privilege to come to church again she wanted to be baptized. We were all surprised to see her come to church one Sunday, still afflicted. Her left side is paralyzed making it difficult for her to get about. She kept her word and was baptized by Brother Frank Giovonnone.

We were so glad and our prayers are that the Lord will continue to bless Sister Ruth with many blessings. May we recommend the Saints throughout the church remember Sister Ruth in their prayers. The Lord be with you all. Amen.

Jean Genaro, Branch Editor

Atlantic Coast District News

The Atlantic Coast District held a special meeting on Sunday, July 4, 1965 at the Edison School. The meeting was left in charge of five brothers, who were visiting from Detroit and Monongahela; Brothers Gorie Ciaravino, Dominic Thomas, Joseph Milantoni, Anthony Scolaro, and Isaac Smith.

The meeting was opened by Bro. Gorie Ciaravino who used for his text the 21st chapter of St. John, especially the 15-17 verses, where Jesus asked the apostle Peter, "Lovest thou me more than these?" Bro. Gorie spoke concerning the life of Christ saying that his main purpose was to break the bands of death. He also spoke of Jesus as being the greatest of all physicians, philosophers, and psychiatrists, dwelling also upon the characteristics of Christ who could at times be stern as well as compassionate. Bro. Gorie was followed by Bro. Dominic Thomas, who began his talk by asking the question "Do some feel that the church is an intrusion in their lives?" He also asked the same question to those present that Jesus asked Peter — "Lovest thou Me more than these?" He invited all who were laden with sin to enter the fold of Christ through baptism. Bro. Thomas exhorted all to give our all to the Gospel of Christ, saying that if any receive not the manifestation of the spirit, it is because of our own doings. We then sang #127 "Come and Dine". Bro. Joseph Milantoni then related an experience concerning this hymn when he asked for his baptism. He spoke of the many things in the world that if we are not watchful, could destroy us. He invited all to "Come and Dine" with all the faithful saints who have gone before us.

Bro. Isaac Smith followed, relating how his life was spared by the hand of God. He said that as this nation is celebrating Independence Day, those who have not made a covenant to serve God might take that step and become free and independent of sin and death.

Bro. Anthony Scolaro bore testimony to the goodness of God. He reviewed the life of Christ relating unto us of the many miracles that He performed. Bro. Rocco Ensana made a few closing remarks expressing the sentiments of all, saying the words of our brethren were as a refreshing glass of cool water unto our souls.

Frank Mazzeo

Readers Write . . .

Dear Gospel News Staff:

We would like to extend to you our feelings of satisfaction and joy in having The Gospel News in our home. It is a source of spiritual uplifting in our lives each time we receive and read it. Please extend our subscription for another year.

Brother Thomas Liberto
San Diego, California

Dear Brother:

I find The Gospel News very interesting and inspiring; I really wouldn't ever want to be without it. Would you please renew it for me? I am enclosing \$10.00 - \$6.00 for renewal of The Gospel News and \$4.00 to help along.

Brother Dominick Gagliardi
Lockport, New York

Dear Brother in Christ:

Enclosed please find check to cover our next year's subscription of The Gospel News. We can say we surely have been blessed when we read some of these most inspiring articles.

May God bless you all in your work in this wonderful Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother John Ali
Glassport, Pennsylvania

Dear Editor:

Enclosed is \$2.00 for the renewal of The Gospel News. We enjoy it tremendously at our house and cannot be without it. It's heartwarming and makes interesting reading; and best of all it's a blessing.

Brother Herbert Berg
North Brunswick, New Jersey

Dear Brother George:

Enclosed is \$2.00 for The Gospel News. We enjoy reading the little paper. We love to read the testimonies and different experiences of the saints; they are quite uplifting to us all. May the Lord be with all the saints throughout the Church. Especially in these trying times it pays to live close to the Savior.

We still hold services in our home and are blessed accordingly. We wish to be remembered in prayer and we will remember you also. Dad was 89 on June 14th and doing as well as could be expected. In closing may God bless and keep us all in the love of God.

Sister Phyllis Wergin
Wichita, Kansas

Dear Brother George A. Neill:

Just a few lines to let you know that I am feeling well (thank God) and I hope you are the same. Dear Brother George, I want to tell you that I am coming back to America, the land I love. Please send my copies of The Gospel News to my new address.

Dear Brother, I want to thank you for your good work to have sent me The Gospel News for nine months. I have enjoyed it very much; it has been a big uplift for me to read The Gospel News and to know what happened among our brothers and sisters throughout the Church while I was away. Best regards to you and your family and all the brothers and sisters. Pray for me that I may have a safe journey to the blessed land.

Brother Joseph Ignagni
Frosinone, Italy

Dear Brother Neill:

Just a line to let you know we are all well for which we thank the Lord. We surely would be lost without our Gospel News. We cannot wait until we get it every month. God bless you all.

Brother Frank Sirangelo
West Palm Beach, Florida

Dear Brother Editor:

I wish to thank you for sending The Gospel News to my son in the Navy. You may discontinue it now for a while as he is stationed in Long Beach, California and is able to be at home a little every week and can read my issue. There are many good articles and words of wisdom and exhortation that I enjoy reading. They draw us closer in the love of God to one another. May God continue to bless all of you who labor to make this possible.

Sister Pearl Nester
Pacoima, California

Dear Brother:

Enclosed is \$2.00 for The Gospel News. I have enjoyed the paper since it first was printed and I still do very much. God bless you and the staff in this work.

Brother Dan Corrado
Niles, Ohio

You cannot enter the Kingdom of God without election, detection, subjection, and inspection . . . otherwise it's a rejection.

God's people never meet for the last time.

Your spiritual balloon will rise when you cut all the ropes and cast out the sand bags.

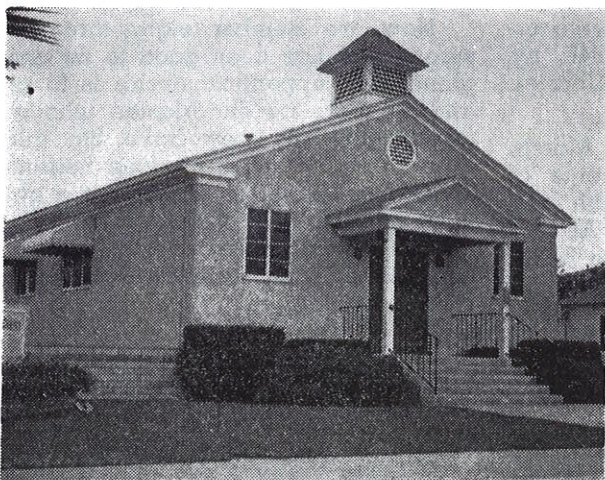
The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

October 1965

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THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

3830 39th Street

San Diego, California

A Brief History Of The Church Of Jesus Christ San Diego, California

It gives us great joy to have the privilege of writing the history of the San Diego, California, branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

It is true that if someone years ago had mentioned to most of us here now the possibility of our moving to the western coast of our great country, we no doubt would have thought it an impossible thing. However some fifteen or sixteen years ago, some of our brothers and sisters of the eastern coast began to have the desire to come to the state of California. We truly believe the Lord was working among His people in various parts of His vineyard in the West. For some, the inspiration was stronger and more pronounced than for others, many of them receiving dreams and other signs of God's will with them, some of which I shall relate as I proceed in this history. About the year 1944 a few of our brothers and sisters of the Detroit,

Michigan, branches of the Church were filled with the overpowering desire to visit the beautiful state of California. Some were inspired by God's spirit to come to the city of San Diego, situated in the southernmost part of this large state, along the shores of the great Pacific Ocean.

Among the first of these were Brother Charley Breci and Brother Dominic Benenati, of Detroit, Michigan, who came here in March, 1944, for a visit. At that time our Brother and Sister Tom Amormino and family had already established residence here (October 1943) so our brothers were very happy to find an open door in an otherwise completely strange city.

After visiting here for a short space of time our brothers returned home, their hearts and minds filled with marvelous wonder and inspiration, never forgetting to leave everything for the future in their Master's will. Uppermost in their hearts was their desire to do His will and to promote the work of His glorious gospel in the western part of this promised land. They made it a matter of prayer. At this point, I will relate a dream had by our Sister Josephine Breci as she and her husband prayed, still uncertain of the move. One night she had a dream in which she was given a packet of flower seeds, and a voice told her she was to come to California to plant them. Then all doubt left her mind, and she looked forward eagerly to moving to San Diego. I believe she and Brother Breci were among the first to come here in the year 1944. Others who decided to move to San Diego were Brother Patsy DiBattista and family. God surely used our Brother and Sister Breci to be a great help and sanctuary for many of us who came later to San Diego, not only spiritually, but also naturally.

The first meeting in San Diego was held in the home of Brother and Sister Patsy Di Battista on November 19, 1944, on a Sunday evening. The meeting was opened by singing hymn #181, "I'm a Pilgrim." Truly these few were like pilgrims in a strange land, but the Lord blessed them as He promises to bless even two or three gathered in His name in one accord. This was proven to our brothers and sisters in their first meeting in a strange place.

As time went by other brothers and sisters were inspired with a desire to come to this

western city, and by the year 1945, there were thirteen members in the little group. They met in the home of Brother and Sister Di Battista for a time; then in the home of Brother and Sister Breci, until our church was built. Our first feet-washing service was held on February 17, 1947. The group was under the jurisdiction of Detroit Branch #4, until April 1947 when we were organized as an established mission with Brother Patsy Di Battista as presiding elder. The Lord blessed our little group. Brother Mariano Russo had an experience where he saw the standard of Christ raised here. Shortly after, on October 21, 1945, the first baptism in San Diego was performed, that of Sister Louise Ciccatti, which was the start of the Lord's work. Through the efforts of Brother Nick Liberto, the Church was incorporated in the state of California and received our Church seal on December 1, 1947. We were organized as a branch on January 21, 1948, by Brother Alma B. Cadman with Brother Charley Breci as presiding elder.

A wonderful experience took place in March, 1947, when we were meeting in the home of Brother and Sister Breci. Sister Ann Smith and Brother Joseph Smith came to visit us. At that time Brother Joseph was suffering from an incurable disease of the lungs called silicosis. The doctors had given him only six months to live. They attended church the first Sunday after they arrived, and while praying during administration of sacrament, Brother Charley Breci, who knew nothing of Brother Smith's condition, felt inspired to ask the Lord "to heal anyone that was sorely afflicted, if any were in our midst." When Brother Breci spoke this way, the family, who knew of the illness of Brother Smith, appealed to the Lord with all their hearts. Immediately after the prayer, Sister Violet Thomas was inspired to turn to Sister Ann Smith and say, "I feel that God has heard that prayer and a miracle will be performed." Truly this was so, for the next day the x-rays showed Brother Smith's lungs clear and normal.

As time passed, we were very crowded in Brother and Sister Breci's home, so we decided to have a building fund in order to eventually buy a lot and build a church of our own. Two lots were found, both suitable for our needs, but we could not decide which one to buy. We took the matter to the Lord in prayer, and through His revelations, we were directed to buy the lot our church is now built on. On March 25, 1948 we purchased our lot at the price of \$1600.00. Many of our brothers and sisters and friends everywhere were donating to our building fund. It soon grew to the point where we could start with our foundation. With God's help, our brothers started to work on the building. Help came from many people, too numerous to mention, including Brother Carlini, who came from Detroit, Michigan to plaster the building. We are sincerely grateful to everyone who helped in any way, more than words can say. Our building was finally completed. The great day came, and on June 22, 1952, our church building was dedi-

cated, with many brothers, sisters, and visitors present. Brother James Lovalvo spoke about Solomon's temple and the prayer of Solomon when he dedicated the temple he had built unto God. Many other brothers spoke and many beautiful hymns were sung. It surely was a wonderful day, one which will be remembered always. Time has passed and we are still striving, with God's help, to serve him better day by day. As the years have passed, our branch has had sorrow when some of our dearly beloved brothers and sisters were taken from this earth, among these being three of God's ministers, Brothers Patsy Di Battista, Ermenegildo Ciccatti, and Charley Breci. We surely miss our loved ones when God calls them, but what a wonderful thing it is to know they fought the good fight to the end and won the battle.

Now we number eighty-three members, so surely God has been good to us and not left us alone. Our uppermost desire is to prove faithful and do more for our Master, who gave His life for us that we may have life and life more abundantly. What a glorious heritage our Jesus Christ has left for us, and what a glorious future is in sight for His Church here below in these latter days. May God ever help us to hold on to the "rod of iron" until He calls us all home to Him, is our prayer.

JESUS SAID

By Samuel J. Kirschner

"Verily, Verily I say unto you, he that hath the spirit of contention is not of me, but is of the devil, who is the father of contention; and he stirreth up the hearts of men to contend with anger one with another. Behold, this is not my doctrine, to stir up the hearts of men with anger one against another; but this is my doctrine, that such things should be done away. Behold, verily, I say unto you, I will declare unto you my doctrine. Whosoever believeth in me, and is baptized, the same shall be saved, and they are they who shall inherit the Kingdom of God. And whosoever believeth not in me, and is not baptized shall be damned. And again I say unto you, ye must repent, and be baptized in my name, and become as a little child, or you can in no wise inherit the Kingdom of God."

Jesus Said, "Suffer little children and forbid them not to come unto me; for of such is the Kingdom of God." Verily, I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the Kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein.

IMPORTANT

If you have a change of address, please send a card giving both your old and new address. Each old or incorrect address cost us 10¢ of the Lord's money.

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Editorial Viewpoint



George A. Neill

If God were to send us a balance sheet do you think it would be a sad disappointment because we have failed to accomplish that which He expected of us through carelessness and misappropriated time?

Is there such a thing as a church being brought to judgment? If so, what would this mean? Is there a stewardship for the Church? The apostle Peter spoke on one occasion and his words have been penned and preserved for our benefit. He said, "Judgment must begin at the house of God, and if it first begins with us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the Gospel of God?" I believe the messages of Jesus Christ through the exiled Apostle John on the Isle of Patmos to the seven churches of Asia are evidence that God does judge churches.

America today has a multitude of churches — far more than we need. One reason there are so many is that the great task facing any church is the maintaining of its primitive enthusiasm, awareness of its mission, retaining a clear vision of its doctrine, and holding fast to its first love. (I would like to state here that this first love is not necessarily the love we experienced in the first days of our lives in the Church, but that love of first degree which consists of full devotion or a burning heart full of zeal and the truest kind of sacrifice and service.) It seems to me that few churches have maintained this glow and power. All too frequently, with the passing of time, matters of secondary importance have taken the place of those ideals which were so essential in the beginning; thus the shifting or drifting from the first principles is the main cause for new churches being established or organized. I need not remind you that this same pattern has been followed among Latter Day Saintism for we all know that there is quite a number of factions of Latter Day Saint Churches. I doubt if there is an example in history where a church has recaptured its original passion and mission once these have been lost.

Do you think God could be judging our Church today? Some may say a church cannot be judged, but I say a church can be judged just as a nation can be judged. I'm not certain just how He will do so, but Jesus spoke very definitely about judging the nations as He sits upon His throne. I believe God has judged and cast off people in days past and gone. Let us put this a little milder, however; let us think of judgment as the forming of an opinion, an estimate, or His appraisal. In order to come close to an understanding of what God is thinking about our Church each individual will have to consider in his own mind the maintaining of primitive principles, how much shifting and drifting exists, and also just how well we are carrying out our mission. I repeat, is there a stewardship for the Church?

To the Church has been entrusted the ministry of the Gospel, the responsibility of proclaiming the truth of salvation. To the Church has been given that healing and preserving power (the salt of the earth and the light of the world) to subdue evil and corrupt conditions of life. The Church has a special stewardship inasmuch that our proclamation is full salvation through obedience to the Gospel and continuity in the principles therein. Do we realize what a gracious ministry is entrusted to this Church? Do we understand the responsibility this trust carries with it? How grand it is to have the true light of God shining upon us, illuminating our hearts; also to have the

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

(Continued from Page Three)

interpretation of His word along with the great love and power of the Holy Spirit in our lives. And is it not a great privilege to possess that primitive succession? I believe, in the light of all this, our stewardship is a serious one and I'm wondering what His opinion is of us. Could He be judging us as a Church today by weighing our accomplishments against the opportunities and doors which have been opened? He knows the comparison of our activities with

privileges granted. He can see our victories compared with the victories that might have been had we followed closer to His plan; if we had been as zealous and obedient as we should have been. He knows how many more people would have been saved had we carried always a burning heart and eager desire to see salvation come to people's souls. If God were to send us a balance sheet do you think it would be a sad disappointment because we have failed to accomplish that which He expected of us through carelessness and misappropriated time? I believe it would be a tragedy for any church to fail to meet its commitments to any day or generation.

RELATIONSHIP

By James Heaps

"I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day." A family can stay together because of blood ties, even though they may not agree together on everything; yet the tie that binds holds them together most of the time. So it is with our relationship in the Church; even though we were strangers, we are tied together by blood — even the blood of Christ. The prophet says, "He shall see his seed, He shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand." Therefore we are His seed, not because of the natural blood, but because we have been born again of the water and the spirit, and have partaken of the precious blood. If we do not partake of the blood, or the wine which represents life, there is no relationship between us. The Jews said to Jesus, "We be Abraham's seed." But Jesus said, "God is able to raise up children unto Abraham out of these stones." Why did He come to His own and His own received Him not? Because the blood ties had been broken spiritually. "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."

They were not walking even in the light of the law, which was the lesser light. But if we walk in the light as He is in the light we have fellowship or relationship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin. John, in speaking of those ties which held them together, says, "These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and have made them white in the blood of the Lamb." We have people today that do not believe in the blood; therefore they have no relationship with Him because it is the blood tie that gives us the relationship with Christ. We sing the hymn, "There is Power in the Blood." Paul tells us that without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins; and if there is no remission of sins there is no relationship, because

we have not been born again. There are some who may have been baptized and never received a remission of their sins; the blood of Christ was never in their veins; they never grew in Christ — they never put Him on. Paul says they are still hanging around the water's edge.

