

The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

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Gospel News Has New Editor

By Gorie Ciaravino

General Church President

The Gospel News begins the new year with Carl J. Frammolin as its fourth Editor-in-Chief. The appointment at this time has been necessitated because Donald J. Curry, along with his assistant, James T. Grazan, have asked to be relieved for personal reasons.

The contributions of these Brothers to our monthly paper are certainly well appreciated, and their departure is viewed with regret. All of us who have been privileged to benefit from their endeavors want to thank them for their efforts and wish them success as they continue to toil for The Church in other capacities.

Brother Curry was elected to the Editorship in April 1966. He succeeded George A. Neill who was appointed to that position after the death of William H. Cadman in April 1963. He had served as an Assistant Editor prior to that time. Brother Neill resigned in 1966 because of ill health and has since moved to Arizona. He too labored diligently to keep the Gospel News in production at home and around the world. Readers will be happy to know that Brother Neill, who had also served as Presiding Elder of the Monongahela, Pennsylvania Branch, has agreed to resume writing his old monthly column, "Editorial Viewpoint," commencing with this issue.

First elected as an assistant to Brother Neill in April 1964, Brother Grazan has occupied this position until now. His help has been most gratifying, and his experience has lent itself well to the operation of the paper. He also has been the Pastor of Monongahela.

ESTABLISHED IN 1945

The Gospel News was established in 1945 with Brother Cadman as the Editor. The objectives were to print news about The Gospel, The Church, and the members, as related. The monthly exchange of news, views, and spiritual experiences was intended to add to the edification of all and to allow readers to keep in touch with the various parts of our growing Church. Also, the outstanding General Church President for 41 years until his death in 1963 at the age of 86, Brother Cad-

man was equally successful for the last 18 years of his life in maintaining this publication in keeping with the high Church standards.

While we are on the subject of those who have served the Gospel News, it is appropriate to recognize the help which has been given behind the scenes by members of the office staff. Sara Vancik has been the Office Manager and Hertha Jones the Circulation Manager for some time. Without their efforts, the papers could not reach subscribers each month. The work of these Sisters and others who perform their duties in a so-called "unsung way" cannot be minimized.

Also of particular note are the aids given by all of the District and Branch Editors, regular writers, and special feature writers who have been the necessary links in the gathering, reporting, and dispensing of the news. Their efforts are required to continue the printing of our paper. They are undoubtedly essential to Brother Carl as he undertakes the job which he has been asked to fill. Possessing diversified editorial experience, Brother Carl has until recently served as the General Missionary Benevolent Association Editor. Ordained into The Ministry last April, he has also been a compiler and co-author of various General Church publications.

COMBINED EFFORTS

In considering the work which must go into the publishing of a periodical, it is apparent that it takes the combined efforts of many people to bring it to fruition. It is typical of all our volunteer labors, regardless of The Church work in

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The Missionary Field

By Dominic Moraco, Missionary Editor

MISSIONARY PROGRESS REPORTED

It is generally agreed that spreading The Gospel whenever and wherever the opportunity presents itself is the duty of every member of The Church of Jesus Christ. Primarily, however, this responsibility rests especially upon the members of The Priesthood who, of course, rely heavily on the prayers and aid of all members.

In reviewing the past, one of the most outstanding missionaries The Church has ever known was the Apostle Paul. To him, spreading The Word was so vital and important that his own safety and well being came secondary. He deprived himself in many ways so that he could give himself unreservedly to the preaching of The Gospel. It was largely because of his efforts that The Church became world known in his day. When he was ready to die, he could look back upon a life of almost unequalled evangelism and the many souls who were brought to the knowledge of truth through his efforts and know that he could face his Saviour without regrets.

Today, missionary work remains the lifeline of The Church. Without missionaries in the field spreading The Word, The Church would die. Because of its importance it is believed that every reader is interested in knowing the latest news about missionary progress; therefore, following is a brief resume of some of these efforts.

MEETING IN HAMMOND, INDIANA

During August, Brothers Gorie Ciaravino, Joseph Calabrese, and Spencer Everett visited a family in Hammond, Indiana which had shown an interest in The Church. A desire for a formal meeting was expressed, and Brothers Calabrese and Everett held this service there on November 16. Before the meeting, the following members residing in Indiana and nearby Illinois were notified of the plans and they were in attendance: Brother Bruce and Sister Darlene Large of Evanston, Illinois; Sister Sandra Corder of Highland, Indiana; and Sister Flossie Molinatto of Hammond. The Brothers reported it was a very good meeting and that it was well attended. Everyone stated they would attend any future meetings.

Members having friends or relatives living in this vicinity who may be interested in any future meetings should send their names and addresses to Brother Everett (see his address on Page 3), and they will be notified of future plans.

WARREN, MICHIGAN SERVICES PLANNED

The Michigan-Ontario District is planning to hold exploratory meetings in the city of Warren, Michigan. The community of Warren is situated some distance from the nearest Detroit Branches. The first services are scheduled for January 19 and 26 and February 2.

A large number of Church families and friends currently reside in this locality, and many have expressed a desire for meetings to explore the feasibility of opening a mission in this vicinity.

The services are being conducted by the District Officers. President Nicholas Pietrangelo, First Counselor Peter Capone, and Second Counselor Joseph Milantoni are in charge.

FLORIDA VISIT

At the request of The General Church, Brother V. James Lovalvo, along with his wife, Sister Mary, visited Florida for about two months after the October Conference. His specific mission was to encourage and uplift the Branches and Missions in Florida. During his visit, three young people were baptized in the Fort Pierce Branch. (See related story on page 8).

Brother Anthony Ensana of New Jersey should be commended for his generosity in making his personal automobile available to Brother Lovalvo for traveling while in Florida. This saved The Church the additional cost of leasing a car.

ITALY

Brother John Romano has spent the past ten months in his native country, Italy. This dedicated missionary has been a tower of strength to the faithful there. It is our prayer that God will immensely bless and repay him for his faithfulness in spreading The Word. Brother John has stated that he finds it tremendously rewarding to be laboring for The Lord whom he loves dearly and has served for many years. No date has been set for his return.

Incidentally, Brother Romano has not requested any financial assistance from The Church. His continual request, however, is for another Brother to come there and help him. If any Italian speaking Elder is available for this work, he should contact the Board of Missions Chairman, Brother Joseph Bittinger.

NIGERIA

The civil war in Nigeria is still blocking the free flow of communication with The Church in that distant land. Brother John Ross, our last missionary to Africa, is doing his best to keep in contact with members there.

Correspondence has been received from some parties, but, as yet, no constant exchange has been possible. To complicate matters, mail sent there has been returned undelivered. Many have died during the strife, but our prayers go out continually for the poor and victimized people in that sector. Food is a problem, with no satisfactory distribution patterns having been established to date.

INDIAN MISSIONS

Because of limitations, it will not be possible to give a lengthy account on Indian Missions in this issue. It can be reported that these missions are operating well. Good meetings and a number of baptisms have been reported. A more detailed analysis, dealing specifically with Indian Missions, will be given at a later date.

In closing, all readers are reminded of the importance of making their monthly donations to The Church's Missionary Fund so that our missionaries in the field may continue their labors. These aids can undoubtedly help to make 1969 a very happy and prosperous Church year.

THE GOSPEL NEWS

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Editorial Viewpoint

By George A. Neill

May the turning of the year find us all as builders picking up our tools, whatever they may be, and going forth into action.

"Now turns the year." This phrase brings to our minds the question, "What does 1969 hold for this world?" We are all aware of the fact that the world is burdened with seemingly unsurmountable problems. The minds of our best statesmen are staggered by them.

In our nation we have elected a new president who will take office this month. He will be faced with some of the most critical problems in the history of our country. Americans like to think of a new president as someone who possesses super-human abilities. I say he will need such abilities if he is to solve or meet the major issues confronting our nation. Only time will bring us the answers; meanwhile let all Americans support him; this, I am sure, he deserves.