"He shall see His seed and they shall prosper." This does not mean naturally, but spiritually. Paul said to the Galatians, "Who hath bewitched you? Received ye the spirit by the works of the law or by the hearing of faith?" The law is not of faith, but the man that doeth the works of the law shall live by them. Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law however, being made a curse for us, (for it is written, "Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree") that the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Christ. How? Through the shedding of His blood. He is not a corruptible seed but a seed that is pure, even as God Himself is pure.

It is only when we obey God's laws that we can be sure that we have relationship with Him. The man who claims to know God but does not obey His laws, and does not believe in the blood, has no ties. The Bible tells us, "He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." Obedience is the test of whether or not we really live in Christ. The man who professes to believe in Christ must bear the stamp; he must bear the image; he must have a mark of some kind. "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye love one another." Some men say when they see my son, Rusty, they see me. We have often heard people say, "She looks just like her father (or mother)." Jesus said, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father." He could never have said that if He had no marks of the Father, if He were not the Son of God, or if His seed was not in Him.

The word good comes from the word God. Jesus said, "I do always those things that please my heavenly Father." The relationship between man and God is a practical one. It finds its sphere of operation in the common life. Let us not forget that any relationship whatever between God and man rests today on the fact that Jesus lived a common life. He was born in a stable, sweated in a carpenter's shop, preached from a little fish-

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The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"Blessed are your eyes for they see and your ears for they hear." Mat. 13: 16.

Dear Boys and Girls,

I want to tell you about GOD'S WORD, the seed. Jesus explained many things to the people by parables or stories. This made God's Word easier to understand. The people liked these stories because they were about their everyday life. Once the people followed Jesus to the seashore. They crowded so closely about him that he entered a ship and sat down. The people stood on the shore to hear a parable.

Jesus' first parable was about a sower or, we would say, a farmer. Farmers in those days did not have machinery like ours have today. They did most of the work by hand. When the seed was planted, the sower would walk through the fields throwing out handfuls of seed. The seed was carried in a bag which hung from the farmer's shoulder.

This is the story Jesus told, "A sower went out to sow. As he sowed some seed fell by the wayside and the birds came and ate some. Some seeds fell on stony ground and when the hot sun shone on them, they withered because they did not have roots. Other seeds fell among thorns and weeds and were choked. All the seeds were not like these. There were some that fell on good ground. They grew and grew and yielded fruit and had fine crops."

After Jesus told this parable, His disciples asked, "Why speakest thou in parables?" They hadn't understood the story. Jesus explained it to them like this: The seed is the word of God. When some people hear it, Satan comes and takes it from their hearts. This is the seed that fell by the wayside. The seed which fell in stony places is like those who hear the Gospel but will not let it take root. The ground is the hearts of men. Their ground is hard or stony. They do not find joy in God's Word. There are people who hear it, but would rather crowd it out of their lives with worldly pleasures. These are the seeds that the weeds have choked out.

Not everyone who hears the word is like these people. Some want to learn of GOD'S WORD. They have good, honest hearts. The seed will grow there. Their hearts are like good ground, cultivated to receive it. This is the seed the Saviour said is sown in good ground. The word is understood and it will bring forth good fruit, a hundred fold, sixty and some thirty. We see these people with good ground, working in our Church, teaching the Gospel to others. Jesus said, "Take heed what ye hear. If any man have

ears to hear, let him hear." So let us, as boys and girls in THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST, use our ears to hear good things and our eyes to read God's Word, the seed.

Read the parable about the tares. Tares are weeds. Matt. 13. 24, 30.

Search the Scriptures

1. What did Jesus say the kingdom of heaven was like? Mat. 13: 24.
2. What happened while the men slept?
3. When the servants saw the tares in the field what did they ask?
4. Did they pull the tares out of the field? Why? What happened to the tares?

Do you think the tares are like people who do not serve God and the wheat like good people? Why do you think Jesus told this parable? Is it good for people today?

Sincerely,
Sister Mabel

Phonies Beware!

By C. W. Holmes

The public library shelves in one of our large cities are kept filled by putting into the empty spaces wooden blocks covered with leather strips and shaped to appear like books. When you draw close enough to read the labels, they say: "Nothing Within."

The shelves of the library of life are likewise filled by animated blocks who climb and clamber under their own strength until they find empty spaces. There they perch on their pretentious laurels until they convince even themselves that they are real.

Imagine their chagrin when The Great Librarian comes to arrange His shelves at the end of the day, puts the rightful occupants in their places, and relegates to the trash pile the phonies with "Nothing Within."

A NOTE OF THANKS

September 1, 1965

Dear brothers and sisters:

My wife and I along with my daughter, Penny, and her husband, Del Carneval, wish to thank you for your sincere prayers in behalf of our grand-daughter, Lisa Marie Carneval, who has been stricken with leukemia. May the Lord recompense all of you a thousand-fold for your endeavors.

Please continue to pray that God will intervene and rebuke this dreadful disease from her. We are distressed and heart-sick because of this, nevertheless we are trusting in the Lord to hear and answer prayer in favor of our little Lisa Marie.

Your brother in Christ,
V. James Lovalvo

M.B.A. Highlights

Plans To Be Made For Future GMBA Trips

By Carl Frammolino, GMBA Editor

The success of the General Missionary Benevolent Association trip to the Muncey Indian Reservation the last weekend in August has set the stage for future MBA-wide trips.

The consensus of the individuals who traveled to the reservation August 28-29 indicated that annual trips are highly favored and should be pursued vigorously. Final action will be taken by the coming GMBA Conference in Youngstown on November 13, when Locals will be polled to determine where a trip should be made next year and in succeeding years.

Alternatives Offered

Future choices include such sites as Hill Cumorah, near Palmyra, New York where the plates were given to Joseph Smith; Nauvoo, Illinois where the Restoration colony was in operation at the time of the death of Joseph and Hiram Smith in 1844; Greenock, Pennsylvania where the Church was incorporated in 1862; Kirtland, Ohio where the Restoration movement was centered in the 1830's; and Washington, D. C. where Congressional leaders could be visited and the Bureau of Indian Affairs could be approached to point out an interest in working for the seed of Joseph.

Other possibilities have been raised by Brother Thurman S. Furnier, who has reported that various historical locations he has visited could adequately serve for field trip assemblages. Two of these are Harmony, Pennsylvania, now known as Oakland, where Joseph Smith resided when translation of the plates was started, and the New York homesite of Peter Whitmer, father of David Whitmer, where a part of the plates was translated.

Any of the suggested field trips would be in keeping with the general objectives of the Association to broaden the knowledge and sphere of activity of the organization. The GMBA Activities Sub-Committee on Field Trips would be responsible for coordinating any of these excursions. It is hoped that a 5-Year plan for trips can be formulated.

First Trip

The Muncey Trip was the first time an entire MBA assembly other than a GMBA Conference was held. It allowed visitors the opportunity to share spiritual, social, and educational experiences at one of the Church's oldest missions, which was established in 1933. Also, the trip offered firsthand observation on the kind of mis-

sionary work the Church has been doing.

There are three tribes represented on the reservation. They are the Oneida, the Chippewa, and the Delaware. The Delawares are also referred to as the Munceys. The three tribes came from as far south as the Ohio Valley. Today, each tribe has a council and a chief to work together to govern the reservation.

The brothers and sisters of Muncey offered their heartiest greetings and warm hospitality throughout the weekend. In addition, they were always available to explain the various aspects of Indian life. A former Indian chief, Kenneth Alberts, addressed the group and explained that the Church has been a source of inspiration for the reservation. Another feature was the singing of the hymn, "Amazing Grace," in the Chippewa language by Brother and Sister Alfred Birch, Sister Elizabeth Groesbeck, Sister Julia Nicholas, and Sister Fay Alberts, wife of the former chief. Sister Nicholas also sang one of her compositions in English.

Full Weekend

The weekend schedule included Church services on both Saturday and Sunday, tours of the reservation, and talks and testimonies of residents of the base. In addition, a singspiration around a huge bonfire was held Saturday night in the middle of the Mt. Elgin Elementary School grounds, where the two-day camping area was located. The services were held in the school's auditorium.

The speakers at the meetings were Brothers Gorie Ciaravino, Paul D'Amico, Dominic Thomas, Isaac Smith, Joseph Milantoni, Dominic Moraco, and Joseph Calabrese. They offered historical information about the reservation, and pointed out that this trip was a pioneer GMBA activity. They emphasized that the blessings they would receive in this endeavor would long live with the participants. Parents were complimented for taking part in this camping exercise that would prove extremely beneficial for their children in the future.

They also highlighted the promises which had been made to the Indian people and the importance of the missionary activity. Emphasis was placed on the role the Church must play in helping to bring these promises to fruition. Several spiritual experiences were offered to support the scriptural presentations. It was stated that in order to help in the Latter-Day work, all individuals must live a Christian life, be in tune with the Spirit, and constantly strive to gain deep and moving experiences with the Lord. Only by doing these can the people of God be in a position to carry on their spiritual work, it was declared.

Typical comments heard from the weekend visitors were that the excursion had been a pleasant and rewarding experience. Even though there had been inclement weather during the weekend, the spirits of the participants had not been dampened. As a result of the uplifting weekend experience, plans for ensuing trips were being tentatively mapped by the travelers, pend-

ing words from the next GMBA Conference as to where the future trips would be made.

"MBA Highlights" Special Feature

(This is the first in a series of articles by Richard Bologna to be presented as a supplement to the regular "MBA Highlights." A recent returnee from the United States Peace Corps and a member of the Detroit No. 2 MBA Local, Brother Richard has consented to write about his two years service in Liberia, West Africa where he was a teacher in that country's schools.)

The Peace Corps is an organization of the United States government independent from other governmental agencies, and it is now in operation in about 50 underdeveloped countries throughout the world. Major objectives of the Peace Corps are to create a more realistic image of the United States in underdeveloped countries, to improve our understanding of underdeveloped countries by bringing back firsthand information, and to aid these countries in their development by supplying middle level manpower.

— Editor's Note)

LIBERIA

By Richard Bologna

The little country of Liberia lies on the coast of West Africa about twelve hundred miles west of Nigeria (the location of The Church in Africa) bordered by Sierra Leone on the west and the Ivory Coast on the east. Its total area is about equal to that of Louisiana or Ohio, and it has a population of about one million. This little part of West Africa was not always a country, nor was it ever a colony like many of its neighbors. History describes this area of the earth as dense, tropical rain forest, sparsely populated by people of many tribal origins believed to have migrated from early civilization in North Africa.

In 1819, the primitive setting began to change, and the United States played a leading role in this alteration. Ships of freed slaves started to arrive. These people had been enslaved on plantations in the South where slave labor was so vital to the economy, but they had been granted their liberty for various reasons. These new settlers varied in abilities. Some were skilled in trades, and some were formally educated; but they were all looking for a new place to live a free life.

Moral Issue Present

Among the various reasons for freeing slaves was the moral issue, which was offered in opposition to the argument that slavery was necessary for economic reasons. Many Southerners, as well as Northerners, believed that slavery was not good for America. Some of them formed what was called the American Colonization Society. Their idea was to free the slaves and help them to colonize somewhere in America or the land of their forefathers, Africa. As a result, the Society was instrumental in transporting the immi-

grants to Africa where they found liberty and a chance to shape their own destiny.

Picture these 85 freed slaves! They were Americans in every respect and totally unfamiliar with the hazards of life in the forests of Africa. Yet, they carried with them the tools and trades of America and began to build a civilization.

Evidences of their labor can be seen in the old cities of Liberia. As one walks through the streets of the coastal towns, such as Monrovia, the capital, Cape Palmas, Buchanan, and Robertsport, he can see ruins of grand houses styled after the plantation mansions of the old South, many stories high and with pillars and wide porches. The people in these cities speak English, which was passed down to them by the first pioneers. All social functions are carried out with the same rigid formality that was present in the old South.

Two Groups of Settlers

There were two main groups of settlers. The first group of 85 met with disaster. Many of them died from the hardships and diseases they encountered. The remainder traveled up the coast to Sierra Leone, the British Colony, where they were given asylum and property for their own use.

The second and largest group landed in 1822. The United States government had bought a piece of land for them from the local tribal chiefs. Soon after settling, the immigrants found themselves fighting for their lives against savage tribesmen who had sold them the land. The odds were overwhelming, but they were able to defeat the natives time and again with a few firearms they had brought with them and with the use of good defensive groundwork.

For the first time, this little part of Africa was being settled by "civilized" people. The original Liberian area had been populated by about 23 different tribes, all speaking different languages. Now a new group of people had appeared, bringing with them the English language, Christianity, and the western way of life.

The new settlers of Liberia came from a democratic country where they had been mistreated, but they still recognized the good in this form of government and tried to govern themselves in a similar fashion. They came from a land where they had been slaves, but they began to build a democratic nation which they hoped would be an example to free men all over the world.

The inscription on the Liberian Flag says "The love of liberty brought us here." Liberians today still hold this motto close to their hearts. They are extremely proud of their history and their freedom. Not only the descendants of the original American settlers, but the descendants of the tribal people who are now taking a more active role in the development of Liberia as a modern nation are exhilarated about their heritage and their accomplishments.

(In the next article, the author will discuss urban life in Liberia today).

"The Lord shall keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee!"

* * * * *

Yea, Lord, Thou knowest that my mind has been constantly and eternally stayed on Thee. Thou hast been my hope in the morning; my strength through the day and my abiding peace throughout the long, long night. Thou hast consoled me when I wept and encouraged me when I ailed but fell. Thou hast been my constant companion, for surely my mind has been stayed on Thee!

I shall never find words of thanksgiving and gratitude to our Eternal God for He has been once again faithful to me, in fulfilling the promise He made to me almost 33 years ago when I, a young girl of 19, made mine to Him. "Go", He said, "Go and be baptized and your companion shall come later, when the sun is sinking in the West. . ." And later when I begged of Him for guidance as to how I should proceed in the face of trial, He cautioned me: "Treat him gently and with love and consideration, for he too shall one day be My son." And thus He entrusted my companion into my care.

But the Spirit of God upon man can be so strong that it must find an outlet for expression, and I bless God for having given me this outlet, since I was denied regular attendance and fellowship. I thank Him for comforting me and upholding me with His divine words throughout these long 33 years, which somehow, miraculously, do not seem so long any more. I shall trust Him for the future; I want to be able to attempt to repay Him (in small part, I know) for the care and love He has extended me, unworthy creature that I am. I pray that He will guide me as to what He would have me to do of greater service to Him, and though Satan and his host of angels rebel against me, I shall attempt to fulfill my promise to Him in any way He desires. For He has been good to me and I can now say with humility and with joy, "I and my house shall serve the Lord."

Yes, Lord, I thank Thee, for Thou hast removed from me the loneliness of spiritual widowhood! And only those who have been or still are, can know the full meaning and agony of this widowhood. I pray God's mercy will extend unto all the others who are still in like position. Amen.

JOSHUA 24-15

*I know not what plans God hath for me,
What joys or sorrows are in the future stored;
But this I know, and I now say with thee:
"I and my household, we shall serve the Lord."
What may life hold of laughter and of tears?
I do not know . . . or care . . . tho' Satan roar;
In perfect peace, He quieteth my fears,
And bids me and my house to serve the Lord.
And if the trials I am asked to face
Falsely appear greater than my reward,
I'll always shout, while God may grant me grace:
"I AND MY HOUSE SHALL EVER SERVE
THE LORD!"*

Catherine Vultaggio Poma

TIJUANA, MEXICO

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Regards to all of our brothers and sisters everywhere from all of us in Mexico. Last Wednesday three more went into the waters of baptism. We were especially happy about the couple of the Oaxacan Tribe who were baptized. They desired to be baptized about two years ago but due to the fact that this tribe roams like gypsies, we (Brother Toribio, Brother Perdue and myself) hesitated because we feared they would be with us a few weeks and then gone. They were told if and when they would truly settle down they might get baptized. About one year ago they settled down near the church. The man found work and has worked for the past year. Also, his wife goes out and does washings. They declared they were happy with their new life. Also along with these, several other couples have settled down and are working. They build their little homes and keep themselves neat. We marvel at this wonderful change and we know it is only God who can do these things. Our hope and prayer is that God will work with all of these people and some day bring them to the light of Christ. Many of them have visited our Church and they declare they have never known such kindness and love being shown them anywhere. Some have come to the Church having heard of our Church in Oaxaca which is 2500 miles from Tijuana, but unfortunately they stay for a while and wander on. They always seem to be on the go. Surely the hymn "Oh Stop and Tell Me Red Man" applies especially to them.

In the last couple of weeks the Lord has blessed us with some wonderful healings. A man full of sores asked for prayer and he was healed. His daughter was prayed for; she had had a serious ailment for a long time and the doctors couldn't help her. She was healed immediately. Her mother-in-law was unable to get around because of a back condition. After prayer she was healed immediately. A woman sick for eight days with a high fever, helpless, was prayed upon and the fever left immediately. She declared it was only the Lord who could have helped her. She was left weak but was grateful for the mercies of God. Another woman was full of rash and itching and after prayer was healed. Another young woman had a large growth on her shoulder (cancer), swollen knees and legs, and could not get around. After prayer, she was able to get around as the swelling of the legs and knees left and the growth on her shoulder got smaller. Surely we can say "The Mercies of God, What a Theme For My Song!"

In one of our families we have a young girl about 10 years of age who is affected by tuberculosis. Her face is about twice the size it should be and pus comes out of four different places. I would ask that all who read this please pray for this child that God would extend His arm of mercy or else she may not live too long. If this

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RELATIONSHIP

(Continued from Page Four)

ing boat, sat down to rest beside a well that Jacob had dug. He conversed with a Samaritan women with whom the Jews would not have anything to do; He revealed to her his knowledge of her lifelong history, then asked her for a drink of water. He ate and drank with the common man; He submitted to an ignoble death, rose again the third day, and was seen of many witnesses. He came to this land of America and healed their sick. He was simply doing what His Father told Him to do, and doing it with delight. No one ever called Him a hero or a martyr. We are called to be witnesses, to bear the stamp in life as well as in death. Paul says, "I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus." He said on another occasion, "The seal of my apostleship is in you." In other words, he left his mark on those that obeyed the Gospel.