Perhaps he will begin by taking stock, a term used before "inventory" came into vogue. This is the time he will look both ways at once, back down the road we have traveled as a nation and up the road which lies ahead. As professing Latter Day Saints this is the time for us to take stock. Time and again we are called up on to consider our activities individually and as a community of believers. Let us each glance back down the road we have traveled for there is value in pausing now and then to evaluate our past performances. However, let us remember to guard against becoming preoccupied with the past lest we fall under the same condemnation as the person in Jesus' illustration of the plowman who "looking back is not fit for the kingdom of God."

As individuals and as a Church, what have we accomplished in the year 1968? Have we missed the mark many times? If so, let us pray to God to give us courage to realize this and for the determination to keep it from happening again this year. I believe, in spite of our failures of the past year, there is enough on the positive side to encourage us to press on to an even greater year ahead.

Though many individuals have been won to Christ, the field is still white and ready for harvest. The Church has a message to give to the world, a message of God's redeeming love: that Jesus died to save the vilest sinner; and this is the year to prepare for eternal life. Some of us may be taking The Church for granted. If so, let us relive our conversion days and show forth some of the joy that shines out from those who have just found The Saviour. Let us take on the attitude that this will be a good year for The Church, that progress will be made. Certainly this is within the plan of God. May we all become ready and devoted. Let us put God's plan to work; let us hear the call to labor. May the turning of the year find us all as builders picking up our tools, whatever they may be, and going forth into action.

As we turn from 1968 to 1969 let us focus our attention on the light up the road that lies ahead, the road that will lead to greater victories in the coming year; this road will eventually lead into the presence of God. This year awaits, as others have, the manifestations of the sons of God. Finally, this is the year for The Church to work, to grow, and to become a branch of the Lord's house most beautiful.

M.B.A. Highlights

Looking Forward

By James D. Gibson, GMBA Editor

The Missionary Benevolent Association would like to wish everyone a very happy and prosperous new year. May God's blessings and mercies continue to be yours throughout the coming year. Now that another year is upon us and we can reflect on the events and happenings of the past months, let us look to the coming period with renewed hope and aspirations.

Let us first take a careful look at our local and national parts of the Missionary Benevolent Association. Those who are older in both age and in years of service to The Church have used hope, coupled with faith, as a source of strength throughout their lives. The younger members can take a lesson from them and exercise faith with which to look forward to greater things in life and in The Church.

Although the MBA as an organization under the parent Church has been primarily concerned with the young people, the older Church members have sustained it and have held fast under all conditions, setting a good example in accepting what is good and valuable in life. The burden now rests on the more youthful to continue upholding the purposes and design of our organization in line with Brother Alexander Cherry's intentions when he founded it in 1904.

WELFARE OF YOUTH

The Preamble of the organization states that the purpose of the MBA is to promote the spiritual welfare of the youth in our midst. It also seeks to provide opportunities for young people to assume responsibilities in the MBA. The organization attempts also to provide financial assistance for The Church's missionary efforts and to provide welfare assistance for needy persons. It is additionally pointed out that all persons are encouraged to show their interest by attendance at meetings and are urged to take part in the activities of the MBA.

What does all this mean to those of you who are in your youth? Primarily, it points out the opportunity to be an active part of the Association. You will not only be putting forth an effort for the organization but also for The Church which the MBA represents. Become an active part of the group by:

1. Regular attendance.
2. Becoming a member of the choir (if one exists). If one does not exist, then inquire about whether it is possible to institute one.
3. By involvement in projects which may be underway. If none, it may be possible that some undertaking may be begun for the Auditorium Fund for needy persons, or for various Church causes.

During the past few years, many projects have been instituted to raise money for donation to The General Church Auditorium. It can be said proudly at this point of the venture that many groups in many areas of The Church have raised, through untiring efforts and dedication of purpose, highly appreciated sums for this cause. There has seemed to be a gradual increase in desire and effort of late, and this accelerated activity has been led by those of younger years, as they have recognized the necessity for greater involvement in supporting good works.

DEFINITION ANALYZED

The dictionary defines the word "youth" as the appearance, freshness, vigor or other quality characteristic of the young. We know it to be this and more. It is a time when one can go forward without too much hesitation and use the resource of strength; however, those who are older and have survived the heat of the day cannot be overlooked. Let us use their good examples and strive to attain new goals and achievements. Although young and possessing good and even great determination, one must not forget our Heavenly Father from whom all good and all strength must necessarily come. With God before us, who can be against us?

God has loved us and always will, for we are His children whether a babe in arms or a hundred years of age. Now we must all place ourselves in such a position as to be used for furthering the work of The Church. The MBA presents a wonderful way for everyone to be an integral part of The Church. The General, Area and Local officers of the organization more than welcome your support. Looking forward to the coming year, let us hope for continued help and united efforts of one and all in contributing to the solidarity of our group.

Let our aim and purpose for the coming months also be ones of dedication to God, Church and fellowman. In conclusion, let us try to keep active and participate wherever and however we may to support the MBA.

Christmas Baskets Distributed At Two Ontario Missions

Once again this past Christmas, members of the Michigan-Ontario region donated and distributed baskets at the two missions at the Muncey and Six Nations Indian Reservations in Ontario, Canada.

The containers, warmly welcomed by the recipients, were filled with a variety of non-perishable foods. A Missionary Benevolent Association Area sub-committee sponsored the project. Peter Scolaro, Association Area Treasurer, headed the group which collected, assembled and distributed the baskets in conjunction with the District's Mission Board.

This marked the fourth consecutive year that the baskets were taken to the reservations.



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance." St. Luke 15: 7.

Dear Girls and Boys,

Jesus told beautiful stories called parables. These stories were about God's love. The followers of Jesus enjoyed these stories and we today enjoy them too.

Jesus told several parables about "lost things." One very interesting one was about a good shepherd and his sheep. This shepherd had a hundred sheep. Every day he counted them as they came out of the door of the sheepfold. "One two, three" — on up to a hundred, he counted. Then he led his hundred sheep out to the green meadows and by the streams of cool water that came down from the mountains. When night came, the good shepherd led his sheep back to the fold. Again he counted them one by one to see that they all were there.

One night as the shepherd was putting his sheep in the fold, and counting them, he discovered one was missing. There were only ninety-nine sheep! He counted again but there were only ninety-nine. How worried he was! Out into the dark night he went, over the fields and up the mountains where the sheep had grazed that day. Finally he found the lost one. Gently the good shepherd lifted the sheep to his shoulders and carried it home.

The shepherd was very happy, so happy he wanted to tell his neighbors. He said to them, "Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost."

Another "lost thing" story Jesus told was about a coin. Once there was a woman who had ten silver coins. These coins were very important to her. One day she lost one. Quickly she lighted a candle and swept the house. She looked everywhere, in every corner of her house. At last she found it. How happy she was! She called her friends and said, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the piece which I had lost." Jesus closed this parable with these words, "... there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."

It is said in the Middle East in the early days, a woman would save ten coins and then she was ready to be married. She would wear these coins in her hair on her wedding day. The woman in the parable had saved her ten coins so if she were preparing for her wedding day and had lost one, you can see how desperately she would search for the lost coin. No wonder there was great rejoicing when this special coin was found.

The third story about "lost things" concerns

a lost son. This parable is called, "The Prodigal Son." The boy had a good father and an older brother. One day he asked his father to give him his share of the estate. The father divided his property between his two sons. It wasn't long until the younger son took what was his and traveled to a distant country. There he wasted his money in wild living. When he had spent everything and his new friends no longer wanted him, he was destitute and lonely. A great famine came in the land. He took a job with one of the citizens there and was sent into the fields to feed swine. He was so hungry, he was tempted to eat the pig's food! Suddenly he remembered home and his father. He exclaimed, "How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants."