Rochester - Lockport Gathering

On June 6, 1965 the Lockport branch met in Rochester, N.Y. to have a day of rejoicing. Apostle Frank Calabrese and his wife from the Ohio District honored us with their presence. "After the Night", a solo sung by Ruth D'Amico, opened the meeting. Brother Paul D'Amico offered prayer and the meeting continued by singing Hymn #236, "What was Witnessed in the Heavens?"

Brother Frank chose his text from the 14th Chapter of Revelation, the 6th and 7th verses, "I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people." He spoke about Joseph Smith asking God to show him the right church, and now that we have the restored gospel we should appreciate it and keep it clean and pure. He concluded saying that when we die, we want to look up towards God and not hang our heads.

Hymn #386 "When the Angel Moroni" was then sung. Brother Paul D'Amico spoke on the Apostasy and the Restoration of the gospel. Having the spirit of the gospel we ought to live up to its standards. After singing "The Gospel Restored," Brother Henry Berardi continued to speak on the subject of the Restoration in the Italian language. Brother Ansel D'Amico stressed the importance of keeping the commandments of God.

The theme of the service was that this is the church that has the spirit and power of the restored gospel. God will continue to search for a people who will serve Him. Let us keep the gospel pure; God has great work for us to do if we will let Him use us. Brother Vincent Gallucci related a dream that he received two months ago. In it he visualized Moses, Elijah, and John the Divine speaking upon the restored gospel and the things of the future. It proved to be a

confirmation of the words spoken by the brothers.

We were dismissed by singing hymn "God Be with You till We Meet Again." Brother Perry Simone gave the closing prayer. A wonderful spirit prevailed throughout the service. A light lunch was served by the sisters. We look forward to these gatherings symbolic of going to a banquet where we can feast both naturally and spiritually on the many wonderful blessings of God.

On July 31, 1965 a chartered bus from Monongahela M.B.A. Local along with cars from Pennsylvania, Michigan, New Jersey, and California attended the pageant at Hill Cumorah. They spent Sunday in fellowship with us.

Brother Tony Lovalvo chose as his text "Love ye one another as I love you." He spoke of how God used Joseph Smith to start His church again and how this church, through Joseph Smith would endure the storm and bring forth His purpose. Brothers Gorie Ciaravino and Isaac Smith continued on the same subject. The Detroit choir sang "Longing for the Gathering." Brother Ansel D'Amico then continued to emphasize the love of God, and that there is nothing greater than His love. He wished the visiting members God-speed and that God would be with us all until we meet again. We were dismissed with hymn "Love Lifted Me."

A light lunch was served by the sisters. We can say it was a day well spent in the service of God.

Carmella D'Amico

MEAFORD, ONTARIO

Dear Gospel News Readers:

Greetings from this little corner of God's vineyard. It is good to read the news from the different Branches of the Church, as in this way we get news of our brothers and sisters.

I enjoy reading the testimonies and poems. We can't all be poets or preach like Paul, but thanks to God we all have a testimony.

We are still only three here in Meaford, Ontario, but we do tell others of this wonderful Gospel of Jesus Christ, and visit the shut-ins, every chance we get.

We hold Sunday meetings in our homes and God truly blesses us for our efforts. We have been reading Alma's wonderful words. There is such a lesson and a blessing in reading this golden book; as Brother Cadman used to say, "If only all would read it unbiased."

I am so grateful that God sent Sister Ford to talk to us, as it scares me when I think of what I would have had to face, had I not given myself to Christ. I hope He accept me as His.

May God bless you all is my prayer.

Bertha Ford

The strange thing is that a man is satisfied with so little in himself, yet demands so much in others.

We Are One Body

The Church, or the body of Christ, is one, only one, and as such cannot be separated even from its smallest member, however useless it may seem.

It has often been preached that we cannot all be heads or legs, or arms, etc. but this we know: each of us makes up that complete body. I may be just a little toe; therefore, all I can do is the work of a little toe — a small part yes, but most important. Have you ever tried to walk with one less toe, or if that little toe was hurt? Doesn't the entire body suffer as a result? If I be a hand, I can most certainly perform a great deal more work than a toe; however, being a hand, I can never perform the work of a little toe. If I be the head, I can do a number of things—yes, I can see, hear, smell, talk, and eat, but my head cannot move things about as my hand; nor can my hand maintain the balance of my body as my little toe can. One could go on and on enumerating the functions of each part of this body, knowing full well the importance and need of every part, great or small. It is quite plain to see that each part very definitely needs the part next to it to function adequately.

So are we as the body of Christ. Each of us who belongs to this great church was given a gift, a part to perform. Each of us was given a talent, or talents, a certain level or degree of intelligence and understanding, a certain amount of strength to perform. When there is good co-ordination; when each part, or person functions to his fullest capacity, the whole body of Christ, or the church, is strong. But let just one or two parts fail to perform, and the entire body suffers as a result. Therefore, we must stress at this point the importance of the need we have one for the other, even for those parts or persons who seem to fail at times.

It is wrong of me, for instance, to look upon a weaker member, or one who was endowed with a lesser degree of understanding or intelligence, and expect that person, or member, to keep up with those members who are more capable or strong. It is wrong because, first of all, we put ourselves in the position of judging. It is impossible for us to know what is in that particular person's heart or mind, nor do we know his real strength or understanding. What is right ultimately is how **we**, personally, perform our own part in that body of Christ, or church, and if we perform to the fullest degree or capacity we possess. It is not for us to look beyond our own realm of strength.

When each and every member, great or small, does his very best, then only can this body become strong. It is impossible for the hand, for instance, to say, 'I shall leave, I can do no more.' It is part of that whole body, and as such must continue to function. Each member of a body depends upon the other to function adequately,

and if one toe is broken, we cannot say, 'Cut it off!' Won't that be more harmful to the body? Rather, it would be better to pay more attention to that broken toe, or member, and nurse it back to health, so that it, too, can function as part of the whole.

My beloved brothers and sisters, we **all** have need of each other and unless we see this need, and help and uplift and strengthen each other, this body shall indeed crumble. It is impossible to make progress unless each of us can really and truly have compassion and love for each other.

We are told to 'love your enemies' but let me ask you, "Do you love your brother or sister?" If you cannot answer yes, then it is time to examine yourself, personally. We all fall short before God — there is none perfect. As members of that body of Christ, we **must support** each other continually. If one member of the body hurts, we don't just 'stomp' on it more and more until we break it. Never! It is no wonder that judgment is in God's hands only, for how quickly this carnal nature would destroy another.

If scripture says that in the last days the "love of many shall wax cold," I say, don't let it wax cold in ourselves first. Let us honestly examine our own thinking and never mind the other person. Any spirit which causes us to turn our faces or backs to another member, or completely ignore, or refuse to give a hearty handshake to another, is absolutely not the spirit of God! Let us indeed turn our eyes upon ourselves and be honest. If we would follow the example of Christ, then we must possess those same Christ-like qualities of love, understanding, compassion, patience, tolerance, and forgiveness for each other. If we do not possess these qualities, then we are not saints — no, **we are mere Christians!** (Read Romans 15:1 and Galatians 6:1-10.)

Santina M. Mercuri

Branch Editor, Bell, California

OBITUARY

DOMINIC WOOLEY

Brother Dominic Wooley passed on to his reward Tuesday, July 20, 1965. He was born January 4, 1910 at Elkins, West Virginia and was married to Sister Elizabeth Ferraro of Monongahela, Pennsylvania in 1940. He was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania at one of the Church conferences. He was the son of the late Brother Frank and Sister Jessie Wooley.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; three daughters, Jessica, Dolores and Phyllis (all at home); five sisters, Mary Konesky, Lucy Costarella, Katherine Sarisky, Ruth Santilli, and Pauline Wooley (all of Youngstown); one brother, Robert, of Richmond, Virginia.

No one ever got this blessing who felt that he could get along without it.

TIJUANA, MEXICO

(Continued from Page Eight)

had been caught in time she might have had a chance, but for the lack of little money, many suffer. We also have a young lad about 11 who has this, but not quite so far advanced. We also have a girl of about 11 in a critical condition with meningitis. Please, I would ask again for your prayers. Our hearts are sorrowful for these cases and we know only God can help them. There are so many diseases out here because of poor living conditions and malnutrition.

We have tried to make everyone feel they have a part in the Church. A couple of weeks ago three of our teenage girls painted the inside of the children's Sunday School building. The outside woodwork, all the seats in both buildings, plus the washing and waxing of the floor, were done by a brother who was assisted by his wife and daughter. Others have the steady job of washing the windows and also seeing to it that the curtains are made and kept clean. Others take care of the yard work and see that the church is swept as often as needed. A brother sees that everything is kept in repair and that there is always water in our water container, also that the container is cleaned when necessary. It is quite large and has to be cleaned from time to time. The sisters also help each other out in any way they can and assist wherever there is illness inside or outside of the church.

We have at the present time a visitor who is a nurse. She has expressed a desire for baptism. She has been a great help to us, as she works in the general hospital in Tijuana. Whenever she can be of assistance in arranging for free hospital care and doctor care, she does it for our people. Without this inside help it is very hard for anyone to get much assistance. She has gone out of her way to help for which we are grateful.

We have had quite a few visitors from Lorain, Ohio. We have certainly enjoyed our fellowship with them.

This is all for now. Remember us in your prayers. Our desire to bring souls to God has not dimmed with time and our prayer is that we might strive daily to do something for God so that some day there might be a place in His glorious Kingdom for us. We know the time is short and only what is done for Christ shall live forever.

May the Lord bless all of our brothers and sisters everywhere and may the glory of God rest upon you.

Sincerely,
Brother and Sister Perdue

How lucky it was that an outspoken preacher like John the Baptist could live on locust and wild honey.

We correct our mathematical errors, but in religion little sins are often permitted as though they serve a purpose.

DETROIT #1, MICHIGAN

On Sunday, August 1, 1965 the members of Detroit Branch #1 were filled with joy to have a few visitors in our morning service: namely Brother Joseph Capone and his wife of Los Angeles, California; Brother Peter Capone of Detroit Branch #4; Brother Peter H. Capone of Detroit Branch #3; and Brother Frank Vitto of Windsor, Canada. At the commencement of our service the senior quartet was requested to sing two numbers, "Without Him" and "He Touched Me." Brother Joseph Capone introduced our service speaking briefly on the goodness of God. He told of his recent visit to Italy and praised God for granting him the privilege to take this trip which enabled him to spend some time with his friends and relatives. He was extremely thankful to the Lord for being with him throughout the entire trip.

Brother Peter Capone gave a very interesting talk. He brought forth many wonderful words which were of extreme importance to us and very beneficial to our hearts and souls. He spoke on the First Love and the gifts and blessings of God. He said that many of our people feel that we have lost our first love, and that the blessings of God do not prevail among His people as in years gone by, but Brother Capone pointed out very ably that God has not changed and if we are not receiving His blessings as we feel we should — if we do not feel as though we have that first love — something must be wrong with us and not with God or the Church; therefore we should take inventory of our lives and try to discover where the trouble lies. May the Lord bless our brother and increase his talent in preaching His Holy word. Our prayer is that the Lord may bless the entire Ministry of The Church of Jesus Christ and grant unto them the necessary knowledge, wisdom and liberty that this Gospel may be preached to the whole world that many may accept it.

Brothers Frank Vitto and Peter H. Capone were not privileged to speak because of lack of time but we still enjoyed their presence. We are very thankful that these brethren were able to spend these few moments with us on this beautiful Sabbath.

Frank Conti

WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

Dear Brother Editor:

We are extremely happy to report the purchase of a building for our Church. We held our first meetings there on August 8, 1965. We had a nice group of visitors from Fort Pierce, Florida and one from California. The services were truly wonderful.

For future communications our permanent address is:

The Church of Jesus Christ
4262 North Tenth Avenue
Lake Worth, Florida

On September 19, 1965 we are going to have a gathering of the saints to which all are invited. This gathering will be held in West Palm Beach.

Jan Creech, Editor

PERRY, OHIO

The evening of July 20th a number of saints from the various branches of Ohio and Erie, Pa. met together in a farewell meeting for Brother Tony Picciuto and his family who are moving to California. Brother William Genaro opened the meeting with prayer. Brother Picciuto introduced the service using the scripture found in Matthew 12, verses 46-50. This scripture pertains to the words of Christ, "Who is my Mother? and who are my brethren?" And He stretched forth His hand toward His disciples and said, "Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother." Brother Picciuto likened these words to the brothers and sisters of the Perry Mission being his spiritual family with whom he had fellowshiped. He exhorted all to serve God and not to lean on the arm of flesh. It is of God and through God that we receive all things. In order to remain faithful to the end we must truly wait upon God and serve Him. Brother John Mancini followed, telling of the good Brother Picciuto had done and also the work of the ministry. Brother Biscotti then spoke of how good it is to serve God and exhorted our brother, as he would his own son, to trust in God and continue the work he is doing. Brother Joe Genaro closed with prayer. A wonderful lunch was prepared by our Sisters which we enjoyed before bidding the Picciuto family farewell.

We will truly miss Brother Picciuto as he was a help to us all along the way.

Robert Quinn, Mission Editor

"WHERE DO WE STAND?"

*If Christ should come to visit us
Would His heart be filled with joy
With what He finds us doing
While here in His employ?
Now this means all of us.*

*But many times we grunt and groan,
And stir up quite a fuss.*

*"Let him who's free, do all the work,
And I will stand aside."*

*In other words, "I've paid my toll,
I'm just out for the ride."*

*But when at last our life is spent,
We feel secure—we paid our rent.*

*I wonder what the Lord will say
When we face Him on Judgement Day.
Do you think he'll say "You've done good work,
And never once from it did shirk."?
Or will it be, "Your work was vain,
Your garments ruined by the stain.
I cannot let you through this gate,
Your works deserve another fate."?*

Charles Smith
Edison Branch

Weddings**SEIGHMAN - STRICKLER**

On August 6, 1965, at 7:30 P.M., Diana Lee Strickler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Claude M. Strickler of Belle Vernon, Pa. and George Seighman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert B. Seighman, Sr. of Monongahela, Pa., were united in marriage in The Church of Jesus Christ in Monongahela with Brother Samuel J. Kirschner officiating.

We extend our best wishes and may God's spiritual blessings enrich their life together.

* * * * *
CAMPISI - MILTON

On August 14, 1965, at 7:30 P.M., Carrie Ann Milton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Milton of New Eagle, Pa. and James Campisi, son of Mrs. Edith Campisi, of Bentleyville, Pa., were united in marriage.

The ceremony took place at The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa. and was officiated by Brother James Grazan, assisted by Brother Isaac Smith.

Our best wishes go with them, as well as our prayer that God may enrich their life together with many spiritual blessings.

* * * * *
ARCURI - PATTERSON

Miss Lucille Patterson and Brother Anthony Arcuri, Jr. were united in marriage on July 17, 1965 in The Church of Jesus Christ, Fort Pierce, Florida, with Brother Frank Rogolino officiating. This was the first wedding to be held in our new building.

May they be a blessing to each other.

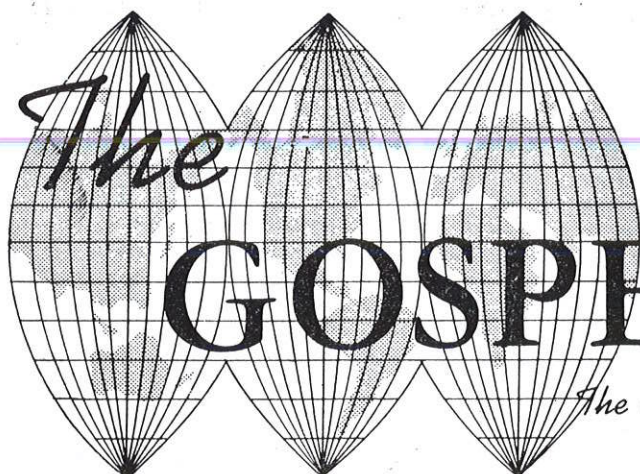
* * * * *
CAIN - CRALL

Brother and Sister William Crall of Streetsboro, Ohio take pleasure in announcing the marriage of their daughter, Sister Mary Margaret, to Mr. Stephen Cain, son of Mrs. Ruth Cain of Stow, Ohio. The ceremony was solemnized in The Church of Jesus Christ in Niles, Ohio with Brother Joseph Gennaro officiating. Many relatives, friends, brothers and sisters were present. The couple will make their home in Akron, Ohio.

May our good Lord always be their guide.

NOTICE

We wish to thank those who have made financial gifts to The Gospel News. You may be assured the money will be used in improving and furthering the work of our Church through our little paper.



The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

November 1965

Vol. 21 No. 11

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Indian Population Explodes

Arizona Tribes Awakening To Opportunities
In Education, Jobs, Politics and Commerce

By Harold R. Cousland
Republic Education Writer

Arizona Indians are not the vanishing Americans.

Instead, they are the most rapidly growing ethnic group in the United States, according to Dr. Robert A. Roessel, Jr., director of the Indian education center at Arizona State University.

Dr. Roessel, in an interview, predicted that there would be 130,000 school-age children among Arizona Indians 10 years from now. He said there are 36,000 school-age Indians in Arizona this year.

THE BUREAU of Indian Affairs in Phoenix yesterday verified a steady Arizona Indian population increase. Officials attributed the increase to improved health conditions and infant care, as well as to immigration from other states.

Leland M. Lucas, statistician for the U.S. Public Health Service, said the 1960 census showed 83,400 Indians in Arizona. He said the projected Indian population figure for this July is 92,600.

And almost 50 per cent of the state's Indian population is under 20 years of age, Lucas said. But he added that 1963 infant death rates for Arizona Indians averaged 62.4 per 1,000 live births, compared to a U.S. total for all races of 25.2.

Dr. Roessel, who has directed the ASU center since its founding in 1958, said that the average Navajo had completed only two years of school, compared to an average of 11 years for other Arizona residents.

BUT THIS picture is changing, he noted.