Soon he left the country and started home to his father. While he was still some distance away, his father, catching sight of him, ran to him. He threw his arms around his son and kissed him. The son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son." The father turned to the servants and said, "Bring the best robe and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; And bring hither the fattened calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost and is found." How happy the father was!

After hearing this parable can you understand the loving relationship of a father to his son and our Heavenly Father to us?

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

Since we are starting another new year and will be doing many new things, I want to see if you can fill these blanks with Bible 'new things.'

1. "Sing unto the Lord a new , . . ." Isaiah 42 : 10.
2. "There is no new under the sun." Ecclesiastes 1: 9.
3. "A new I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, . . . " St. John 13: 34.
4. "In my name . . . they shall speak with new ;" - St. Mark 16: 17.
5. "And I saw a new and a new : . . . " Revelation 21: 1.

I received a letter from Patti Wright asking for a Pen - Pal. Patti is 11 years old and likes to read THE CHILDREN'S CORNER. She attends our Church in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Her father, mother, and sister were recently baptized. She plays the piano and hopes to play for Church services some day. Her address is — Miss Patti Wright, 3282 Parkwood Ave., Windsor 20, Ontario, Canada.

Happy New Year,
Sister Mabel



UR WOMEN TODAY

SHE HATH DONE WHAT SHE COULD.
HELEN C. TISLER

LADIES' CIRCLES REDEDICATE EFFORTS

As we enter into this new year, the Ladies' Circles are proud to continue in the total Church effort of spreading The Gospel. Although the end of 1968 means that the doors of the past are locked to us, we find ourselves looking forward to other doors of opportunity that will open to us as we continue to lend our assistance in the future.

The Circles are devoted to granting greater spiritual knowledge and in understanding The Word of God through classes and gatherings. Other objectives, according to the Law and Order, include encouraging the spirit of love among our members, assisting The Church financially, and helping to defray Missionary expenses.

In fulfilling the above, as well as other responsibilities, it is understood that there are still only 24 hours in each day and 365½ days in each year. Time is our limitation, and it becomes exceedingly discouraging to be bound by it. Perhaps there may be the feeling that time is passing swiftly and little progress is being made. As a result, selectivity becomes the important thing.

It is with thanks that we recall the priority assigned by Christ, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matt. 6:33) This passage will be our guide as we make our choices and seek to take advantage of the future doors of opportunity opened to us in the Ladies' Circles.

— By Helen C. Tisler

(The following presentation was made at one of the Area Ladies' Circle meetings held at Branch No. 4 in Detroit, Michigan several years ago. It is hoped that the Indian history will prove of interest to our readers, and in particular to our many Circle Sisters).

IROQUOIS INDIAN LEAGUE

"Our program tonight is based on the missionary work in which The Church is engaged among the seed of Joseph on the Six Nations Indian Reservation in Ontario, Canada. In introducing our topic, we would like to present a few facts and some background about the Iroquois League on Six Nations.

"Before 1769, the Iroquois group was the strongest but not the largest in North America. It was originally a league of five nations: Onondaga, Cayuga, Onieda, Seneca and Mohawk. This league was probably formed around the sixteenth century, and it was joined by the Tuscarora in 1715, which became the sixth nation. In the eleventh century, the Iroquois occupied practically all of the state of New York, although they occupied the lake area of that state as early as the fifth century.

"Originally, the typical Iroquois village consisted of a dozen or so Long Houses. About fifty people lived in each house. The five different Iroquois tribes constantly fought between themselves for the fertile lands in New York State. They became so weakened they could scarcely hold their own against their common enemy, the Algonkians. So, about 1570, the five tribes put an end to fighting each other and formed the league of Five Nations. Iroquois legends tell how an Onondaga named Hiawatha first thought of uniting the tribes. It was through his efforts this was accomplished.

"In 1777, about 1500 Iroquois under the leadership of a Mohawk Chief, Joseph Brant, served with the British army against the American Colonists in the Revolutionary War. The English had made great friends with them some twenty years earlier, sending missionaries among them and building school houses. After the war, in return for their help, the British gave them a large tract of land on both sides of the Grand River in Ontario. Many moved into Canada. Some colonists wanted to drive the Iroquois out of this country, but George Washington was against this. To this day the Iroquois gratefully recall how George Washington stood up for them. They even say that, although only Iroquois can enter the Iroquois heaven, George Washington is one exception because he was kind to the People of the Longhouse.

"Today half of the Iroquois live on seven reservations in Canada. They have schools and they follow trades of all kinds. Some go to college and become teachers, doctors, and businessmen. One group of Mohawks has found unusual work. They are steel construction men and have worked on almost every famous bridge and skyscraper in the United States and Canada. They have no fear of high places.

"Our Ministers are endeavoring to work with them to help them recognize the role they will be playing as a revitalized and chosen people of God — the true children of the promise. The Church does this with love because we Gentiles are their adopted Brothers and Sisters. May we work together with them and all God's children so we will be ready and waiting when He appears among us as we live in peace and harmony with our fellowman. That will be a time when we will hear no more the threats of battle and strife among men and when our only desire will be to live in peace and love with all people. The words "peace and love" recall to mind a beautiful and impressive card received during the Christmas season:

*"Lord, make me an instrument of thy Peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love,
Where there is injury, pardon,
Where there is doubt, Faith,
Where there is darkness, Light,
Where there is sadness, Joy."*

"Along with this verse was an ancient prayer, 'O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved, as to love; for it is in pardoning that we are pardoned and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.'"

— By Antoinette Ciaravino

Auditorium Plans

By Spencer G. Everett, Secretary

General Board of Trustees

The General Church Auditorium Committee met in Warren, Ohio on Saturday, December 7, to review interior specifications for the new building to be constructed near Imperial, Pennsylvania. Methods to obtain possible donations from persons and organizations outside of The Church were also discussed.

The following room finish schedule was approved by motion to keep within the limits of the previously established budgeted amounts and to allow the architects and designers to finalize the overall design of the auditorium.

Walls will be composed primarily of interior brick in the auditorium, lobby, and vestibule; and they will be plastered and paneled in the other areas. Suspended acoustical ceilings will be constructed throughout the building. Floors will be finished with vinyl tile and will be carpeted wherever most practical, such as on the rostrum and the aisles in the auditorium.

The kitchen and eating area will be designed to provide cafeteria type service. Those waiting in line will be guided by stainless steel rails to positions where they will be served. The design, which will be set up to serve approximately 32 persons a minute, will be covered in some detail in next month's issue. It is believed that everyone will be most pleased with the layout and labor-saving features, particularly the Sisters of The Church.

The lighting of the auditorium building will be a standard recessed fluorescent and incandescent type system. It will allow wide variations of lighting density and quality and will be wired so that there will be different zones and degrees of light possible by the use of various controls or switches. Variations will permit full illumination of the auditorium at maximum lighting; low auditorium lighting with the aisles highlighted at night; partial lighting for dark cloudy days during daylight hours; and lighting for special occasions when a maximum illumination is needed on a particular area, such as the rostrum or the area occupied by a choir.

The lighting system is one of the most inexpensive ones available, but it offers the greatest versatility for special effects or time of day. Not only is the initial cost kept at a minimum but the maintenance of this system is also inexpensive.

From limited reports presented, it was learned that at least an additional \$10,000 in donations were received in the approximate one-month period after the October Conference. Not all Branches, Missions, and Districts have reported their progress as of this date, however. The ensuing months should reflect a better showing, and every Branch and Mission should notify their District Auditorium Representatives of their standings.

It was suggested that Branches and Missions can obtain additional funds by making up a mailing list or by personally contacting friends

or relatives who many attend Church or be sympathetic towards The Church but who are not members. One Brother who did this has already received five separate donations which would not have otherwise been given.

The next Auditorium Committee Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 11, in Warren, Ohio.

GOSPEL NEWS HAS NEW EDITOR

(Continued From Page 1)

which we are involved. Countless hours of our time are devoted toward spreading The Gospel. For The Ministry, it involves the direct approach of preaching. For others, it may be an indirect endeavor aimed at helping in our overall objective of disseminating The Word. Without mentioning all the various phases in which we may be involved, it is only fitting that we acknowledge all those who labor for The Gospel and who are unceasing in their devotion to the Doctrines of Christ. We are certain their work does not go unrewarded by God.

It is also appropriate that two major endeavors being pursued by The Church be highlighted at the start of this new year. These are the auditorium project and the work of our General Church Appointee, Brother V. James Lovalvo.

AUDITORIUM PROJECT

This coming May we shall break ground and begin erection of our auditorium. It is my sincere hope that all members of The Church will find the means to help support this worthy cause.

Let us all unite behind our quotas and our current fund-raising drives to raise sufficient money to start on the designated date. Also, let us all pray mightily to God that He may assist us and help us to realize our dream.

A General Church Auditorium, located midway between Michigan and New York, is long overdue and is badly needed today because facilities to rent for conferences are becoming scarcer to find.

GENERAL CHURCH APPOINTEE

At our April 1968 Conference, Brother V. James Lovalvo felt prompted to volunteer to serve in whatever capacity The Church saw fit. The blessings of God were felt as he arose before the Quorum of Twelve Apostles and the Quorum of Three to declare that he was willing to take a leave from his job to work for The Gospel.

The joint committee recommended to the Conference that Brother Lovalvo be authorized to visit the various areas of The Church to strengthen and uplift the Branches. The General Priesthood approved this recommendation.

Shortly after our last October Conference, Brother Jim visited our Branches and Missions in Florida. In a report from him, we learned that he kept very busy conducting many meetings and was well received by everyone. All of us who know Brother Jim are fully aware of his many God-given talents, and we are certain that he will do much good wherever he is sent!

(Continued on Page 12)

Baptisms At Ft. Pierce

The gifts of The Church of Jesus Christ were in great evidence as three new members were baptized into the fold at Ft. Pierce, Florida on November 3. The meeting at which Brother V. James Lovalvo spoke inspiring was enriched by the gifts of tongues, the interpretation of tongues, the speaking in the spirit, and the power of discernment.

Sister Rose Rogolino spoke in the tongues, and Sister Mary Glover gave their interpretation. Sister Glover also spoke in the spirit.

Before the close of the meeting, Karen Rogolino of Ft. Pierce asked for her baptism. Brothers Ernest Schultz and Dominic Giovannone discerned that others in the meeting were being called into The Church, and the other two responded at the water's edge. After Sister Karen was baptized, Ray Wiley of Vero Beach and Mark Rogolino of Ft. Pierce requested baptism. Brother Frank Rogolino immersed all three.

At the Church building after the baptisms, Sister Karen was confirmed by Brother Patsy Rogolino; Brother Ray was confirmed by Brother Anthony Ensana, who was visiting from New Jersey; and Brother Mark was confirmed by Brother Giovannone.

The baptisms left everyone rejoicing, as they were answers to many of our prayers, asking God to show our younger people the right way.

Spanish Mission Celebrates Its First Anniversary

The Lorain, Ohio Spanish Mission of The Church of Jesus Christ celebrated its first anniversary on October 26. A good representation from the parent Lorain Branch, members of various Church committees which had been meeting in Warren, Ohio during the day, and the members of the mission and their families attended the event.

A dinner of special Spanish dishes was served early in the evening. The delicacies, prepared by the expert cooks of the mission, were enjoyed by all.

There was a service after the dinner. The customary enthusiastic Spanish singing at the mission was featured. Brother Juan Gonzalez, along with Brother Joseph Calabrese, spoke on the beginning of the mission and its progress over the past year. The ways in which The Lord has accompanied the work were reviewed.

In the last year, the group has had 14 baptisms, and there have been prayers of blessings for 24 Children. In addition, many individuals have benefitted from the mission's program of donating clothes and food to the needy.

The Spanish Mission wants to thank all the Branches, Missions, and Brothers and Sisters who have helped in many ways. The statement has been made that the more mission members help others, the more that is received. "Please continue to help us, especially with your prayers," is the request made by Brother Calabrese, who is in charge of the mission.

Two Baptized At McKees Rocks

Two baptisms, in confirmation of revelations of their occurrence, were experienced in the McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania Branch on successive Sundays. Walter John Laird was baptized by Brother Chester Nolfi on November 17, and Carol DiAntonio was taken into the waters by Brother John Manes on November 24.

It was revealed in dreams to two Sisters on Saturday night, November 16, that these baptisms would take place, and the McKees Rocks flock has been praising The Lord that they were fulfilled exactly as foretold.

Ordination, Baptisms At Vanderbilt Branch

Brother Nephi DeMercurio was ordained into The Ministry and two new Sisters, Pamela King and Donna Nillen, were baptized into The Church recently at Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania. These events, along with the prayer for blessings for an infant, have enriched the worship at this location.

The ordination and Sister King's baptism both were performed on October 27. Brother Emerson Fuller washed Brother De Mercurio's feet, and Brother Joseph Bittinger ordained him on Elder. A native of Detroit, Michigan, Brother DeMercurio obeyed The Gospel in Vanderbilt several years ago and has attended there ever since. He and his recent bride, Sister Lorraine, now reside in Morgantown, West Virginia. His family came from Michigan for the special occasion.

Sister Nillen, who lives in Bellaire, Ohio, has been very ill and was recently hospitalized. Anyone wishing to offer her encouragement and good cheer may do so by writing to her at the Ohio General Hospital, Wheeling, West Virginia.

Visitors In Niles, Ohio

The Niles, Ohio Branch has been fortunate to have had visitors from both Florida and California recently. Brother Dominic and Sister Marietta Giovannone from Florida were the first here. They were followed by Brother Robert Ciarrochi of California.

Brother Dominic spoke at a Wednesday night meeting, reminiscing about earlier days in this vicinity. As he identified the older members individually by name, he recalled their first days in The Gospel approximately 40 years ago. A good blessing was felt by all present, especially when he related how the late Brother Joseph Corrado had directed him to Niles. Touched by The Spirit of God, Brother Dominic said he felt the same kind of blessing he had experienced during that earlier period.

The memories were especially meaningful, because Brother Dominic had been instrumental

in helping to bring The Gospel to some of our older Brothers and Sisters in the area. He had walked many miles in spreading the Word to nearby Champion in 1925. His efforts, along with those of Brothers William Gennaro of Warren and Phillip Melico of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania, were rewarded when Nicholas Dorazio was converted there after several months of frequent visits. Shortly thereafter, following many verifying dreams and experiences from The Lord, Nicholas and Josephine Iorio and Rose Dorazio were also baptized. Through the untiring labors of Brother Dominic and of other Elders, others were converted to The Gospel here in Niles, and we are continuing to enjoy The Lord's blessings today.

After speaking, Brother Dominic and his wife, Sister Marietta, were anointed because of illness.

Brother Ciarrochi was in Niles for a Wednesday night and for Sunday services. He preached inspiringly on love, the power of God, and the qualifications needed in everyday life. He related several dreams and experiences which were enjoyable to all.

The visits were very welcomed and highly edifying.

Ordination At Windsor

Brother Donald Collison, whom The Lord saw fit to use in his Branch, was ordained an Elder in Windsor, Ontario, Canada on Sunday, November 17. Among those present at the unforgettable service were many Elders, an Evangelist, and an Apostle.

As the Spirit of God directed, Brother Samuel Cuomo washed Brother Collison's feet following a request by Presiding Elder Frank Vitto for all members of The Ministry to come down from the rostrum to take part. While they all knelt, Brother Allan Henderson had offered a prayer, asking for God's direction. After further awaiting the one important key to The Priesthood, which is inspiration, Brother Dominic Thomas ordained Brother Collison into his new office.

Other visitors included Brothers Mario Coppa and Tullio La Civita who had recently been ordained into The Ministry themselves.