"The Indian people are awakening. In the past, they have felt much like pawns. Indian leadership has not been active. They have been content to patiently sit aside. But they are beginning to understand they can be masters of their own fate."

Even in voting, he predicted, Indians will overcome their apathy through time and education.

(Continued on Page Two)

The following articles are reprints from a Phoenix, Arizona newspaper, submitted by Brother Phil Damore of Scottsdale, Arizona:

College To Train For Indian Work

Special to The Gazette

TEMPE — The U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity has contracted with Arizona State University to train "Volunteers in Service to America" (VISTA) to work on Indian reservations.

Amount of the contract is about \$300,000.

Part of the anti-poverty program, VISTA has been described as the domestic version of the Peace Corps.

Twenty-five men and women are the first of an estimated 320 volunteers to be trained at ASU and by cooperating tribes during the next 18 months.

Dr. L. Mayland Parker, associate professor of agricultural economics, will direct the ASU program.

The volunteers will spend two weeks at ASU and one month on Arizona reservations. The first group will train on the Gila River reservation with the Prima-Maricopa tribes. Plans are underway to train at the White Mountain Apache reservation for the summer and, perhaps, with the Navajos.

Training will include building sanitary facilities, organizing sports and recreation activities, assisting students and their families with education problems, instructing in cooking, sewing, and child care, and helping organize community activities.

IMPORTANT

If you have a change of address, please send a card giving both your old and new address. Each old or incorrect address cost us 10¢ of the Lord's money.

INDIAN POPULATION EXPLODES

(Continued from Page 1)

"Many Indians misunderstand the franchise at present. They are afraid they will lose their land, or their reservation, if they vote. But the Indian will be a real partner if we want him to be."

The most crucial need of Arizona Indians is education for leadership, Dr. Roessel declared.

"AN INDIAN leader once told me that 'we run a million-dollar business with a 10-cent education.' They have tremendous land and resources and only a second or fourth grade education to run them."

One of the functions of the Indian center is to meet this need by training teachers, administrators, counselors, social workers, lawyers and doctors to work with Indians.

Since 1958, the ASU center has received almost \$1 million in research and training grants. It also works with tribal councils, schools and missions in areas such as leadership training and housing.

The center publishes "The Journal of American Indian Education," the only journal on Indian education in the nation. It also conducts workshops and prepares material for use in Indian classrooms.

Note: ASU'S college of education offers the only master's degree in Indian education in the country. There were eight master's degree graduates in this field last year, and about 40 ASU 1964 graduates are working with Indians this year, Roessel said.

One hundred and three Indian students now attend ASU, and more of them than ever before plan to return to the reservation.

A survey of Indian students at ASU in 1959 showed that 8 of 10 of them did not plan to go back to reservation life. This fall a survey of 101 Indians showed 93 planned to return.

The reasons, said Dr. Roessel, include the training at ASU and an increased sense of responsibility to their people. There are also more job opportunities for Indians on the reservations today.

"INDIAN education," Dr. Roessel observed, "is really a living testimony of the correctness of the philosophy of training each child individually."

One of the teaching methods most frequently adapted to teaching Indian children is competition. This is necessary, the professor said, because Indians suffer anxiety about competition.

"For example, the Navajo finds security in the group. Children will deliberately miss a question in class if somebody else has because they don't want to show anybody up."

He termed Indian education the best vehicle of meeting the problem of understanding and respecting differences among races.

"No one is anti-Indian," Dr. Roessel said. "Indians should be uniquely equipped to give an understanding of a culture that is different."

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Dear Lord, I thank thee for the burdens
Resting on my heart—for well I know
When thy hand lifts them up and heals the wounds
I will be humbler for the scars that show.
I thank thee that chastisement comes
To gather up a fault while it's yet small
And crush it ere it twines around my heart
To steal the cherished light—a weed grown tall.
O Lord, I thank thee that thy truth reflects
In simple things—a life like mine—
And through the haze of furnace dross,
I thank thee that pure gold may shine.

Frances Hartman

A Request For Prayer

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

From my bedside at the Lockport Memorial Hospital, I write these few lines to say that I have just experienced another episode of a bleeding ulcer and will be a patient here for several weeks.

I humbly request the prayers of my brothers and sisters and friends for it is my desire to get well again and to continue to serve my Lord in promulgating this True and Restored Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Your brother in Christ,

Paul D'Amico

THANKFUL THOUGHTS

Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God;
Thy Spirit is good.
Lead me into the land upright. Search me, O God and
know my heart, try me and know my thoughts;
Lead me in the way everlasting.
Let the words of my mouth and meditation of my heart
Be acceptable in thy sight.
Oh Lord, my strength and my Redemer, give clean
words and clear thoughts.
Save me from habits that harm.
Teach me to work as hard as if all the world saw.
Forgive me when I am unkind, and help me to help
others at cost to myself.
Send me a chance to do little good every day,
And so grow more like Christ.
Help us to be thankful, our Father we pray,
For all of the blessings Thou givest each day;
Help us unto others more kindness to show,
For Thou art most kind to Thy children below.
Jesus, help us to remember
These sweet lessons from Thy word,
Write upon our hearts forever
Truth, that we this day have heard.
All the week be near to bless us,
Bring us to Thy house again.
Lord, be with us, guard us, guide us,
For our Saviour's sake.
May the blessings of the Lord be with you all and
May He increase our faith.

by Minnie DePiero

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Editorial Viewpoint



George A. Neill

Let us give thanks to our God for every taste of life's experiences, for every lesson, for every trial with a feeling they have all added to our spiritual development.

When I look back over my past life I become stirred by the thought of the number of people to whom I owe thanks for what they gave me or what they were to me. It is impossible for me to recall all these people and the things they did for me. I'm satisfied the list is long and the deeds have been many for people have been good to me, even from the days of my childhood. It isn't my intention to name these people or refer to the kindnesses they have done for me. I am only haunted by a consciousness of the little gratitude I have shown them, and realizing many of them have said farewell and passed over to the other side, I become impressed with the thought that we should become more appreciative and should show our thankfulness at the right time.

Did you ever stand beside the open grave of a departed friend or loved one and wonder if you had thanked him enough for his kindness, or allowed your gratitude to be felt by him? I have, and with a feeling of shame. In the face of all this, however, I believe I can truly say I am not ungrateful. Nevertheless I should become more sensitive to my duty in the matter and express the gratitude that is in my heart. Let us not value too little the feeling that is felt when someone does us a kind act or a good deed. We dare not say only one of the ten lepers whom Christ healed was thankful and appreciative. Christ was amazed that only one returned to say, "Thank you, Lord." This one person had a disposition that made him act immediately; in other words, he did not put off giving thanks which afterwards may have been too late. The other nine may have stood at the grave of Jesus with a feeling of shame and regret. I believe most people's consciences are stirred to be thankful but too few obey the admonition. It would seem to me we can refresh our souls with the assurance of gratitude.

At this Thanksgiving season let us be reminded of the words of the poet, "Count your many blessings, name them one by one; and it will surprise you what the Lord has done." These words can certainly be helpful if applied in our everyday thinking.

I remember reading different experiences of individuals who were thankful and expressed their feelings. During the last war a soldier in the Third Army was sent to a rest camp after a period of active service. When this soldier returned to his outfit he wrote a letter to George Patton who was the General in command, thanking him for this rest period. The General is supposed to have stated, "Thirty-five years I have tried to give comfort and convenience to my soldiers but this is the first letter of thanks I have ever received."

A famous scholar by the name of Matthew Henry was once accosted by thieves and robbed of his money. In his diary he wrote these words, "Let me be thankful **first** because I was never robbed before; **second** because, although they took my purse, they did not take my life; **third** because although they took my all, it was not much; and **fourth** because it was I who was robbed, not I who robbed." That surely makes you think, doesn't it?

(Continued On Page Four)

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

(Continued from Page Three)

The parents of a young man who was killed in the war gave a check for \$200.00 to their church as a memorial to their loved one. When the presentation was made another war mother whispered to her husband, "Let us give the same for our boy." The husband replied, "What are you talking about? Our boy didn't lose his life." "That's just the point," she said. "Let us give because he didn't." And that makes you think too, doesn't it?

The late Dr. Albert Schweitzer, referred to as the Great White Doctor, recently died at the age of ninety and was buried near the Hospital which he founded half a century ago on the muddy banks of the Ogoone River at Tambarene Gabon, Africa. In the following quotations he expressed his feelings concerning gratitude:

"Not until my twentieth year and even later did I begin to exert myself sufficiently to express the gratitude which was really in my heart for other people."

"We ought all to make an effort to act on our thoughts and let our unspoken gratitude find expression; and then there would be more sunshine in the world and more power to work for what is good."

"A great deal of water is flowing underground which never comes up as a spring. We must become a spring at which men can quench their thirst for gratitude."

Many people have expressed their thanks and have rejoiced as they drank of the brook of life's experiences. Let us, as we drink of the brook of life, take a lesson from the little birds which, as they drink, repeatedly lift the head as though giving thanks to God. Let us give thanks to our God for every taste of life's experiences, for every lesson, for every trial with a feeling they have all added to our spiritual development.

NOTICE

GMBA Conference In Youngstown, Ohio

The semi-annual conference of the General Missionary Benevolent Association will convene at 10 a.m., Saturday, November 13, in the Youngstown, Ohio Church building, 2750 Gibson Street. There will be two other sessions, one beginning at 2:00 in the afternoon and the other at 7:30 in the evening.

Association reports, election of officers, and future plans will highlight the first two meetings. A program will be presented by the Youngstown Local in the evening.

Everyone is sincerely being asked to attend so that the membership's wishes can be heard and acknowledged.

Please Note

Due to the fact that some material is slow making the paper, while other material is never printed, this note appears by the way of clarification. First, I would like to ask all to be patient; we are doing our level best to print the material in the order it is received. If your article is slow appearing this is no indication it has been rejected. The writer of any article that has been rejected will be notified. We always consider news items a very important part of our paper and often allow them to carry priority over articles. However, there are times when news items are too plentiful and therefore some have to be omitted. Should that particular news item be three months old by the time the next paper goes to print it is cancelled out.

We would also suggest that all news items be as brief as possible. We have received some numbering 1200 words and over which necessitates having to omit parts of same. We would prefer that all branch editors keep their news items as brief as possible, giving only the highlights of the activities in their branch.

The Editor

It Pays To Go First Class

By C. W. Holmes

There's a story about a fellow who wanted to purchase a stagecoach ticket to ride over mountain country, and the agent asked him if he wanted to travel first, second, or third class. He chose third class and climbed aboard, smirking to himself over the folly of his fellow passengers who held first and second class tickets. Finally they arrived at the foot of a mountain. The driver applied the brakes and called out: "First class passengers keep your seats! Second class passengers get out and walk! Third class passengers get out and push!"

No doubt the fellow wanted to change to first class passage at that point, but he had waited too long. The very same thing is going to happen to some of you on board the Gospel train if you don't change to first class tickets before it's too late.

Although the agent has told you time and time again that the first class tickets are free, Jesus having paid the full price for them with His blood, you still haven't accepted yours.

The mountain is in sight. The train will be going up pretty soon, and it certainly would be nice if you could stay on board.

Von Humboldt said, "Every man, however good, has yet a better man within him. When the outer man is unfaithful to his deeper convictions, the inner man whispers a protest. The name of that whisper in the soul is conscience."

A Fable: Once there was a man who was humble and not proud of it.



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

Matthew 7: 12

Dear Girls and Boys,

A few months ago, I told you a story about Ammon and King Lamoni. Do you remember how the king became converted? This is another story about Ammon, an exciting one about saving the king's sheep.

Ammon, who was one of the sons of King Mosiah, had three brothers, named Aaron, Omner, and Himni. The boys said goodbye to their father and left on a mission to teach the word of God to the Lamanites. This mission was to last fourteen years. They asked the Lord for guidance to help bring these people to the knowledge of the truth. Their father, the king, had been told by the Lord to allow them to go and many would believe their teachings. Their father had hoped one of them would be king, but they each refused.

They took their swords, spears, slings, bows, and arrows so they could kill game for food while in the wilderness. They traveled many days. They fasted and prayed that the Lord would give them a portion of His Spirit. One day the Lord visited them with His Spirit. It said, "Be comforted", and they were comforted. Again the Lord spoke saying, "Go forth among the Lamanites, thy brethren and establish my word; yet ye shall be patient in long suffering and afflictions, that ye may show forth good examples unto them in me; and I will make an instrument of thee in my hands, unto the salvation of many souls." This gave them courage to go on.

As they reached the borders of the land of the Lamanites, they separated. Each brother went in a different direction. They bid each other goodbye. Ammon blessed each of his brothers and gave them instructions. This was a great work they had undertaken, to preach the word to a wild and hardened, ferocious people. They delighted in murdering the Nephites and robbing them. Their hearts were set upon riches but they would not labor for them. The curse of God had fallen upon them.

Ammon went to the land of Ishmael. As soon as he entered the land, he was captured by the Lamanites. They bound him and carried him to their king, Lamoni. This was their custom, when a Nephite was found in the land. It was up to the king to decide whether to kill the captive, put him in prison, or make a slave of him.

King Lamoni asked Ammon why he had

come and if he desired to live there. Ammon replied he wanted to dwell among them, perhaps until he died. This pleased the king and he ordered his men to loose his bonds. The king learned to like Ammon and even offered one of his daughters to him for a wife. But Ammon refused, he just wanted to be a servant. He became a servant and helped herd the sheep.

Three days later Ammon and other servants were driving the sheep to water. Other Lamanites who were driving their sheep were there also. They were angry. They began to scatter the king's flocks. The servants who were with Ammon became frightened. They were afraid King Lamoni would slay them if the sheep were lost. Ammon comforted them. He knew this was his chance to show the Lord's power. Ammon and his friends gathered the sheep together and headed them back to the water hole. Again the wicked men came to scatter them. Ammon told the servants to surround the sheep while he went to fight the enemy. They began throwing stones at Ammon but they could not hit him. Ammon took out his sling shot and killed six of the enemies. They were more determined to get Ammon now. Since they could not hit him with their stones, they came at him with clubs. Ammon was not afraid. His God was with him. As the men raised their arms to strike him, Ammon cut off their arms. He killed their leader with his sword. When the rest of the men saw this, they ran away.

Ammon and the servants went back to the king. They carried with them the arms of their enemies and laid them before the king. Ammon did not go in to the king. He stayed outside and fed the horses. As the servants told the story to the king, he was greatly impressed by the great power Ammon possessed. None of his servants had been as faithful as Ammon. The king said, "Surely this is more than a man. Behold is not this the Great Spirit?" Ammon was a wise man. He knew the power he possessed came from God. Through this experience, Ammon was able to tell the king about the Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Search the Scriptures

1. Who was king Lamoni a descendant of ? Alma 17 : 21
2. What was the name of the place where the flocks were taken to drink? Alma 17 : 26
3. Who had taught Lamoni about the Great Spirit? Alma 18 : 5
4. What does "Rabbanah" mean? Alma 18 : 13
5. After the king prayed what happened to him? Alma 18 : 41, 42

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

To be happy is not only to be freed from the pains and diseases of the body, but from anxiety and vexation of spirit—not only to enjoy the pleasure of sense, but peace of conscience and tranquility of mind.—Tillotson

Vital Christianity

M.B.A. Highlights

Year's Progress Reviewed

By Carl Frammolin, GMBA Editor

It has been one year since the revised Missionary Benevolent Association By-Laws were ratified last November, so it seems appropriate to analyze the progress which has been made during this period. Enough information is available for an objective review, even though some fundamental plans are still being formulated at all levels of the organization.

The By-Laws were rewritten to allow for an expanded structure to better serve the Association in the attainment of its objectives, which are the conducting of scriptural study classes, the assisting in Church missionary work, the helping of needy people, and the offering of spiritual guidance to young people. Officers and committees have been added throughout the organization to serve in the more comprehensive, well-rounded program. How they fit into the total picture forms the basis for this appraisal.

The GMBA Picture

Besides the addition of several permanent officers, a major change in the General level was the creation of the GMBA Activities Committee. This Committee was designed to plan, co-ordinate, direct, and aid in projects for the entire MBA and is composed of various GMBA officers and the MBA Area Presidents.

To adequately administer General Activities, the Committee has been organized into sub-committees. They are the sub-groups for MBA Lessons Plans, GMBA Fund Raising Drives, and GMBA Field Trips. Each has been organizing the machinery to handle its functions, and each has undertaken one major project to date.

The lesson plan sub-committee has started to analyze the material in both the *Book of Mormon* and *The Church history* book to devise a series of studies for different age levels. The first step in this project has been to have each sub-committee member prepare an outline for a particular age group of one book in the *Book of Mormon*. It is intended eventually to present all the scriptures for the various classes on a level which can best be understood by the students in each respective group. When completed, the lessons can be applied by all Locals in a comprehensive and sequential manner from class to class without any gaps in instruction regardless of how many classes there are.

Fund-Raising Drives can be used for many purposes to aid The Church in its missionary and benevolent efforts, in addition to helping in matters of common Church concern. The pilot activity by the fund-raising sub-committee has been the sale of a picture album of last May's GMBA Conference. The proceeds, above the printing and distribution costs, will be placed in

the GMBA Land Purchase Fund and will eventually be donated to the General Church Auditorium Fund for a much needed meeting place. The sub-committee is presently devising procedures to obtain other funds for this building, as well as for other needs.

As reported in the last "MBA Highlights," the field trip sub-committee has completed its pioneer undertaking, the trip to the Muncey Indian Reservation in August. Obviously, this trek can serve as a model for future ones which will be taken to places of Church interest. The enthusiasm which the Muncey gathering generated and the successful combining of spiritual, social, and educational experiences undoubtedly will be great influences on the success of future journeys.

Permanent Area Structure

The MBA Areas have been created as a permanent part of the Association's organization. A full slate of officers is elected for one-year terms, the same as for the GMBA. In addition, the Areas also have an Activities Committee to plan, co-ordinate, direct, and aid in projects for their particular regions. Besides Area Officers, the Committees include one Local Representative from each Local within the particular Area's geographical boundaries.

The first annual Area Conferences were held in July, when permanent officers were elected for the first time and preliminary activities programs were outlined. Even though they are in formative stages, the Areas have made sufficient progress to indicate the direction their activities will take and what energies must be expended to gain the objectives.

Locals Also Expanded

Locals have also been expanded, with emphasis being placed on giving them the machinery to increase membership and to involve members in meaningful activities. A Local Representative and a Membership Committee play key parts in these endeavors.

The Local Representative is on the Area Activities Committee to make certain his unit's needs are being met and conversely to co-ordinate the role his Local plays in the Area's projects. His chief responsibility is to his Local, so he should take its wishes to the regional organization. By being on the Committee, a Representative can also observe what is necessary for other Locals, so he can more intelligently assist in the decisions for the entire Area. Of course, Locals can have activities for their own members also.

Although most Locals have not come up with long-range plans, they have indicated their desire to project their planning in a significant manner. It is expected they will be sufficiently advanced by the next Area Conferences so they can present well-ordered schedules of activities at that time.

Membership Drives are the primary responsibility of the three-member Local Membership Committee which are to stimulate and increase attendance by contact with individual members. To properly appraise the membership progress being made, attendance and growth figures are

being kept by some member units so the information can be analyzed and be furnished to Area and GMBA Conferences. Also, some Locals are mapping a broad program to recruit members from outside The Church.

Overview

Admittedly, the By-Laws Revision will need more implementation before its full potential will be achieved. It has provided for the development of activities at each level of the MBA, and it has also made it possible for all divisions of the MBA to combine their efforts for general projects. In short, the structure now offers a diversified, balanced, and flexible program of activities for membership participation which can make the MBA more useful to itself and The Church in general. As overall involvement increases, the total MBA scope will be more apparent and the additions to the MBA structure will be meaningful. In the final analysis, "activity" seems to be the best word to describe the MBA.

MBA HIGHLIGHTS - SPECIAL FEATURE

(This is the second in a special series by Richard Bologna, recent returnee from the United States Peace Corps, who spent his two-year tour of duty in Liberia, West Africa, teaching in that country's schools. In the first article, Brother Richard discussed the history of Liberia. In this presentation, he explains Liberian urban life. In the next story, he will give an account of life in a tribal community. — Editor's Note)

Urban Life in Liberia

By Richard Bologna

Large cities and all the comforts of a modern society can be found in various parts of Africa. Usually these cities are the capitals of countries. Some of these are Nairobi, Kenya; Abidjan, Ivory Coast; Freetown, Sierra Leone; Lagos, Nigeria; Dakar, Senegal; and Accra, Ghana. The capitals are not the only portions of African countries which qualify as urban areas. Many nations have at least one other large city, and some have many smaller ones. Liberia falls in the latter category.

Monrovia, a city of about 20,000 people, is the capital and largest urban area of Liberia. It is a modern city in every sense, with sections of housing much the same as you would find in California. The streets are paved. Electricity is in every house and shop. Some of the homes have running water and hot baths. Although new, telephones and television are also available. The city has its own radio and television station, plus a large "Voice of America" installation a few miles from town.

Spread out along the Atlantic Coast of Liberia are four smaller urban areas, each having been settled about the same time by freed American slaves. In many respects Harper, one of these four areas, is typical of the other Liberian coastal cities.

Harper is more international than most cities in the United States. Its population is varied, with the smallest segment being composed of foreign-

ers who are mostly businessmen, teachers, doctors, and other government workers. Most little shops along the main streets are owned by Lebanese, selling everything imaginable. Hardware items of all kinds can be found in these little shops. The one pharmacy in town, however, is owned and operated by a Liberian. Other foreigners besides the Lebanese include Dutch merchants, Italian construction workers, German shipping agents, Haitian and French doctors, and American and Indian teachers.

Americo-Liberians

At one time, Harper City like the other coastal cities, was populated entirely by Americo-Liberians. Today, many tribal people have taken active roles in the community and social affairs. The landowners, however, are mostly Americo-Liberians. Some of their young people go away to European and American schools. The education thus gained has qualified them for key government positions. Very few of the young people enter the building and maintenance occupations, the services, trades, or business vocations. The wealthier members of the community handle most of the real estate business. Members of this group include top school and government officials. This is a smaller and very formal segment of the society. They have only limited communication with the tribal people or the foreign communities.

A few tribal people living on the fringe of the Americo-Liberian community have become educated and have established themselves as valuable members of the society. Throughout the town and away from the main streets, little settlement of tribal people can be found. Near the sea fishing tribes fish daily. The tribal people make just enough money to buy food or raise just enough rice on which to live.

Sources of income are few, because not very many jobs are available for workmen. A laborer might find temporary work building a road or loading a ship, but these do not provide steady income. The fishermen and farmers bring their goods to the market each day where they sell to each other. Most of these transactions amount to only a few dollars, just enough to live on for that day.

Attend School Together

The school is the one institution which brings all groups of society together. Here young people of all backgrounds study together. Their ultimate goals might be different but for a short period of time they intermingle freely.

Students come from all parts of Harper City. Some tribal children live with relatives in the city, many in one house, while others are taken in by Americo-Liberians who help them obtain an education.

Sunday morning is church time. Almost everyone puts on his finest and walks to church. Sunday afternoon is "walk about time." Most businesses are closed, young and old alike are moving about on the streets in their finest clothes,

(Continued on Page Nine)

Thankfulness

By Carolyn Gehly

This day I feel to write of how thankful I am for my church, The Church of Jesus Christ. I am thankful for brothers and sisters who have spent their entire lives working with all diligence to preserve for us in this generation a pure gospel, The Gospel of Jesus Christ. I hope with all my heart that I will always be able to stand erect, and follow in the footsteps of my father, my grandfather, and great-grandfather, as well as those of many other beloved saints of God.

We look back and tend to think nothing ever went wrong in "the good old days"; but from reading the history of God's people from the days of Christ we see how those who were desirous of preserving their faith were willing to withstand mockery, persecution, and even death; crying into their pillows nightly because of the works of the evil one. How willing are we today? Do we have the spunk to fight for what is right, or is it easier to say: "Well, why doesn't our president to something about this, or our presiding elder?" This church is made up of people, and it is up to each and every one of us to live our lives so that we can even begin to call ourselves saints of Latter Days. This is the hard thing to do; this is what our forefathers did. They didn't choose the path of least resistance, but chose rather to overcome evil stumbling blocks, not only that their souls would be saved in Heaven, but that the souls of their posterity would be saved as well. They preserved a church for us in the face of almost insurmountable obstacles. Now let's ask ourselves, "What are we doing to help preserve a pure heritage for our children?"

Let us read some of our church literature and see how a brother walked several miles to the railroad station to buy his ticket on Saturday, so he wouldn't have to spend money on Sunday in order to obtain transportation to church on that day. You might say, "Oh, yes, they are the 'old stock', the old-fashioned ones." But did you ever stop to think that it was those strict believers of the Word of God who proved faithful in the Church all their days? There were a few at times who thought maybe they knew better than their leaders, and would decide they didn't exactly care for the way Christ set up His Church. We don't hear much about these people, as they usually drifted from the Church and came to naught.

How many do you suppose thought the Apostles in the New Testament times were just a little too strict; or how about Nephi and Lehi in the Book of Mormon, along with other leaders of the Church in that day? However, we see one who refused to give in the least little bit — Faithful Moroni, who was willing to see his people slaughtered before his very eyes, and who knew his own life was in constant danger if he did not deny that which he believed. Yet, his only desire was to fulfill the work God had given him to do, leaving himself wholly dependent upon the will of God, trusting in Him for every

moment of life.

Although I enjoy reading current-day articles in order to keep familiar with happenings of our world, and also some histories to learn of the lives and dealings of men of the past, yet, for my souls salvation I look entirely to the Bible and Book of Mormon. I believe men of God and believers on our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ are the only ones whose teachings I want to entrust with my soul.

I am only in my twenties and have been in this church for about eight and a half years, so I could hardly be classed as an "old timer"; but I firmly believe in the faith of my fathers and that it is living still, and will continue to live on to be victorious over the complacency of this world.

My husband once had a dream, and in this dream he said: "I will never give up that which I have received." This is the same determination I wish to display, along with him and my children as well.

Yesterday and Today

By Eleanor Sproul

After Paul's conversion he became a prominent leader of the Church. He participated in three great missionary journeys, and preached the Word of God to all who would listen. He suffered many hardships when traveling from place to place, and being absent at times from the brothers and sisters he would write letters of encouragement and instructions to them in the things of God. But through his efforts, with the assistance of other brothers, the churches were established in the faith and increased in number daily, and the Word of God grew and multiplied.

We are so thankful that in our day and time when our elders have a desire to visit the various branches and missions they do not encounter the persecutions and hardships endured by Paul and his associates. Due to the ease of traveling in this country it is not necessary to write letters to be read among us, but our visiting elders can speak to us face to face as did Brother Bittinger on Sunday, June 27th, when he occupied our pulpit and brought to us words of eternal life. He used the 12th chapter of Luke for his text and encouraged us to press forward.

Sister Bittinger bore a wonderful testimony to the goodness of God. This was her first visit here, and she said our building reminds her of the church at Fort Pierce, Florida.

It has been eight years since the church at Fredonia was dedicated. God has been so good to us, blessing us in many ways. The visiting brothers and sisters have added so much to our happiness. I believe if we had kept a guest book, the number of visitors would be in the hundreds, and all have expressed their delight in the peace and serenity of our surroundings.

It was good being in Youngstown for the 45th Anniversary of The Ladies' Uplift Circle and hearing the history of the many Circles and the wonderful work our sisters are doing.

(MBA HIGHLIGHTS Continued from Page Seven)
visiting with friends.

On weekdays, in every little shop with a cooler, men can be seen sitting in the doorways of sidewalk shops talking with friends. The market streets are filled with country people dressed in brightly colored clothes. Little buses run to and fro, gathering passengers for the trip to Pleebo Town, 15 miles away. The fare is 35 cents, but it costs more if a passenger is carrying produce or baggage. The buses are jammed to capacity and then speed down the hot, dusty road. On the main street, women sit in their open windows looking down at the activity below.

By noon, all movement comes to a halt. The stores are locked up, the markets close, and everyone finds a little shade to sit under and relax. The town does not come alive until about 2:30 when feverish festivities begin again. This lasts until about 4:30, the normal evening dinner hour.

After dinner, people settle their daily activities, clean up, and walk about for most of the evening. They sometimes buy fruit, candy, or other such items on sale in the streets. By midnight, the town is asleep. The lights are out, and the shutters sealed to keep out the rogues and the rain that might come in the night.

To an outsider, life in urban Liberia is repetitious and sometimes boring; but to the Liberian, its simplicity makes him secure and happy. The hardships are accepted as a part of life.

My Personal Experience

by Mamie E. Funkhouser

It was my desire to be baptized by Brother Oran Thomas. So on July 1, 1960 my husband, Brother George, and my dad, Brother Rocco Enzana, arrived at Brother Thomas' home to prepare for my baptism, on Sunday, July 2nd in the Virgin Run Pool. It was a beautiful Sunday morning with many brothers and sisters from Vanderbilt present; "For me, a day of rejoicing."

Upon coming up out of the waters Sister Elsie Lowe dried my face; as she turned to leave with the brothers and sisters, my husband and I stood watching them depart. There was no one around us; my husband stood on my right. As we started to step forward I could not move or look up. I felt the most powerful arms around me, and then a gentle, soft kiss on each cheek, and I started to cry with exceedingly great joy. Only then was I able to move.

As we walked to the car I turned to my husband and said, "You must be very happy, the way you put your arms around me and kissed me, so gentle on each cheek." He looked at me perplexed and said, "I knew something had taken place within you, but I did not touch you."

I related this experience to the brothers and sisters that day in the meeting. Brother Clyde Gibson confirmed me, and made the statement that "this girl will be blessed every day of her life." I can surely say the Lord has blessed me with the greatest of blessings — the knowledge of the Restored Gospel in all its purity.

A Curfew In The City Of The Angels

By Santina M. Mercuri

I feel that I must comment on the situation here in Los Angeles, since a few of us found ourselves within the boundaries of the curfew, which, by the way, was lifted after three days. It is interesting to note that the occurrence of this destruction, violence, and riot commenced almost immediately following the passage of the Civil Rights Bill by Congress. The picture of what is really taking place is becoming more clear to me now.

No matter where one goes, there is talk about the riot; some call it insurrection; some call it anarchy, and many feel that Communism is behind this entire movement of rights and demonstrations. There is unrest and tension in the air. There prevails a considerable amount of resentment toward the Negro, and by the Negro toward the white. When one enters a market or a store, if there are Negroes about, they are eyed with distrust and suspicion. As one approaches the central area of Los Angeles, he is sure to see police officers in their automobiles, or military men with their guns and rifles on the alert. Often police cars go by with rifles hanging out their windows, and in the back seats can be seen their Negro captives. Negroes at all levels of society are said to have remarked that "they (the white) haven't seen anything yet!" which, of course, remains to be seen. Evidently both Negroes and Whites have armed themselves with pistols, revolvers, and rifles for gun sales in Los Angeles have increased tremendously. This is not a good situation, for it signifies the lack of respect for the laws and for those who rightfully should enforce it. When people take the law into their own hands, such as in this recent riot, it breeds the seeds of revolution, which can only end in destruction.

Many comments and remarks on the cause of this riot have been made. It all began in a Negro area of Los Angeles, allegedly triggered by a citation given to a Negro drunk driver by two California Highway Patrolmen. The drunk driver rebelled and a fight began. Rocks, bottles, and every conceivable object were thrown at the officers and practically everyone who just happened to be driving through at that time. The crowds grew, especially in the Watts area, a Negro ghetto where extensive damage was inflicted upon the businesses. It was as though communications had been flashed by the Negroes to underground sources, else how could it have grown to such proportions in so short a time? Strange as it may seem, the Negro people themselves were being attacked. So rapidly did the turmoil grow that the police force found itself almost overcome by the fury of the mobsters and hoodlums; and after some deliberation, the National Guard was called in to assist in quelling

(Continued on Page Eleven)

General Church Auditorium Site Chosen

At the recent October Conference held in Detroit, Michigan, the Priesthood of The Church of Jesus Christ voted to accept an auditorium site offered by the Imperial, Pennsylvania Branch. The auditorium is needed by the Church to house General Church Conferences. The buildings will also be used for conferences held by the auxiliary units of the Church.

The Imperial Branch will occupy part of the auditorium for its Church services and will serve as caretaker of the proposed facility.

Donations Are Needed

Several individuals have already donated including two \$1000 donations.

The M. B. A. Land Purchasing Fund containing several thousands of dollars will be turned over to The Church as soon as the auditorium project is begun. Of course, many more thousands of dollars will be needed. Members of branches, missions, the M. B. A., the Ladies' Uplift Circle, and Sunday Schools, are urgently requested to donate generously to the auditorium fund.

All donations can be made through local branch, M.B.A., or Ladies' Circle treasurers to The General Church Treasurer, Brother M. R. Griffith R.D. #1 Box 117, Bentleyville, Pennsylvania 15314.

Let's all support this important endeavor with our prayers and contributions.

Dominic Thomas
Secretary, Auditorium Committee

A New Name Written Down In Glory

On a beautiful sabbath morning, August 15, 1965, while our presiding elder, Brother Reno Bologna was addressing the congregation, his son, Richard, arose from his seat and asked for baptism. Brother Richard was baptized by his father. Our hearts were filled with joy to witness a soul join the heavenly corps. Brother Richard who served his country well in the Peace Corps recently returned from Liberia, West Africa. We pray that now he will serve the Lord as well as he served his fellowman. May the Lord bless Brother Richard throughout the course of his life, is our prayer.

May I also add that the fellowship with the saints is most wonderful in the sight of God. Our elder brothers who are filled with the spirit of God bring forth the beauty and simplicity of the teachings of Christ. They also speak of the glory of God's kingdom, and talk of His power to make known to the sons of men His mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom.

Salutations with God's love to all throughout the Church from the Detroit West Side Branch #2. May God bless each and everyone is our prayer.

Anna Carlini, Branch Editor

Be Thankful

The first American Thanksgiving Day was celebrated after the first harvest of the Plymouth Colonists in the new world. The first dreadful winter in Massachusetts had killed nearly half of the members of the colony. But hope sprung anew in the summer of 1621. The corn harvest brought rejoicing. Governor Bradford decreed that December 13, 1621 be set aside as a day of feasting and prayer, to show the gratitude of the colonists.

In the United States, Thanksgiving is usually a family day, celebrated with big dinners and joyous reunions. Thanksgiving is also a time for serious religious thinking, church services and personal prayers.

Psalms 95 — O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In His hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is His also. The sea is His, and He made it: and His hands formed the dry land. O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker. For He is our God; and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand. Today if ye will hear His voice, Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness: When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my work.

May we, as brothers and sister in The Church of Jesus Christ, be an example to the world of the real meaning of being thankful. There is so much we should be thankful for — the small blessings and our large blessings.

Evelyn Crall,
Niles Branch Editor

News From Monongahela

Greetings to all the saints throughout the Church:

After the Pennsylvania District business meeting was held on Saturday, September 4th, at Aliquippa, we in Monongahela were honored on Sunday with a large group present at Conference.

The meeting was opened by Bro. Russel Cadman, his theme being on the Gentile leader who will come forth. While he was discoursing on this subject, Bro. Furnier rose to his feet and sang in the Spirit. They were very wonderful words of comfort and cheer. Another brother also spoke briefly in tongues.

After Bro. Russel's talk, Bro. Furnier then occupied the pulpit and continued on the same theme. He was followed by Bro. Shazer and Bro. Harry Robinson. Bro. Isaac Smith closed the meeting with prayer.

By Edith Terrill
Branch Editor

A CURFEW IN THE CITY OF THE ANGELS

(Continued from Page Nine)

the riot. Those of you who have read the papers know of the great number of people who were injured and died. It was no small-scale outbreak of law-breaking and destruction, and it is difficult to believe that this amount of trouble could have had its beginning in a mere citation.