The Windsor Branch has been growing of late, with the addition of many new members. Brother Vitto, along with his family from Detroit, have been attending in Windsor for the last six years. His efforts, in conjunction with those of Brother Henderson, Brother Cuomo, and other previous members of The Priesthood there, have been greatly rewarded by the blessings which have been received.

Two More Windsor Converts

The membership of the Windsor, Ontario, Canada Branch continued to increase on Sunday, December 8, when two more repentant souls obeyed The Gospel. Maureen Cuerrier and Anna

Wright went into the waters, thus following their recently baptized husbands into the fold.

Both of the new converts were immersed by Brother Donald Collison. Sister Cuerrier was confirmed by Brother Frank Vitto, and the confirmation for Sister Wright was performed by Brother Allan Henderson.

The main speaker at the inspiring service had been Brother Anthony Gerace, who was visiting from Detroit.

Two Ordinations At Detroit No. 4

It was a memorable day at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4 on Sunday, October 27, when Brother Tullio LaCivita was ordained an Elder and Brother Anthony Lovalvo was elevated to the position of an Evangelist.

Visitors from Ohio and from other local Branches were in attendance for this special occasion. In the morning, Brother Joseph Calabrese from Lorain, Ohio was the principal speaker.

Brother Carl Frammolin was asked to open the afternoon meeting. Other speakers included Brothers Dominic Thomas, Paul Vitto, and Louis Vitto. Additional visiting Elders were Reno Bologna, Fred Heath and Frank Vitto.

During the ordinations conducted in the afternoon, Brother Peter Capone washed Brother LaCivita's feet, and Brother Gorie Ciaravino ordained him into The Ministry. Brother Bologna washed Brother Lovalvo's feet and also ordained him into the Seventies.

Ohio representatives from the families of both Brothers ordained joined all assembled from Detroit in sharing the event and in prayerfully observing the Brothers in their callings. Brother LaCivita moved here from Youngstown about 20 years ago, while Brother Lovalvo is a native Detroiter.

The spiritually joyful day was not only memorable but was uplifting to all present.

Baptism At Detroit No. 4

Another blessing was received at Detroit Branch No. 4 when Candace Yusko joined The Church of Jesus Christ on December 1 following the afternoon service. She was baptized by Brother Anthony Lovalvo and confirmed by Brother Peter Capone.

The former Candace Heath of Greensburg, Pennsylvania, the new Sister was married to Martin Yusko there recently. After marriage, they moved to Virginia and became friends of Brother Gerald and Sister Patricia Hildenbrand. The two young couples then moved to Detroit and have been attending Branch No. 4 regularly.

Middle age is when you don't care where you go, just so you're home by nine.

Brief News Of Interest

PRAYERS WELCOMED

Sister Margaret Iorio from Bryson City, North Carolina thanks everyone for their prayers on her behalf and for her husband, Brother Nicholas. She asks for continued prayers for them.

WEST ELIZABETH EXPERIENCE

The West Elizabeth, Pennsylvania Branch is grateful and edified by an experience given to Sister Norma Maletta while hospitalized for an operation. A Heavenly Personage visited her and strengthened her on the day prior to surgery. She felt the reassurance that God would not forsake her and that He never leaves His People alone. Sister Norma expresses her thanks for the many prayers and encouraging correspondence she received from all members of the Church.

WEEKEND VISITORS

There were many visitors at St. John, Kansas over the Thanksgiving Day weekend. Brother Isaac and Sister Bonnie Smith and Brother Kem Metz of Monongahela, in addition to Brother Joseph and Sister Connie Ross of Aliquippa, journeyed from Pennsylvania. Brother John and Sister Connie Ross traveled there from Rapid City, South Dakota. They were joined at St. John by Brother Joseph and Sister Rose Milantoni, Sister Karen Milantoni, Sisters Sheila and Judy Alberts, Brothers Gary and Kerry Carlini, and Brother Dennis Moraco from Detroit, Michigan.

Meetings were held Friday and Saturday evenings in addition to the customary Sunday morning service. The touching testimonies of all there, particularly the young people, featured the spiritually festive weekend.

OPEN HOUSE

A very informative and enjoyable Saturday evening was spent on November 16 by members of the Greensburg, Pennsylvania Branch at an open house held in the home of Brother Oskar and Sister Nina Hagen. Brothers Gorie Ciaravino and Nicholas Pietrangelo from Detroit, Michigan and James Campbell from Monongahela were the special guests. Informal discussions were carried on about Church missionary work, experiences dealing with the overall general welfare of The Church, history and present status of the Indian people, and the General Church Auditorium project. In addition, Brother Ciaravino answered questions about the traffic injury he sustained over 35 years ago and from which physicians had given him no hope to survive, indicating he only had a few hours to live. This miraculous healing experience has been a great source of spiritual strength and inspiration to The Church throughout the years.

The Detroit Brothers spoke at the next day's usual morning service at the Greensburg Branch building. The topic was the "Parable of the Good Samaritan."

HATS OFF!

Word has been received that help for the future General Church Auditorium has come from unexpected sources.

It has been reported that Sister Pauline Kowalczyk of Hopelawn, New Jersey, who is 74 years old, has been collecting money from her friends and has accumulated over \$74.00 at last count for this worthy cause. The donors have complimented Sister Kowalczyk for her efforts and have told her how much they respect her for her devotion to The Church, which has always been the main concern in her life. Her humble testimony, strong desire, and courage in presenting The Gospel to others have always been wonderful examples to her acquaintances.

From Italy has come some other good news for the auditorium project. Brother Leonardo and Sister Maria Pietrorenzi have forwarded a substantial donation for the new building even though they will be unable to personally benefit from its use. They are anxious to do their part nevertheless. Former members of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1, the Pietrorenzis have been hosting Brother John Romano, in Italy on missionary work, whenever he is in their area.

VACATION AROUND CHURCH

Brother Nicholas and Sister Lena Liberto of San Diego, California visited Branches and Missions in the midwest and east during their recent vacation. Among the places in which they fellow-shipped and were most welcomed were the locations in Detroit, Michigan; Lorain, Ohio; and Pennsylvania. They also attended the General Missionary Benevolent Association Conference in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania in November, along with Brother Dwayne Jordan from San Fernando, California. Brother Jordan was there to present plans for the coming field trip the week of June 30. Incidentally the name for this GMBA project is "CALIFORNIA CAMP '69".

MOVED AGAIN

Brother Ether Furnier has once again been transferred. After living in the St. Louis, Missouri area for about four months, he was moved by his employer to the Edwards Air Force Base in California. The new address will be published when received. Until this last summer, the Furniers had been living in Phoenix, Arizona.

NEW ARRIVALS

Belated news from Youngstown, Ohio offers the information that there have been two new arrivals there. Daughters were born recently to the Martin Kline, Jr. and Charles Hughes families. Their names are Vickie Layne Kline and Anudria Lynn Hughes.

New arrivals in Detroit, Michigan have been John Anthony to the Louis Alma Palenos, Matthew Mark to the Samuel DiFalcos, Mark Anthony to the Roland Palenos, Theodore Joseph to the Joseph Kaczmareks, and Ann Marie to the Richard Stopinskis.

NUPTIALS

COSNER—COLVER

Mr. Matthew Earl Cosner and Sister Judith Ann Colver of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 2 were married on Saturday, December 7. Brother Reno Bologna joined them in holy wedlock.

The newlyweds are now living in Southgate, Michigan.

MONTGOMERY—LEET

Mr. Anthony Montgomery and Sister Virginia Leet were united in holy matrimony on Saturday, November 23, at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4 of The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother Silverio Coppa officiated at the ceremony.

The couple now resides in Inkster, Michigan.

GIOIA—LO FRANO

Brother Vito Peter Gioia and Miss Sharon Ann LoFrano were married at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 of The Church of Jesus Christ on Friday evening, November 22. Brother Carl Frammolin officiated at the wedding. A musical selection was sung by Brother Benjamin DiPronio.

The Gioias are now living in Warren, Michigan.

CHAMBERS—NEWMAN

Brother Jerry Dean Chambers and Miss Joanne Louise Newman were united in holy wedlock at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 of The Church of Jesus Christ on Friday evening, November 8. Brother John Buffa performed the ceremony. Sister Donna Taormina sang an impressive musical offering.

The couple is now living in Detroit.

KROTH—PADOVINI

Mr. David Henry Kroth and Miss Mary Lynn Padovini were married at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3 of The Church of Jesus Christ on Saturday, October 26. Brother Paul Whitton joined them in holy wedlock. Sister Donna Taormina was the soloist.

The Kroths are now residing in Detroit.

BERARDINO—CIMINERO

Mr. Elliott Berardino and Miss Rosalind Ciminero were united in holy matrimony on Saturday, August 17, at The Church of Jesus Christ in Youngtown, Ohio. Brother Travis O. Perry officiated at the impressive ceremony. Vocal selections were offered by Mrs. Ruth Zemko.

The Berardinos are residents of Youngstown.

OBITUARIES

IDA GIBSON

Sister Ida Gibson, a long-time faithful member of The Church of Jesus Christ at the Six Nations Indian Reservation in Canada, died on December 7. Born on April 4, 1896, she was baptized into The Church in 1938.

Left to mourn her loss are her husband, two daughters, one son, and 13 grandchildren.

Brother Anthony R. Lovalvo officiated at the funeral services. He was assisted by Brothers Norman Campitelle and Louis Vitto.

Sister Gibson's devotion to The Church and her acts of kindness were wonderful examples and will be missed by not only those on the reservation but by all who knew her.

JOSEPH RINNA

On October 29, Brother Joseph Rinna, member and Deacon of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4, passed away to his eternal reward. Brother Rinna was baptized on June 24, 1934 and was ordained a Deacon in October 1959.

He leaves his wife, two daughters, three grandchildren, and five great grandchildren.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother Peter Capone.

Brother Rinna will be greatly missed by all the Brothers and Sisters who were closely associated with him, and he will long be remembered for his kind and generous heart.

AUTILIA DIFABIO

Sister Autilia DiFabio, who attended Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3 regularly since her baptism on June 3, 1934, departed from this life on September 26. She was born on May 28, 1889.

She is survived by three daughters, four sons, 19 grandchildren, and 16 great grandchildren.

Brother Silverio Criscuolo officiated at the funeral services for our late Sister. He was assisted by Brother Peter H. Capone.

Sister DiFabio's reliability and faithfulness in her home Branch were well-known, and her quiet and reserved manner always displayed her many desirable qualities favorably.

Improvements Being Made To M-O Baptismal Sites

Improvements to the two baptismal sites in the Michigan—Ontario Church District are being made. The locations are in the western and eastern suburban areas of Detroit, and they are being renovated to allow easier access to the frontage for baptisms.

The West Side plot is on Edison Lake and has been used primarily by Detroit Branches No. 2 and No. 4. It was purchased in 1963. The East Side land, obtained this last summer, is on Lake St. Clair and is closest to Branches No. 1 and No. 3. The Windsor congregation is almost equidistant between both places and thus can use either one.

Paving is being installed at both facilities, as there is ample space for the parking of cars. The banks at the water's edge are also being improved.

Church Negotiating To Make Purchase

On December 2, The Church of Jesus Christ submitted an offer to repurchase a parcel of land previously owned in St. John, Kansas. This property has since been improved, and it now houses a small frame church building which will seat approximately 100 persons.

The St. John Mission has had several converts during the past two years and is in need of a larger place to meet.

The land for which negotiations are now underway was first purchased by Brother William Bickerton in the 1880's. The original structure placed on the site was moved from the plot, and the present building was placed there by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

In addition to providing a meeting-place for the St. John congregation, the property contains many historical memories for many of our members.

1969 CHURCH CALENDAR

Following is a list of 1969 Church events of general and regional interest.

FEBRUARY

- 15 — Second Annual Michigan - Ontario MBA Area Seminar Day (place to be announced).
- 21 - 22 — Semi - Annual California General Church District Conference at Bell, California.

MARCH

Semi - Annual General Church District Conferences:

- 7 — Atlantic Coast at Hopelawn, New Jersey.
- 8 — Florida at Ft. Pierce, Florida.
- 12 - 13 - 14 — Michigan-Ontario at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1.
- 14 - 15 - 16 — Ohio at Cleveland, Ohio Branch No. 1. Pennsylvania at McKees Rock, Pennsylvania (date to be announced)
- 22 — Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference at Youngtown, Ohio.

APRIL

- 17 - 18 - 19 - 20 — Semi - Annual General Church Conference at Monongahela, Pennsylvania.

MAY

Groundbreaking for new General Church Auditorium near Imperial, Pennsylvania (completion scheduled for 1970).

- 17 — Semi - Annual General Missionary Benevolent Association Conference in New Jersey.

JUNE

- 21 — Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference (place to be announced).
- 27 - 28 - 29 — General Church Gathering in Bell, California.
- 30 — General Missionary Benevolent Association Field Trip to California through July 6.

JULY

Annual Missionary Benevolent Association Area Conferences:

- 19 — Atlantic Area at Hopelawn, New Jersey.
- 19 — California Area at San Fernando Valley, California. Florida Area (date and place to be announced).
- 18 — Michigan - Ontario Area at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3.
- 20 — Michigan-Ontario Area at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4.
- 19 — Ohio Area at Cleveland, Ohio Branch No. 1.
- 19 — Pennsylvania Area (place to be announced).

SEPTEMBER

- Semi - Annual General Church District Conferences (dates and places to be announced).
- 20 — Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Confer-

ence at New Brunswick, New Jersey.

OCTOBER

- Semi - Annual General Church Conferences (dates and place to be announced).
- Tentative month for dedication of new Warren, Ohio church building (date to be announced).

NOVEMBER

- Semi - Annual General Church Conference
- volent Association Conference in Pennsylvania.

DECEMBER

- 13 — Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference at Monongahela, Pennsylvania.

THE JOY OF THE SAINTS

What is it? What is this rare thing called "Joy of the Saints?" Paper and pen cannot appropriately capture it. It is a stirring of the heart and mind. It is the kind of feeling that occurs to some people at Christmas time only. It is shedding tears of happiness because of the love felt in the heart — a love for God and all His Creation.

It can happen at home, but most often it is experienced when gathered with the Saints. It is felt when our Elders preach God's Word to us; it is felt when the sick are anointed; it is felt in the sincere testimonies of our Brothers and Sisters. It is also felt in our Ordinances. Baptism, Sacrament, and the Washing of Feet. Most of all, it is felt when God honors us with His Presence.

We know He is always there, but sometimes He comes very near and is standing there, allowing His Love to envelop us like a warm glow. It is a little taste of that special love God had for mankind when He sent us His beloved Son.

This is a joy so precious we want to share it with our loved ones and all mankind. It is that "mystic fellowship of love" which makes us one family: the feeling when all earthly thoughts leave us, and we have a small foretaste of what it must be in Heaven! It is having the Christmas spirit all year long. It is a special moment when God is there.

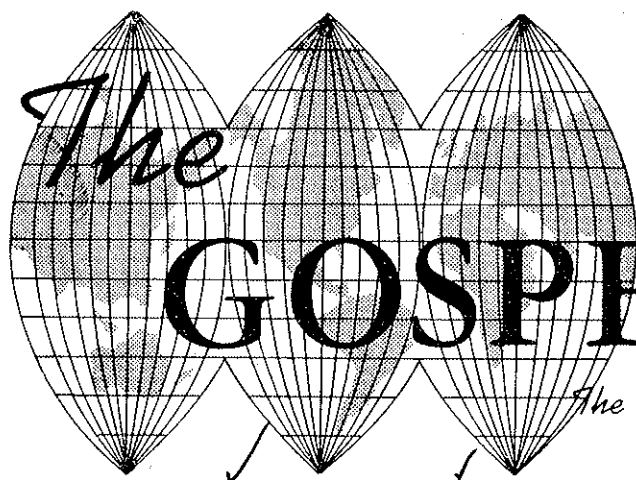
This is the joy of the Saints!