The actual damage done is counted in the millions besides tremendous loss to every other business in Los Angeles. It threw the entire city out of balance, for people were unable to go to work; transportation was crippled; stores in the curfew area received no deliveries. Los Angeles was paralyzed in so short a time. Everyone was affected by this terrible happening in one way or another. How quickly the scene can change. Somehow, the atmosphere is different now. There are questions in the minds of people. This outbreak has caused many people's lives to change. Many professional people may resign from their jobs; families may move to other areas. The hopes and plans of many have been destroyed. Sad to say, but when something like this takes place, all people suffer whether they be black or white, and it is the innocent who suffer most. There were countless fires; many businesses were completely destroyed; looters went wild. A great number of liquor stores lost their entire stock, as well as the gun shops. Mix these two items and you have disaster. Children looted along with their parents, and very openly so.

Very seldom in this sad week for Los Angeles did I hear, see, or read anything concerning the only solution to the problem — God Himself. One humble Negro minister pleaded on a radio phone call that this was a time for both white and black people to pray, because all races suffer by such an outbreak of violence and destruction. A Jewish man felt that the answer to the problem was to put into effect the doctrine of Jesus Christ. These were the only two worthwhile comments I heard through this whole riot period.

A wise Negro reporter stated recently, "There are two sides to this police brutality: in the eight hours of time I spent in the riot area, I saw many, many white people being hurt. I saw an elderly white couple being dragged from their automobile and beat up severely. I wonder if they survived? Police brutality? Can one talk gently to wild mobsters or a gang of hoodlums throwing rocks and glass at you and sticking knives in your back? Police brutality?"

Yes, there is a Negro ghetto in Los Angeles called 'Watts', where poverty is manifested in the way of filth, degeneracy, crime, immorality, divorce, broken homes, unemployment. But I call this kind of poverty of the mind, for out of people's thinking come all the aforementioned conditions. Such a situation is not manifested in any place where even the smallest amount of religion is applied to daily living. Also, poverty is no excuse for filth of any kind. Sin, itself, creates all of these things. Those of us who have come to know God through this wonderful Church, whether Negro or White, know full well that where God is, there is no real poverty or dis-

crimination. Certainly, one can be somewhat poor as to the material things of this life, but there is no comparison to the poverty of the mind which breeds evil of all kinds.

God will not help a people, a race, or a nation who does not want to make an honest effort to live according to His precepts. They are now having conferences and meetings and gatherings, etc., at all levels of government to solve this whole racial mess and anti-poverty program, but it may be all in vain, because God will not work with a people who do those things that are contrary to His will. There is corruption all around us, and deterioration of those principles which were the foundation of our great and wonderful country. To fight for one's rights is one thing, but to destroy innocent people and to manifest hatred by violence to obtain these rights is not at all acceptable by God or man. The Negroes in California have as many rights as in any other state in the union. I would say that the greater part do take advantage of this, and by so doing have taken their place in society as law-abiding, decent citizens. These rights are available to all Negroes. Liberty and rights are things for which all people must fight and work (and by fight I mean persistency and go-gettiveness). Rights are not just handed to us on a silver platter. To possess these rights, we must possess the zeal, the determination, the faith to make progress; and it must first start within the individual himself. There are no two ways about it: we work either for the good, as God would have it, or for the evil, which can only lead to self-destruction.

News From Kansas

Dear Brother Neill and Gospel News Staff:

Just a few lines to say "Thank you" for sending my copy of The Gospel News for September when my subscription expires in August, but being brothers and sisters we know these things are every day happenings among the saints.

We in the St. John Mission were blessed last Sunday, September 5th, by having Brother John and Sister Connie Ross and their two little daughters from Pine Ridge, South Dakota with us for the day. They had helped us organize our M. B. A. one year ago on Decoration Day and came down over the Labor Day weekend to see how we were progressing. We had a picnic in Brother Alex Robinson's yard after M. B. A. with twenty-seven persons present (counting children). All except five of this group attend M. B. A. regularly so we feel very fortunate to have so many young folks when we are such a small mission.

We need your prayers and will continue to pray for all the saints everywhere, as well as others who are honestly striving to do what is right to the best of their knowledge and understanding.

Sincerely,

Sister Letha Kunkle
Lincoln, Kansas 67455

Weddings

DOMINICO — DELFINO

On September 11, 1965 at 1:30 p.m., Alfred Dominico and Donna Delfino were united in marriage. Fred is the son of Brother Alfred and Sister Josephine Dominico, and Donna is the daughter of Mrs. Mary Delfino, Ohio.

Fred is teaching at Upper Arlington High School and Donna will receive her degree in education at Ohio State University in March of 1966. They are residing in Columbus, Ohio. May the Lord guide their footsteps and grant them much happiness together.

MAURER — TISLER

Brother and Sister Joseph Tisler of Lorain, Ohio wish to announce the marriage of their daughter, Cheryl, to James Maurer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Maurer of Vermilion, Ohio.

The wedding was solemnized on September 18, 1965 with Brother Joseph Calabrese officiating, assisted by Brother Frank Calabrese who offered the opening prayer. A reception was held immediately following the ceremony after which the couple left for a wedding trip to Niagara Falls and Canada. They will reside in Vermilion, Ohio. May God bless them.

GIOVANNONE — GOBERISH

On September 11th at 3:00 P.M. Mr. Donald L. Giovannone, son of Brother Frank D. and Ina Giovannone of Warren, Ohio and Miss Linda L. Goberish, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Goberish of West Farmington, Ohio, were united in marriage at an open church ceremony at the Lordstown Christian Church in Lordstown, Ohio. Brother Frank D. Giovannone officiated at the double ring ceremony.

A reception was held in the church basement following the ceremony, after which the young couple left for a wedding trip. They will reside in Windham, Ohio.

HICKMAN — CONSTANTINE

Brother and Sister Joseph Constantine of Cape Coral, Florida (formerly of Youngstown, Ohio) are happy to announce the marriage of their daughter, Jacquelyn to A/2c James M. Hickman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Hickman of Lumberton, N.C. The wedding took place September 16, 1965.

Jacquelyn will join her husband the latter part of October in Scotland where he will be stationed. We extend our best wishes to the happy couple.

MARINETTI — MUNKES

On August 14, 1965 at three o'clock Robert D. Marinetti, son of Brother and Sister Patsy Marinetti, and Bonnie J. Munkes were united in marriage.

The double ring ceremony took place in the Chapel of Colgate Rochester Divinity School. Brother Patsy Marinetti performed the ceremony.

We extend our best wishes and God's blessings for success and happiness all along life's way.

As he who violates all laws must be the most miserable being, so he who keeps all laws must be the happiest of beings.

Obituary

MELVIN LINT

Melvin Lint of Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania died September 18, 1965 after a short illness. He is survived by his wife, Violet, two sons and a daughter.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Oran Thomas. May the good Lord comfort the family in their sorrow.

JOSEPH ALTOMARE

Joseph Altomare, an evangelist of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed away on September 7, 1965. Brother Joe was born in Italy on November 21, 1893, and came to the United States 56 years ago, living in Lorain 42 of those years. He was baptized on November 4, 1923, ordained an elder on April 2, 1927 and ordained an evangelist on July 22, 1935. He remained a faithful member of the church all these years. Besides his widow, Sister Anna, he leaves two sons and two daughters.

Services were conducted by Brother Rocco Biscotti and Brother Dominic Thomas at The Church of Jesus Christ.

May the Lord comfort the bereaved.

MODESTINA RIZZO

Sister Modestina Rizzo (Ritz), aged 79, passed away on September 8, 1965. She was the mother of Brother Nicholas Ritz of Youngstown, Ohio and Sister Sophia Garofalo of Los Alamitos, California. She was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ in 1925 and was the widow of the late Elder Alfonso Rizzo, who preceded her in death in 1946. She is survived by 10 children, 28 grandchildren, and 34 great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted by Brothers William Gennaro and Sam Costarella in the J. W. Kisinger Funeral Home, Brownsville, Pennsylvania.

JOSEPH TRUPIANO

Brother Joseph Trupiano of Detroit, Michigan (Branch #1) passed away September 11, 1965. He was born August 20, 1888, and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ May 31, 1936. Brother Trupiano is survived by three sons, four daughters, twenty-five grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren.

Brother Paul Vitto officiated at the services.

ELEANOR SHAIK

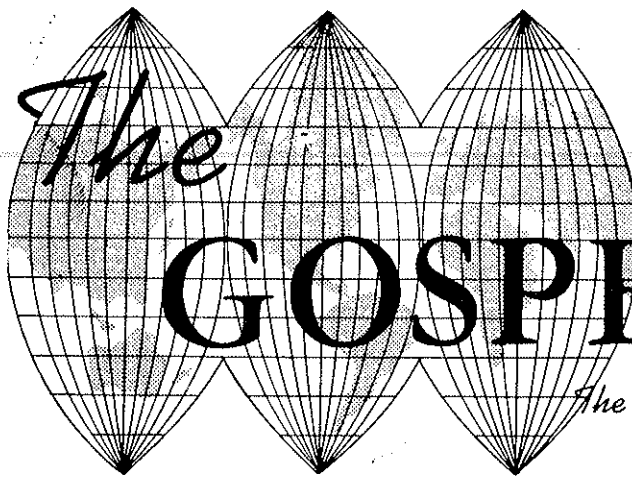
Funeral services were held at, The Church of Jesus Christ Youngstown, Ohio branch for Mrs. Eleanor Shaik, September 27, 1965 at 11 a.m., conducted by Brother A. A. Corrado.

Besides her husband, John, she leaves her mother, Sister Josephine Melico, five brothers and two sisters, all of Youngstown.

May the Lord comfort the hearts of those who mourn her departure.

There is so much good in the worst of us
And so much bad in the best of us,
That it hardly becomes any of us
To speak ill of the rest of us.

God can make a lily pure and white that
grows in the blackest soil.



The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

December 1965

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Season's Greetings!

Once more the year has rolled by and Christmas is upon us again. At this season a new friendliness is felt; neighbors who haven't bothered with one another for months will now exchange smiles and perhaps a few sociable words. People who have had a tight hold on their wallets will give a few dollars for a worthy cause. Families are brought together for a happy reunion and the feeling of good will exists in homes and in our social relations. Christmas seems to fill our hearts with cheer and a glow of love for humanity. It lifts us out of the rut of unconcern and apathy where some have been stuck for eleven months. Christmas reminds the Christian of his oneness in Christ and the bond of love we have toward one another.

We here at The Gospel News office turn our thoughts to our faithful readers everywhere, and we extend to everyone our best wishes for a joyous Christmas and the happiest possible New Year. A number of copies of our paper goes overseas, finding their way into the remote places of the earth. Should you be one of those distant readers, we hope you will accept our greetings with that same warmth with which we offer them.

You may be interested to know that the March, 1966 issue marks the twenty-second year of editing The Gospel News. Our prayer is that it may continue to bring great blessings and fellowship to our readers as it witnesses courageously for God.

The Gospel News Staff

*It is Christmas in the mansion,
Yule-logs fires and silken frocks;
It is Christmas in the cottage,
Mother's filling little socks.
It is Christmas on the highway,
In the thronging, busy mart;
But the dearest, truest Christmas
Is the Christmas in the heart.*

Author Unknown.

Who Is This Baby?

by Rose R. Scaglione

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2: 8-11)

Almost two thousand years ago, a Baby was born in a small village called Bethlehem; a Baby who was destined to affect millions of lives. Except for the three wise men from the east, the humble shepherds, and the Nephite prophets, the world at that time was not aware of the far-reaching event that had taken place in a humble stable of an obscure Bethlehem. People continued with their daily chores as always. Heaven alone seemed to be concerned about the birth of that Baby. A special star appeared in the sky. An angel came to announce His birth. A heavenly chorus sang the praises of God.

Who is this Baby? There were no doctors or nurses to attend the Baby's birth. No crib had He; no bells to proclaim His coming into the world. Yet Mary brought forth her first born Son and laid Him in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn. Kings became fearful and forces were stirred up against this Baby. Behold the angel of the Lord came to His father in a dream, saying, "Arise, and take the young child and His mother, and flee into Egypt," and they were there until the angel made known unto them the king's death. The Child grew and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon Him. Did He go to school? I cannot say, yet countless books have been written about Him. He never studied medicine, yet He healed the blind, opened the ears of the deaf, caused the lame to walk, touched the lepers and they were made whole. He never studied science, yet he controlled the forces of

(Continued on Page Two)

Who Is This Baby?

(Continued from Page One)

nature for the winds and the waves obeyed Him; the fish of the sea filled the nets at His command; a tree shriveled up over night as he cursed it. He was never known to sin. Judas, who betrayed Him, acknowledged that he had betrayed innocent blood. Pontius Pilate, the judge who sentenced Him to death, declared that he found no fault in this Man. The thief who died beside Him on the cross said, "This Man has done nothing amiss." The centurion watching the execution, declared that surely this was an innocent Man and must be the Son of God. Jesus Himself had no sin, yet He was numbered with the transgressors.

Who is this Baby who has left such an imprint upon the world that nearly two thousand years after His birth, all civilization recognizes that birthday and celebrates Christmas? Let the angel who brought the announcement to the shepherds on the hills of Bethlehem, tell us who He is — "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." The angel had declared before His birth that the Baby's name would be Jesus "for He shall save His people from their sins." This Babe of Bethlehem, as He grew to manhood, declared that He had come for this very purpose. Yes, the Baby's name is JESUS, the Prince of Peace, Wonderful, Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father. Had not this glorious event, the birth of our Saviour, taken place, there would have been no joy, no peace, no eternal life. So once again, let us all rejoice in the birthday of JESUS. May we remember Him that our greatest gift may be to give ourselves to Him. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

MERRY CHRISTMAS

*M—is for the Miracle of our Lord Jesus' birth,
E—his Everlasting gospel restored to the earth.
R—is for Real happiness we find in loving him,
R—is for Redemer, who will save us from our sins.
Y—is for Your faith: Let it grow stronger everyday,
along with hope and charity you are well on your way.
C—is for the Christ Child, who was born to us this day,
H—is for the Heavens where He dwells with God today.
R—is for the Righteous who will be there one day too,
I—is for the Interest plan Christ Jesus gave to you.
S—is for Salvation; you can have it if you try.
T—is for That narrow path, that leads to Him on high.
M—is for the Many who are chosen through His grace,
A—for the Accounting we must give Him face to face.
S—is for our Savior; appreciate his love,
And we'll have many blessings from our Father above.*

Kathern Schade

Christmas Towns Can Be Found In Postal Guide

Traces of Christmas can even be found in Uncle Sam's Official Postal Guide.

"Santa Claus," Ind., "Bethlehem," Conn., and "Christmas," Fla., are a few of the more familiar post offices which each year handle floods of mail from senders wishing to obtain appropriate Yuletide postmarks on their greetings.

Indiana's "Santa Claus" is the only town so designated in the United States. The privilege is reserved to its post office by Congressional Act. There is, however, "Santa" in Idaho, but only one "Christmas" — the one in Florida, plus a "Christmas Cove," in Maine.

On the other hand, 7 "Bethlehems" answer the season roll call. They can be found in Connecticut, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, New Hampshire and Pennsylvania.

There are 2 "Noels" — in Virginia and Missouri.

Jesus Said

By Samuel J. Kirschner

It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God"; also, "Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for the meat which endureth unto everlasting life which the Son of Man shall give unto you." Man without the Word of God can but live on earthly substance; he must therefore labor to receive the bread which does sustain him. This was the commandment of God to him, that "In the sweat of thy face thou shalt eat bread, till thou return unto the ground." This then was his portion so long as he should live.

However, God had also planned something better for him in the person of His son, Jesus. He (man) was therefore called upon to labor, not for the bread of which he was already eating, but for that meat which the Word for God produces, and which we may eat without the sweat of our face. In laboring for this meat which, when he receives it, endureth unto everlasting life, and not only until he returns unto the ground, he is performing the labor which he is commanded to do. When they asked Him the question, "What shall we do that we may work the works of God?" Jesus said, "This is the work of God, that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent."

This indeed is a work which is much harder to perform than tilling the soil, for our hearts must be broken and our spirits become contrite so that by the grace of God we are able to believe and remain true to the commandments we received, the bread that came down from God—that endureth unto everlasting life.

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Editorial Viewpoint



George A. Neill

As you listen to the "song of the angels" and the "Bethlehem bells," start the journey to your own Bethlehem, but don't stop at Jerusalem.

"And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass which the Lord hath made known to us." Here was a group of ordinary men receiving the most extraordinary message that ever came to man. I have noticed, and perhaps you have too, throughout biblical history how God used ordinary men and women, giving unto them some of the greatest revelations ever known. We shall ever be grateful to those common people who received high privileges from God; they were given the highest responsibilities and met the clarion call.

Our Church is composed mostly of ordinary people who have also received an extraordinary message—the Gospel restored. This high privilege of witnessing such a gospel certainly carries great responsibilities. How gratifying it is to see us fulfill our calling to the uttermost!

Let us get back to those ordinary shepherds who were abiding in the fields keeping watch over their flocks at night. This remarkable experience was indeed frightening, for the scriptures say "They were sore afraid." The glory of the Lord that shone round about them could have been in the form of a great light. An angel appeared saying, "Fear not." After all, how many have ever seen an angel? Even more, how many have ever been serenaded by a group of angels? Nevertheless, strange and frightening as this experience must have been, it moved them to the very core of their beings and off they went to Bethlehem. After finding the stable and entering timidly they were forced to stand in awe, for here they found the richest value of the whole occasion — Jesus, the Christ Child, the very Son of God — cradled in a manger. I imagine they all knelt before the manger to worship this newborn King.

I believe a wonderful change took place with these ordinary shepherds after being to Bethlehem. They returned to their fields, glorifying and praising God. They didn't give gold, frankincense, and myrrh, for they didn't have it to give; but what they did have they gave, and that was their hearts. In so doing they were forever changed. Thus man, before he can know the glory of God and have gladness and joy unspeakable, must go all the way to Bethlehem, find the Christ, kneel, and worship Him. I am afraid too many people are stopping at Jerusalem. Of course, there is a lot to be seen and heard there, but those folks who desire this wonderful change will have to journey the rest of the way—to Bethlehem.