GOSPEL NEWS HAS NEW EDITOR

(Continued From Page 7)

This program is one which is confirmed by The Scriptures. Both the Bible and Book of Mormon show the value of visiting the parts of The Church, especially by an Apostle. Brother Jim stated that he would do everything within his power to keep his traveling and living expenses to a minimum. We pray that God will richly bless his efforts in trying to strengthen and inspire The Church at large.

In closing, let us pray unitedly that God will continue to strive with us in all our undertakings in 1969 as He has in the past. Only with His guiding hand and blessings can we continue to be instruments in His plan here below.



The GOSPEL NEWS

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Who Really Discovered America?

By Dominic Moraco and Spencer Everett

The question of who discovered America is one which has perplexed historians throughout the years. Many theories have been advanced on this subject by both experts and laymen.

It is safe, however, to state that Columbus was not the first to discover America by the mere fact that he found a people living here when he arrived in 1492.

"Who were these people?" "From where did they come?" "Were they the original inhabitants of this hemisphere?" These are questions still raised today, nearly five-hundred years since the landing of Columbus.

Persons acquainted with the Restoration of The Gospel and the **Book of Mormon** know that there were no less than four separate migrations, by water to this hemisphere. They were, in order of their coming: the JAREDITES, the NEPHITES, the MULEKITES (ancestors of the American Indian) and the GENTILES (such as Columbus, the Pilgrims, and the Puritans).

In order to gain a clearer understanding of each crossing and a keener appreciation for the **Book of Mormon**, a brief history of each landing seems desirable.

THE FIRST EXPEDITION

(The Jaredites)

The Jaredites came from the Tower of Babel at the time when God confounded the language, approximately 3097 B.C. (See **Genesis 11: 1-9**). They took upon themselves the name of one of their leaders, a just and righteous man named Jared. This man had a brother, whose name is not recorded but who possessed unparalleled faith which enabled him to commune with God. When God confounded the language, during the building of the Tower of Babel, this man asked God not to confound his language and that of his family and friends. Because of his great faith, God granted him his request; thus, he and his friends retained the original language spoken by the family of Adam and Eve.

He next asked The Lord whether there was a particular location where they should dwell, for the people began to scatter upon all the face

of the earth. God revealed to the brother of Jared that indeed he had a special land for them and that, if they would remain faithful to Him and His commandments, He would lead them to this "choice land" where they could be free to serve God.

This small band of Jaredites made its way from the Tower of Babel to the shores of the Atlantic Ocean. The record states that they journeyed over extensive lands from Babel, crossed a sea in the wilderness, and crossed further lands to the ocean. There God instructed the brother of Jared to build eight barges so they could cross the sea to the promised land.

The "Book of Ether," a part of the **Book of Mormon**, explains the shape and construction of the barges, the crossing of the sea, and the Jaredites' eventual arrival at the land of America. They landed on the shores of the Gulf of Mexico, and within a few years their number grew until they spread out upon the face of the entire land. The **Book of Mormon** makes it clear that the ancient people of Jared never moved far from the area called by them "the land of Moron" which was located just north of "the narrow neck of land." The Prophet Ether also tells how they grew into the millions, became wicked, forgot God who had brought them here, and were eventually destroyed through warfare.

During their stay upon the land of America (approximately 2993 B.C. to 300-236 B.C.), they left a history of their growth, development, and eventual destruction. This history was written on a large stone (a stele) and upon 24 gold plates.

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Who Really Discovered America?

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They reportedly left other records which remain undiscovered to this day. During their last great war, which the Prophet Ether describes in detail, it was prophesied by Ether that only one Jaredite would live to see other people inhabit the land. Because the Jaredites refused to repent, this prophecy was fulfilled. Only a man named Coriantumr lived to be found by the people of the third expedition to the land of America. He lived with the people of Mulek in the city of Zarahemla for the space of nine months.

The records left by the Jaredites were found by the Nephites, who were the descendants of Lehi, the second group to cross the ocean. The Nephites, of course, could not understand the record for it was written in the language of Adam. Being exceedingly curious as to its contents, they searched among the people to see whether anyone could translate the ancient records. One of their Kings, Mosiah, was a holy Prophet and also possessed the gift of a Seer. Being a Seer, he was able, through the power of God, to translate the Jaredite record into the Nephite language. This translation was later abridged by Moroni, and the abridgement was kept with the record of the Nephites (the *Book of Mormon*) and concealed with the Nephite Record in Hill Cumorah.

THE SECOND EXPEDITION (The Nephites)

The second expedition to the land of America left the city of Jerusalem about the years 600 - 597 B.C. God had warned Lehi, a holy Prophet, to flee the city before the impending destruction by the Babylonian armies.

This small band consisted of two families — the family of Lehi and the family of Ishmael, a friend of Lehi. It made its way "for the space of many years" through the wilderness to the sea where Nephi, the righteous son of Lehi, was commanded to build a ship of sufficient capacity to bring them to the promised land.

Before leaving the city of Jerusalem, they obtained the Brass Plates of Laban which enabled them to trace their genealogy to Joseph of Egypt, one of the sons of Jacob. Thus, they knew that they were descendants of a tribe of the house of Israel.

The "First and Second Books of Nephi" in the fore-part of the *Book of Mormon* tell how the families of Lehi and Ishmael crossed the sea, landed in America, and became divided into two nations.

Nephi, Sam, Jacob and Joseph were the sons of Lehi, along with their families, who were inclined towards righteousness. God blessed them with many revelations and they grew in number and took upon them the name of "Nephites" after their young leader.

Their older brothers, Laman and Lemuel, were inclined toward sin and worldiness. After arriving upon the promised land, they became so evil that God cursed them with a dark skin,

laziness, and a nomadic spirit. They wandered from place to place, living in tents and teaching their children not to serve or believe in God and to hate the people of Nephi. This spirit of hatred led to many wars and much bloodshed between the two groups.

THE THIRD EXPEDITION (The Mulekites)

The people of Mulek migrated from Jerusalem approximately 589-586 B.C. or only about eleven years after the Nephites. Mulek was one of the sons of King Zedekiah who was captured by Nebuchadnezzar's armies and carried captive into Babylon. (See *II Kings 25: 1 - 7*).

Mulek and a few others escaped and were brought by the hand of God to the land of America. (See *Helaman 6:10*) No history is given in the *Book of Mormon* of how they crossed the sea and the time of their eventual arrival on this continent. They settled in a place called Zarahemla and were eventually discovered by the Nephites. They had grown in population, experienced many wars between themselves, and their language had become corrupted. They kept no records and became united with the Nephites; thus, their history ends. (the *Book of Mormon*, "Book of Omni").

THE FOURTH EXPEDITION (The Gentiles)

A prophecy contained in the *Book of Mormon* which was seen by Nephi in a vision described how he saw a Gentile who was separated by his brethren (located on this hemisphere) by many waters (or an ocean). He beheld how the Spirit of God directed and guided this man (Christopher Columbus) even to Nephi's brethren located on the continents of America and the isles of the sea.

He also saw that the Spirit of God would move upon other Gentiles (such as the Pilgrims and Puritans) and how they would go forth out of captivity upon the many waters (ocean) to arrive at this land of America. He saw the Gentiles grow to a multitude upon this land of promise. Because of the iniquity of his brethren (Indian people), the wrath of God was upon them, and they were scattered and smitten by the Gentiles. These Gentile people now own and occupy most of the land we call America.