The individual who has had a Bethlehem experience knows what a change has taken place and what it has done in his life. It isn't my intention to enumerate the transformations that take place in people's lives as a result of their Bethlehem visit, but I would like to ask, "Have you been to Bethlehem?" There is no better time to surrender one's self to Jesus than at Christmas time. If you do not know Him, then journey to your own Bethlehem. Gaze upon Him in faith and repentance and you too shall learn that it is no secret what God can do. As you listen to the "song of the angels" and the

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

(Continued from Page Three)

"Bethlehem bells" start the journey to your own Bethlehem, but don't stop at Jerusalem. Many people have been sidetracked there with too many little earthly things. It is really a tragedy if you never make it to Bethlehem. To miss seeing the Christ would be the greatest disaster one could experience.

Be sure to get Christ into your Christmas this year. If you need help, look up. The bright star is shining and will lead you as it did the wise men as they traveled all the way to Bethlehem. This is the experience that makes ordinary people great!

How I Received The Church Of Jesus Christ

Testimony of Brother Nelson Agbor

Western Region Branch, Nigeria

I am a youth of 21, and I am proud to share my experiences how God has called me to receive the Gospel of salvation through The Church of Jesus Christ. The year of our Lord 1961 will ever be commemorated in the epoch of my life.

I got to Lagos to meet my brother, Mr. S. A. Agbor (now an Elder), purposely to secure me a job as I had just left school. To my woe, things were in opposite side. He told me that he had been converted into a new mission with its headquarters in America. He tried to give me a close picture of the faith and doctrine, and some of the practices that the Church observed. He further told me summarily that the Church in comparison to other churches is outstanding. In fact I laughed scornfully and asked him very sharply, "What do you mean? Don't you know that I had been baptized into the Presbyterian Church since the age of ten and had been instructed never to receive any teaching nor baptism since Presbyterian is the true church living?" I was ignorantly annoyed with him, yet he bore all my blunders, took time to explain things to me. He finally told me that we should be united in prayers so that God might give me understanding (as He had already promised to give to those that are lacking) to know the truth. I did pray, no doubt, but not as seriously as he was doing.

My Experiences

Within a few days the power of my argument began to die off. We started searching the Scriptures daily proving whether those things were so (Acts 17:11), comparing precept upon precept in compliance with Isaiah 29:9 & 10. In fact the whole of my testimony mentions my brother because of his unmovable faith in God.

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McKEES ROCKS NEWS

Sunday, October 24 was an enjoyable day at the McKees Rocks Branch. The visit of Brother Frank Giovannone and his family of Warren, Ohio resulted in our receiving many blessings. Mr. Bart Ginsburg, who was visiting with Brother Giovannone, sang "Softly and Tenderly" before the opening of the morning service.

Brother Giovannone in opening the meeting, took his text from the 32nd Chapter of Alma. The main thought of his talk was that it is more blessed to obey the Lord willingly than to be compelled to obey Him and he gave many very interesting examples to convey this thought.

During our afternoon service, we were favored with a visit from Sister Margaret Iorio, also of Warren, Ohio. Since she was baptized in our branch, we were especially happy to see her before she leaves for North Carolina, where she and Brother Nick Iorio will reside with their daughter and son-in-law, Brother and Sister Jonathan Molinatto, and family.

Betty Ann Manes, Branch Editor

Many Manifestations Of The Spirit Of God

Due to the missionary board meeting here in Youngstown on Saturday, September 11, we enjoyed the presence of elders, brothers and sisters from four of the five districts. We were exhorted on the subject, "Wait upon the Lord." The Scripture read was Matthew 6:19-34, with special emphasis given to verse 33: "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things will be added unto you." While one brother was bringing to remembrance the various blessings of healings the Lord has bestowed upon this people, a brother to whom had been given this gift arose in the spirit of song, and beautiful beyond description were the words and melody given us of God at that time. "This is the recipe," (i.e., seeking first the kingdom of God, waiting upon Him as Isaiah tells us — 40:31, and tarrying for Him as they were told to do in Jerusalem). These are just a few of the words sung, but they are the only ones I retained in perfect memory. Towards the end of the meeting Charles Damore, whose life was spared in a recent automobile accident and is now recovered, asked to be baptized; thus was revealed another side of the love of God.

Connie Smith, Branch Editor

If your religion is of the kind that can be easily hidden, it can as easily be lost.

* * * * *

One mark of perfection is patience with our imperfections. We shall never be angry without sin until we are angry only at sin.



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"Behold I am the light," III Nephi 18 : 16.

Dear Boys and Girls,

I want to tell you the old, old story about the wise men who came to worship Jesus. These men came from the East to Jerusalem. A star went before them and directed them to the house where Jesus and his mother were. This star was a sign of the birth of a child, who someday would be king, King of the Jews. The wise men went directly to the king of the land, King Herod. They asked him, "Where is he that is born King of the Jews? We have seen his star in the east and are come to worship him." When the king heard this he was troubled. He thought this new-born king would take away his throne.

King Herod called all the chief priests and scribes together and demanded of them to tell him where Christ should be born. They replied, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet." Now these men knew the prophecies concerning this event. Herod asked the wise men what time the star appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem saying, "Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship also."

As the wise men left the king, the star which they had seen in the east went before them. It led them to the house where Mary and Joseph were staying. They were filled with great joy. They fell down and worshipped Jesus. They opened their treasures and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. These were costly perfumes.

Now King Herod was waiting for the wise men to return. He was a wicked, jealous man. He did not understand that Jesus would not take his throne. Jesus would be known as the King of the Jews and King of Kings, but not a king of an earthly kingdom. He had come to save men from their sins, not to rule from a throne such as Herod's. Herod did not want to worship Jesus as he had told the wise men, but he wanted to kill him, to keep him from the throne.

The Lord warned the wise men in a dream of Herod's wicked plan. Instead of reporting back to Herod, they returned home another way. The king waited many days but the wise men did not come to the palace. He was angry and in his rage he commanded that all the boy babies from two years of age and under be killed. He thought baby Jesus would be among them. But the Lord sent an angel to Joseph in a dream,

saying, "Arise, and take the young child and his mother and flee into Egypt and be thou there until I bring thee word; for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him." Joseph took Mary and Jesus by night and escaped out of Bethlehem. They went to Egypt. This fulfilled a prophecy, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." (Hosea 11:1)

Joseph and Mary stayed here until the angels came again and told them the wicked king was dead. There had been great mourning in the land over the terrible deed the king had caused. The Lord protected Jesus during all this. They returned to the land of Israel but when they heard Herod's son was reigning in his father's place, they were afraid. They turned aside to a part of Galilee to the little city of Nazareth. This fulfilled another prophecy, "He shall be called a Nazarene." Here Jesus grew and became strong. He was filled with wisdom, for the spirit of the Lord was upon Him.

Search the Scriptures

1. Who told Joseph to name the baby Jesus? Matthew 1 : 20, 21.
2. Who told Mary the child was to be named Jesus? Luke 2 : 26, 31.
3. What five names did Isaiah say Jesus would be called? Isaiah 9 : 6.
4. What other names can you find in Songs of Solomon, 2 : 1?

Practice reading Luke 2 : 8, 20. Surprise the family by reading it aloud to them on Christmas Day.

Have a happy holiday, but don't forget the real meaning of the day.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

QUEST

O little Child
Of quiet Bethlehem,
Though we be far from Thee in time and place,
Yet may each heart be manger, here tonight,
That Thou therein mayest find
Thy resting place.
O little Lord,
Though shepherds there be none,
To seek Thy lowly birthplace, and adore,
Yet may each heart go questing through its dark
Till it find Thee— its Light
Forevermore.
O little Prince,
Tonight no shining star
Leads kings with precious gifts through
Bethlehem's street,
Yet may each heart wear crown
and robe this night,
And lay its dearest treasure
At Thy feet.

—Grace W. McGavran

M.B.A. Highlights

(This report on the Michigan-Canadian Area of the Missionary Benevolent Association is the third about a specific MBA region. The California Area was presented in the June issue and the Atlantic Coast region was described in the September issue. Articles about the Ohio and Pennsylvania Areas will appear in the near future.—Editor's Note)

THE MICHIGAN-CANADIAN MBA AREA

By Paul P. Whitton

Michigan-Canadian MBA Area Editor

Realizing the wonderful spirit that can be obtained from song, members of the Michigan and Ontario Locals of the Missionary Benevolent Association have combined their vocal resources into a large Area-wide choir as a part of the activity program. Considerable enthusiasm has been generated because the objectives of this choir are to ultimately visit hospitals, nursing homes, and other community centers, in addition to singing for Church functions. The group, which assembles every three weeks at one of the Area's Locals, learns new hymns and profits spiritually from the fellowship the meetings provide.

The present choir is an outgrowth of the group organized for the May, 1965, GMBA conference held in Detroit. The members enjoyed presenting a program for this gathering very much and they felt they should continue the choir. This kind of activity is appropriate in this Area, because the Locals are not too far apart and can congregate without traveling great distances.

The Michigan-Canadian Area, which was organized after the November, 1956 GMBA Conference, consists of five Locals. They are Detroit Locals No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, No. 4 and Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Area President, Joseph Milantoni, was the first elected Area Chairman and has served in that capacity continually except during 1960 when Frank Vitto was selected chairman.

Membership Drives

Besides the musical activity, the sector is now preparing and beginning to work on Membership Drives. Since this was the first choice for an individual Local activity, the units of the Area have been busy outlining their goals in a comprehensive program to properly attain these objectives. The first step was to elect a membership committee in each Local, as was set up in the MBA By-Laws. These committee members have defined their objectives and prepared lists of persons to be visited.

All Locals chose to contact the non-attending members first before reaching into homes of persons not familiar with The Church or MBA. To accomplish this "home missionary" effort, steps such as the following have been outlined for use as a guide and comprehensive plan.

1. Have the branch officials encourage attendance in MBA and Sunday School meetings as well as other meetings.
2. Encourage members to invite non-members to attend.
3. Develop a member, non-member, and family visitation program to be carried out on a house-to-house basis.
4. Hold a well planned quarterly "Bring-A-Friend Night" or "Family Night."
5. Create an interest in missionary and benevolent visitation programs to homes of needy families or afflicted brothers and sisters, hospitals, and convalescent institutions.
6. Conduct a door-to-door literature crusade throughout the immediate neighborhood where branches and missions are located.
7. Initiate a literature mailing program in which copies of *The Gospel News* would be sent to a certain number of families for a period of time with the cost being borne by the Locals. This could later be expanded to institutions such as hospitals and convalescent homes.
8. Plan and develop a program for a Vacation Bible School.
9. Include and encourage the development and use of visual aid materials to enlighten members and non-members about the Restoration and the *Book of Mormon*. This could be done in conjunction with the MBA-wide course of study now being prepared.

Immediate results have not been overwhelming, but a gradual improvement in attendance is foreseen. It is understood, of course, that these points will be of great value as they are implemented and performed repeatedly.

To prevent duplication and insure that the desires of the Chapters are fulfilled, the Locals' programs for Membership Drives are being supplemented by a variety of activities organized by the Area MBA Activities Committee. The representatives of the units on the Area Activities Committee are Peter Scolaro, No. 1; Richard Bologna, No. 2; Rose Mary Furitano, No. 3; Leonard A. Lovalvo, No. 4; and Allen Henderson, Windsor.

Past Activities

A variety of programs and spiritual activities have been sponsored by the Area during the past years. These have consisted of impromptu gatherings, programs prepared by the host Locals, a panel quiz, guest speakers, and workshops. Two gatherings were held for more than one session, and they both proved outstanding. The first one was in January, 1962 when Brother Alvin Swanson consented to come to Detroit and tell us about The Church in Africa. In addition to relating his experiences in Africa and the needs of missionaries there, he showed some films taken in that land.

The second two-session gathering took place in October, 1964 when a workshop for teenagers was held. Only teenagers attended the afternoon meeting. They were separated into small groups

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to discuss topics of interest to them regarding their responsibility to The Church and to missionary work. Each group elected a chairman to lead the discussions and present a summary to the gathering in the evening service. The observations and conclusions presented at the final session were enlightening, inspiring, and set a pattern for similar meetings in the future.

Other Area officers in addition to Brother Milantoni are Dominic Moraco, Vice-President; Paul Vitto, Chaplain; Gail (Collison) Sampson, Corresponding Secretary; Jane Coppa, Assistant Corresponding Secretary; Louis Vitto, Treasurer; David DiBattista and Roland Paleno, Auditors; and Paul Whitton, Editor.

The next annual Area Conference will be held at Detroit No. 3 in July, 1966. Until that time, Area members will continue to participate and benefit from the Area's varied and exciting program of activities.

CORRECTION

We wish to correct an error which occurred in the October issue of The Gospel News — M. B. A. HIGHLIGHTS. It was stated that The Church had been incorporated in 1862. It should have read "Green Oak, Pennsylvania, where The Church was organized in 1862."

(This is the third in a series of four articles by Richard Bologna, recent returnee from the United States Peace Corps who spent his two-year tour of duty in Liberia, West Africa, teaching in that country's schools. The first article presented a history of Liberia, and the second described urban life. In the final article next month, Brother Richard will discuss the individual Liberian and how he perceives himself in a developing country.—Editor's Note)

Tribal Life In Liberia

By Richard Bologna

When the American freed slaves came to West Africa in the early 1800's and founded Liberia, it was inhabited by several different tribes. The settlers set up their government and built their cities along the coast, and the tribal people, as they still do today, occupied the interior with the exception of a few fishing tribes which depended on the sea for their living.

Politically, all the tribes have been united under the Liberian Flag for many years. The country is organized into nine counties, which are composed of various tribes. Each tribe is divided into clans and towns. The town has a chief who is responsible to the clan chief who in turn serves under the paramount chief, the head of the entire tribe. He is subject to the county commissioner and also serves as spokesman to the national government.

The little interior towns are connected to each other by footroads and, in some cases near Monrovia, by motor road. Communication is limited to "word-of-mouth" and an occasional radio.

Closely Knit Group

A tribe is a very closely knit group. All its members are considered brothers. If a member of the Grebbo tribe, for example, visits another member of the same tribe, he will be treated as part of the family and given whatever he needs. This kind of hospitality may exist between members of different tribes, although this is not customarily true.

The residents of a particular town are usually members of the same tribe because tribal people seldom marry outside their own tribe. Polygamy is widespread. A man may have as many wives as he can afford. In some groups, a marriage contract is drawn up between the bride's family and the prospective groom. He must pay a dowry of about forty dollars or one cow, depending on the wealth and station of both families. If the woman proves unworthy and returns to her family, the dowry must be refunded.

The life of a tribal woman is hard, as is the case of a farmer's wife in any young developing country. She raises the children, maintains the house, and assists her husband in the rice fields. She carries her small offspring on her back wherever she goes unless she has an older child to help her.

The husband is expected to prepare the house for his family, to provide food by farming and hunting, and to maintain a position of respect in the family. In the past, it was also his duty to protect his family by going to war during tribal conflicts.

Household goods are usually made with available resources, but a town will often have a merchant of a northern tribe who will bring in inexpensive pots, clothes, and other dry goods which he sells or trades.

Makes Rice Farm

Rice farms are made in the dry season, which occurs from December through June. At sunrise one morning in December, the farmer will arise from his bed, usually a woven mat, near the fire in his mud house. His wife will already be up, moving silently about the house preparing his lunch which will be a gourd of palm wine and a cup of rice. The man will bathe, put on his poor clothing and cutlass, and leave for the field. His breakfast will consist of kola nuts or other nuts and fruits which he picks from the trees as he walks to his future farm site, a bush area.

Using his cutlass, the farmer will clear the thick bush from two or three acres of ground. He will pause only to eat his rice and drink his wine. It will take weeks in the intense heat to cut the bush. Once cut, it must be dried by the sun before it can be burned. When the field is finally cleared, the farmer and his wife will plant the rice grain by grain. At the close of each day,

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the farmer returns home. His wife will have been working about the house and in the vegetable garden, where she grows peppers, greens, and okra. She also will have been caring for the children and preparing the evening meal. The farmer will bathe in the cool water of a nearby stream or from a bucket of water heated over the fire.

The main meal is composed of rice, a large bowl per person, covered with a small amount of sauce. One of the most popular sauces is palm butter. This is made from an oily nut found on a variety of palm trees. The nuts are boiled in water, and the meaty, fibrous covering is removed from the hard kernel by beating it in a mortar. The squashed material is then strained through a small woven basket after water is added. To this soup is added peppers, a large spice leaf, and hopefully some meat or fish if the farmer has been fortunate enough to have obtained it. The soup is boiled down to a thick sauce and then poured over the rice.

Tribal Custom

After dinner, the men go to the center of town to be with and talk with the other men. The women tidy up their homes. On various occasions, there will be dancing and singing to the beat of drums. On the night of the full moon, "country electric," when the country-side is at its brightest, all the townspeople dance and sing until the early hours of the morning.

There is an elementary school available in every chiefdom. Some of these schools are provided by church missions and some by the government. When a child finishes his elementary education, he must go to the city if he wishes to continue his learning. In recent years, tribal people have begun to realize that their offspring must become educated to advance "out of the bush." As a result, increasingly more parents are consenting to an education for their children, giving them an opportunity to individually move ahead and to ultimately help improve the plight of tribal people in Liberia.

The Church

By Martha Kelly

We think many times of our Church, set up by Christ Himself, when He walked upon the earth. How humble He was; even taking the reviling and abuse of unrighteous people. He was rewarded by taking His place at the right hand of His Father in Heaven. Then, when they desired the death of the Holy One, they were willing to say, "His blood be on us and on our children"; surely they have been punished for generations. But how great is the mercy of God! We read many times in the Scripture that Israel shall be forgiven and gathered again when they repent and accept the Savior.

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During this time I had not fully believed my brother nor the Bible because of some soul-searching, perfidious fabrications that the Bible was written by those wise scholars during the Renaissance about fourteen centuries ago. I was later convinced and converted following a baptism by Elder N. J. Umoh with other friends.

After my baptism, I started to feel God's presence always with me and very often revealing things to me in dreams by which I was certain that one day I will work in His ministry. After some time I was ordained with two other brothers into the ministry as a teacher. (See Law and Order, Page 10.)

I therefore seize this opportunity to direct my humble appeal to the youths of The Church of Jesus Christ all over the world to serve God and find Him when He is still near. None is too small or young as far as this divine knowledge is concerned. A few instances will convince you on the activities of the youths to God. Samuel of old was a boy when God called him to rule His people, Israel. David was also one of the youths God used to deliver the Israelites from the Philistine terrorist, Goliath. And lastly the founder of this Church, Joseph Smith, is a shining example for us to follow.

I thank God for the things that He had hidden from the wise and prudent and has revealed them unto a babe like me. My happiness is not that God had enabled me to work in His ministry as a teacher, but because by His grace, my name might be written in Heaven. Glory be to God, Amen.

(The Church Continued)

The Gospel fell away and was restored 1260 years later by an angel who revealed heavenly things to young Joseph Smith. He was sincere enough to ask God which of the many churches he should join, and was told to accept none of them as their creeds were an abomination in His sight. Charles Wesley's hymn states, "Ye different sects who all declare, 'Lo here is Christ or Christ is there!' Your stronger proofs divinely give, and show me where the Christians live." He didn't seem to be certain.

How I thrill to the hymn, "What was witnessed in the Heavens?" and the words, "What is this latter Gospel? 'Tis the first one come again." This is the Church we accepted when each of us went into the waters of baptism and made a covenant to serve God for the rest of our lives. I would fear to break that pledge. We haven't been promised it will be easy, or that we will always be strong. Thank God for such a man as the Apostle Paul who would admit it was a constant warfare for him. However, at the end he could say, "I have fought a good fight; I have kept the faith." He was sure there was a crown laid up, that the great Judge would give to him.

So we sing with deep feeling, "It's good to be a saint of latter days."

ALL ISRAEL ARE THE COVENANT PEOPLE OF GOD

By Thurman S. Furnier

In Deuteronomy, ch. 30, verse 3 it speaks of Israel, "That then the Lord thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the Lord thy God hath scattered thee." In Isaiah, ch. 11, verses 11 and 12; "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set His hand again the second time to recover the remnant of His people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And He shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth." Assyria was a great and powerful country lying on the Tigris (Genesis 2:14). The ancient name of the Tigris river was Hiddekel. Pathros was probably a part or all of upper Egypt. Cush was the higher Nile to the Euphrates and Tigris. Elam is the name of a province lying south of Assyria and east of Persia proper. Shinar was known in later times as Chaldea or Babylonia. Hamath was the principal city of upper Syria. (See Smith's *Dictionary of the Bible*) In Isaiah, ch. 56, verse 8 we read, "The Lord God which gathereth the outcasts of Israel saith, Yet will I gather others to him, beside those that are gathered unto him."

Biblical scholars believe that all of Israel shall be gathered. Here in the Western Hemisphere there are branches of Israel that have been broken off, that come under God's covenant. Who are they, one may ask? They are the American Indians, so called. We are told in the Book of Mormon, II Nephi, 3rd chapter, when Lehi was relating the promises of God to Joseph (that same Joseph that was sold into Egypt), he said (verse 5), "That out of the fruit of his loins (Joseph who was sold into Egypt) the Lord God would raise up a righteous branch unto the house of Israel; not the Messiah, but a branch which was to be broken off, nevertheless to be remembered in the covenants of the Lord. . . ."

Jacob, the son of Lehi, when speaking to his brethren, says in II Nephi, 6:4, "I will read you the words of Isaiah . . . "And now, behold, I would speak unto you concerning things which are, and which are to come; wherefore, I will read you the words of Isaiah. And they are the words which my brother (Nephi) has desired that I should speak unto you. And I speak unto you for your sakes, that ye may learn and glorify the name of your God." In verse 5 he continues, "And now, the words which I shall read are they which Isaiah spake concerning all the house of Israel; wherefore, they may be likened unto you, for ye are of the house of Israel. And there are many things which have been spoken by Isaiah which may be likened unto you, be-

cause ye are of the house of Israel."

The Nephites and Lamanites, commonly known today as the American Indian, are of Israelitish extraction. The Book of Mormon makes it very plain that they are. In Alma 10:3 we read, "Lehi, who came out of the land of Jerusalem, who was a descendant of Manasseh, who was the son of Joseph who was sold into Egypt by the hands of his brethren." In Genesis 48:1 we are told that Ephraim is a son of Joseph and a brother of Manasseh; in verse 19 they (Manasseh and Ephraim) shall become a people and shall become a multitude of nations; verse 16, "And let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth." It has been quoted that Joseph Smith made the following statement: "That on the 116 pages that were translated from the Book of Lehi, which gave Ishmael (Ishmael also left Jerusalem and accompanied Lehi to this land) as being a descendant of Ephraim." I Nephi 1:17 reads, "But I shall make an account of my proceedings in my days. Behold, I make an abridgment of the record of my father, upon plates which I have made with mine own hands, wherefore, after I have abridged the record of my father then will I make an account of mine own life." We have an 1830 publication of the Book of Mormon at Monongahela, Pennsylvania from which I copy the following: "As many false reports have been circulated respecting the following work, and also many unlawful measures taken by evil-designing persons to destroy me, and also the work, I would inform you that I translated by the gift and power of God, and caused to be written, one hundred and sixteen pages, the which I took from the Book of Lehi, which was an account abridged from the plates of Nephi, by the hand of Mormon; which said account some person or persons have stolen, and kept from me, notwithstanding my utmost exertions to recover it again—and being commanded of the Lord that I should not translate the same over again, for Satan had put it into their hearts to tempt the Lord their God by altering the words, that they did read contrary from that which I translated and caused to be written; and if I should bring forth the same words again, or, in other words, if I should translate the same over again, they would publish that which they had stolen, and Satan would stir up the hearts of this generation that they might not receive this work; but behold, the Lord said unto me, I will not suffer that Satan shall accomplish his evil design in this thing; therefore thou shalt translate from the plates of Nephi until ye come to that which ye have translated, which ye have retained; and behold ye shall publish it as the record of Nephi; and thus will I confound those who have altered my words. I will not suffer that they shall destroy my work; yea, I will shew unto them that my wisdom is greater than the cunning of the devil. Wherefore, to be obedient unto the commandments of God, I have, through His grace and mercy, accomplished that which He hath commanded me respecting this thing. I would also

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The Mind

By James Heaps

The apostles said, "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus." Is there any joy? Is there any fellowship? "Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be like minded," or of one mind in Christ. It is the mind that matters. Much of our nervous trouble caused by worry and tension would vanish if we could only grasp the glorious truth of Isaiah 26:3, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee." What peace, what joy, what fellowship, what tranquility and pleasure we would have if our minds were on Christ Jesus! John says we love Him because He first loved us, but how shall we love God? Jesus told us, "With all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind." The mind is the controlling power of the body; even the eyelids do not close without the mind telling them to do so. The mind is the faculty by which we think. It incorporates the whole spiritual nature, for its properties include the will, judgment, memory, conscience, imagination, and understanding. The mind is the seat of our affections, the center of our understanding, the arena where good or evil triumphs. "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." I further quote, "For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual." If anything gives man a sound mind it is the Spirit of Christ; the evil spirit takes this away, for God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind.

In this materialistic age of unparalleled prosperity, when so much of the earth is within our reach, we must guard against absorbing so much of what we see, hear, and handle that the color of it shows in our lives and attitudes. If the latest Hit Parade songs come to our lips more readily than the songs of Zion, and the latest sports are better known to us than the Word of God, it is obvious that we have been feeding far too much on carnal things and too little on the things of God. If we are listening to these "Bugs" or "Beattles" instead of "My Jesus, I Love Thee," our minds will soon be carried away with carnal things; again I quote, "To be carnally minded is death. Be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your minds."

A tight-rope walker must maintain a delicate balance; loss of balance may mean death to him. Many are losing their spiritual balance in these complex times. As life begins to bear down upon the mind the spiritual side is crowded out. Business, social, and domestic activities take over our minds, and we, like Martha, are cumbered about with many things. But let us be like Mary who chose that good part, kneeling at the

feet of Jesus, and get our minds renewed. "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." Not every activity is necessary. Paul says, "All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any." He kept his spiritual balance by giving priority to spiritual things. The power of thought is a mighty force that affects the entire being. This is dramatically illustrated in the fact that God sent the flood because every imagination of men's minds was evil continually; and that's what will destroy the world today, that men's minds are continually evil. "Because that, when they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened." For this cause God gives them up unto vile affections, and even as they do not want to retain God in their minds they become full of envy, murder, debate, deceit and malignity. They become whisperers, back-biters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, and covenant-breakers; they that commit such things are worthy of death.

What can be done about the mind? How does the mind show love to God? There is something positive that we can do; Gird up the loins of your mind; be renewed in the spirit of your mind; be not soon shaken in mind, whatsoever things are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report. If there be any virtue, if there be any praise, think on these things and let your mind dwell on things that are good. All good comes from God. The full potential of the mind is reached when all our mental activities are possessed and controlled by Christ or the Holy Spirit. The mind is then emancipated, liberated, made free from all that grieves the Spirit of God — we have the mind of Christ. We are servants to whom we yield ourselves to obey. We must bring our minds under subjection to the Holy Spirit. Isaiah says, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee." Thy word have I hid in my heart (or mind); sow the seed of righteousness and you will reap a crop of goodness. Let the rains of heaven water the seed and you will get a crop of blessing, an abundant, satisfying harvest — the mind of a spiritual man. The Bible is something more than a revered volume; it is the mind that sees clearly and hears keenly the things of the spirit — a mind to which the Saviour is a vital reality. "Then let this mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus."

NOTICE

The general meeting of The Ladies' Uplift Circle will be held Saturday, December 11, 1965 in our church building at McKees Rocks, Pa. at 10 a.m. All are welcome.

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inform you that the plates of which has been spoken were found in the township of Manchester, Ontario County, New York." Signed . . . Joseph Smith. (Also see *The History of The Church of Jesus Christ*, chapter 2, page 11.)

I quote from Nephi, 13:30; "Thou seest that the Lord God will not suffer that the Gentiles will utterly destroy the mixture of thy seed, which are among thy brethren." This means that the mixture of Lehi's (Manasseh's) seed are not to be utterly destroyed. This is verified in II Nephi 9:53; "He has promised unto us that our seed shall not utterly be destroyed." In Alma 45:10-14 we read, "But whosoever remaineth, and is not destroyed in that great and dreadful day, shall be numbered among the Lamanites, and shall become like unto them." In Moroni 9:24, "We know that many of our brethren have dissented over unto the Lamanites." Lehi, when speaking to his son Joseph, said; "For thy seed shall not utterly be destroyed." In II Nephi 3:3 and also II Nephi 3:23 we read, "For thy seed shall not be destroyed." From this last statement it would appear that the Choice Seer will come from the seed of Lehi (Manasseh), or direct from the seed of Lehi's son referred to as little Joseph.

(to be continued)

GREENSBURG-ALQUIPPA MBA MEETING

Recently the Greensburg MBA was privileged with a visit from the Aliquippa branch which we had looked forward to for a long while, and we had wonderful fellowship. It was as though we were greeting our close family after a long absence.

As the Spirit moved us we heard testimonies. A feeling of freedom prevailed wherein the brothers and sisters told of their lives before coming into the Church. We heard things I am sure were very close to our hearts. We heard about how being blessed in the Church means a lot, although we sometimes forget. I realized that the MBA, the entire organization, has limitless possibilities.

It would be good if we could have more of these meetings; they give us a feeling of unity and world-wide fellowship, or in other words, everywhere we go we meet a brother and a friend.

Avrel Pickford
MBA Editor

A Note Of Thanks

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I want to thank each and everyone of you for your kind prayers and beautiful cards received during my recent illnesses. One does not realize how much this means until one is hospitalized.

Surely your many prayers have been heard as I have recovered almost completely. Please continue to pray that God will enable me to be back in church soon.

Your Sister in Christ, ISABEL G. HENDLER

Weddings

BIAGI - PASTORE

Brother and Sister Edward Pastore of New Brunswick, New Jersey wish to announce the marriage of their daughter, Carole, to Mr. Arthur Biagi on September 11, 1965. The ceremony took place at the home of the bride's parents, in a beautiful floral setting. A small reception for friends and relatives followed the ceremony.

After a honeymoon trip to the Pocono Mountains the young couple will reside in South River, New Jersey. We all wish Carole and Art a lifetime of happiness together.

ROSS - OLIVER

Miss Margarita Oliver, daughter of Mrs. Mary Oliver, was married to Donald Ross, son of Brother and Sister Thomas Ross of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania. The wedding was solemnized on August 21, 1965 in The Church of Jesus Christ, New Brunswick, New Jersey. Brother Ross officiated at his son's wedding, and Brother Gori Ciaravino gave the benediction.

Don and Margarita will make their home in New York City after a honeymoon trip to Canada. We all wish the happy couple a lifetime of joy and happiness.

ZIMKO - DAMORE

Brother and Sister Joseph Damore wish to announce the marriage of their daughter, Ruth Ann, to William Zimko, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Zimko. The wedding was solemnized at The Church of Jesus Christ, Youngstown, Ohio on October 23, 1965, with Brother A. A. Corrado officiating.

We extend our best wishes and pray that God's spiritual blessings will enrich their lives together.

SURRENA - KLEIN

On June 12, 1965, at 2:30 p.m., Mary Katherine Klein, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Klein of Sharon, Pa., and Roger Surrena, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Surrena of Sharon, were united in marriage in the First Methodist Church, Sharon, with Brother Meredith Griffith and Pastor Cloyd Osborne officiating.

KLEIN - HIGLEY

On October 9, 1965, at 7:30 p.m., Martin C. Klein Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Klein, and Elaine Higley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ward Higley of Hartford, Ohio, were united in marriage in the Hartford Methodist Church, Hartford, Ohio, with Brother Meredith Griffith and Pastor Marlin Shepherd officiating.

SAMPSON - COLLISON

Sister Gail Jean Collison, daughter of Sister Hazel and the late Brother Joseph Collison, and Donald Sampson, son of Mr. & Mrs. Austin Sampson of Peter Borough, Ontario, were united in marriage on October 16, 1965 at The Church of Jesus Christ, Windsor, Ontario. Brother Clifford Burgess officiated.

May the Lord bless them in their life together and may He be the unseen Guest in their home at all times.

My Testimony

by Clarence R. Griffith

Monongahela, Pa.

When I was still a child the merciful power of God was made known to my people by a healing, after which they began to be baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ. I attended meetings held by this church and as a child I received a joyful share of the spirit of God while it was flowing from vessel to vessel, along with these old people. I began to worry because my father and mother had not yet been baptized, and one night as I lay on my bed in a pitch black room I began asking God to spare them until they could be baptized. Suddenly an opening appeared in the ceiling and I looked on two shining gates ajar. They finally vanished. I wondered who could believe such a thing. Then I understood that the gates would be open when my father and mother were ready for baptism. I stood in a room one night where one of the church members was dying and she sang hymns until her voice faded out. I thought "What a wonderful gospel that will allow you to live happy and also to die happy."

These things that God allowed me to see and feel were in mercy given because I have a positive and enduring hope that will never fade away. I began to feel like the man who said, "Master, what must I do to be saved?" My desire for baptism increased until the day came when I could put it off no longer. I and three others were baptized on November 18, 1907 when I was 15 years old. Coming from the place of baptism I passed strangers to whom I wanted to smile and speak because I felt a strange care for them which I never felt before. Later I realized it was not the people who had been changed but it was I, because I had been born again of the water and the spirit; even my nature had been changed. That day my cup runneth over because my joy was full.

As you all know we wash each other's feet in church every three months, following the example of Jesus in the upper room. He said, "If I wash thee not, Peter, thou shalt not have part or lot with Me." Peter then said, "Not only my feet, Lord, but my hands and my head also." Sometimes the greater blessings are hidden because of the things we do not want to do. In the meetings appointed for feet washing, I sat behind every one in backward fear because I did not want to be called on to wash the brothers' feet. After being in the church a year when I awoke on a Sunday morning my first thought was "This is the day I wash feet." Strange as it seems I had lost all of my backward fear and I could hardly

wait. When the Sunday afternoon service opened, a brother made the motion that I wash the brothers' feet. What a wonderful day that was! I washed the brothers' feet and my tears of joy ran into the basin. The fullness of joy that God gave me that day covered my backward fears up deep forever. Surely I will sing of my Redeemer and His wondrous love for me. When Jesus said, "Seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you," He knew there were those who were thirsting after righteousness and had not found the joy of being part of God's kingdom here on earth, as there are yet today. To these hungry people of today I say, "There is honey in the rock, my brother, and surely there is honey in the rock for you."

NEWS FROM GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

We have received much pleasure during the past summer months in having various brothers and sisters from different branches of the Church visit with us. We also had the privilege of spending a Sunday with the saints of McKees Rocks, and enjoyed hearing the Word of God preached unto us, and the testimonies of our brothers and sisters.

Our branch has also received a blessing in seeing our Sister Mary Todaro back in our midst after a lengthy illness. Sister Mary is still very weak, but God has surely bestowed His mercy on her in enabling her to take her place once again among us. Brother George and Sister Wilma Mayfield will shortly be leaving for Germany. Brother George must go to fulfill his military duties. We ask that everyone will please remember them in prayer as they are both young in the Church and will be away from us for about two years.

Greensburg is also pleased to announce that we have been able to take another step forward in improving the natural appearance of our building as well. Work is now under way to lay new tile on the church floor which we hope to have completed soon.

It is our prayer that God will continue to bless each and every one of His people, that we will all have a great desire to do His will and further the Gospel of Jesus Christ day by day.

Carolyn Gehly
Branch Editor

IMPORTANT

If you have a change of address, please send a card giving both your old and new address. Each old or incorrect address cost us 10¢ of the Lord's money.