Who really discovered America? The answer comes ringing across the centuries that those who had, above all, a desire to serve God in spirit, truth, and righteousness were led here. They were given the opportunity to "discover" America, the "promised land," which the Lord God had preserved for a righteous people.

"Behold, this is a choice land, and whatsoever nation shall possess it shall be free from bondage, and from captivity, and from all other nations under heaven, if they will but serve the God of the land, who is Jesus Christ, . . ." (Ether 2:12) To be remembered, however, is " . . . he that doth possess it shall serve God or shall be swept off; . . ." (Ether 2:10).

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose." Rom. 8:28.

THE GOSPEL NEWS

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Editorial Viewpoint

By George A. Neill

How far away is Zion? I do not know, but I am convinced that adherence and obedience to the Word of God can produce a Zion condition which we, as a people, can enjoy in our day.

Some fifteen years ago I made a trip to California with two friends of mine, a Mr. Smith and his son, Gene. We visited in Trona, a few miles from Death Valley, where this friend's daughter was living. While there, Mr. Smith's son-in-law and I decided to go trout fishing in a stream from Mt. Whitney. Our plan was to camp part way up the mountain and stay overnight.

On the foothills of this mountain there was considerable evidence that others had been there, for the ground was littered with paper, broken bottles, some empty pie plates and other debris. As we advanced up the mountain however, I noticed how rapidly this kind of evidence disappeared, proving the fact that not very many got that far. After a long and arduous climb, we reached the height we wanted to attain; and I was immediately struck with the fact that there was no evidence that man had ever been at this spot. This location of the mountain seemed pure and clean as the Creator had made it. It was felt wise to drop down several hundred feet before camping for the night, however, because of the evidence of wild bear.

As a result of this little adventure my mind many times has been directed to Isaiah 2: 1 - 4, which read:

"The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.

"And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

"And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

I am sure this scripture is familiar to all Latter Day Saints. It depicts a condition we all hope will transpire in our day; in fact, this hope has burned in the hearts of God's people from the days of the Restoration. Isaiah foresaw The Lord's house established in the top of the mountains in the last days. Exalted above the hills, all nations would flow unto it.

As I see conditions today, The Church is resting in the foothills that stretch from the launching of the Restoration in 1830 to the establishment of Zion. Ever since my boyhood days, I have heard the term "Peaceful Reign." We understand this reign will be the time when Christ's Kingdom will be set up in the Promised Land called Zion. It is not known just when Zion will be established, but we may ask ourselves, "Are we, as a people, preparing ourselves for the wonderful privilege of dwelling there, or are we satisfied just to dwell in the lowlands? Could it be we are not heeding the call to climb higher? Should we not push ourselves up into the higher places of the mount of the house of God?"

Surely there is room for some Zion achievement in our day. I feel there should be a movement amongst us toward the higher elevations of spiritual mountain climbing. I am sure there is a call going out for this movement. All my life I have heard it said repeatedly that, if we, as a people, fail to heed this call, God would raise up a people who will. This may very possibly leave a lot of us behind, dwelling in the lowlands.

Let all of us (especially we who are members of The Church of Jesus Christ) examine ourselves to see whether there are any obstructions blocking the highway to Zion. The term "sin in the camp" is very harsh language, but let me say that sin can be defined as anything which prevents us from aspiring and attaining the highest level of spirituality. As

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M.B.A. Highlights

GMBA Support Not New

By James D. Gibson, GMBA Editor

The Missionary Benevolent Association support for the new General Church Auditorium is not the first time that this auxiliary unit has given this kind of assistance to Church projects. A review of the General MBA minutes has disclosed that there have been many instances when aid was given.

When the Association was smaller in both number and scope, the monetary donations extended were of necessity small. An indication of this was found in the early 1940's when half of the treasury balance was donated to an Indian Brother with which to purchase an artificial leg.

The expenses of this earlier period were small, but the amount of money on hand was also of a proportionately lesser sum. At this same time, a Book Fund to help finance Church literary works was also in progress, and there was a balance of over \$800 in the fund.

EARLIER LEADERS

Some of the people who worked within or closely with the GMBA during this time were Brothers William H. Cadman, Gorie Ciaravino, Anthony DiBattista, Melvin Mountain, Thomas Ross, Dominic Cotellesse, and Sisters Hanna Skillen and Mabel Bickerton. The Association can be proud of their achievements as well as of those whom we have failed to mention through insufficient information or possible oversight. The memories, especially of those who have passed on like Brothers Cadman, DiBattista, and Cotellesse and Sister Skillen, recall their memorable dedication and perseverance for the just causes which they espoused.

What may seem to have been insignificant and relatively minor undertakings were actually appropriate and of necessity. Some of these illustrate the projects carried on. Hymn books were sent to Trinidad, Colorado at the request of Brother Cadman, and a full complement of Church literature was sent to Tennessee at Brother Mountain's request. Church literature was also sent to one of the branches of the Government Service. Locals were asked to help finance The Church farm in Canada, and in a later GMBA meeting more money was donated for machinery at the farm.

The organization of new Locals and the encouragement of others took on greater impetus about this time. Organizers were busy in different parts of the country as is reflected by the fact that new Locals were chartered in the following locations in the 1940's: McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania; Youngstown, Ohio; Cleveland, Ohio; South Greensburg, Pennsylvania; San Diego, California; and Port Huron, Michigan.

In the May 1952 GMBA Conference, it was suggested that the various Locals place a copy

of The Church History Book in their nearest libraries. The feasibility of such a move can readily be understood. Today, many units still distribute Church literature to not only libraries but to hospitals and similar institutions, and this kind of "literary missionary work" has opened many doors for the distributors.

REGIONAL EXPANSION

A proposal was presented a little later that Locals be grouped into regional Areas, with appropriate officers elected to serve in the new Area level under the jurisdiction of the General MBA. This suggestion was taken under advisement, and, after proper deliberations, the necessary action was taken to incorporate this intermediate step in the organization. This level, as well as other segments in the total structure, was subsequently refined in a revision to the MBA By-Laws. This revised constitution allowed the organization to better serve the Association and The Church in keeping with the objectives and purposes to which it is dedicated.

The May 1963 Conference elected its first GMBA Editor, and in 1965 it was decided that a monthly Association newsletter be published under the title of the MBA Bulletin. Its purpose was to publicize all General, Area, and Local news to the various parts of the Association. To accomplish this objective, Area and Local Editors were also appointed to gather, report, and distribute information about their particular units through this medium. This transfer of news was and is intended to stimulate, as well as inform, the members in their MBA endeavors.

A leader in the General Association for many years was Brother Dominic R. Thomas. Brother Thomas, who served as GMBA President for 18 years, resigned in November 1966 to assume other Church responsibilities. He was succeeded by his Vice-President, Brother Isaac Smith, who remained as the President until this last November when he also resigned. The current General MBA President is Brother August D'Orazio.

LAND PURCHASE FUND

Perhaps the most far-reaching measure which was passed by the MBA was the establishment of an Auditorium Land Purchasing Fund mentioned at the beginning of this article. This fund was begun with the intention of eventually turning over the proceeds to The General Church when it was ready to purchase the land for an auditorium site. The need for such a facility had been discussed at a GMBA Conference in 1960, and the donations for this cause continued to mount. Meanwhile, the site was donated by the Imperial, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church, so the finances accumulated were subsequently redirected into a GMBA Auditorium Land-Purchasing and Building Fund. The May 1966 GMBA Conference passed a motion to purchase eleven acres of land across the road from the Auditorium site; and the balance on hand, along with amounts raised through six-month Association-wide fund-raising drives, have been and are being earmarked for actual construction costs.

The Association is grateful for the opportu-

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The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"... honour the king of heaven." Daniel 4:37

Dear Girls and Boys,

There are interesting stories about all the rulers in Egypt. Pharaoh is the name given to the kings in Egypt. Some thought the name meant "the sun"; others, "a great house." The Pharaoh I want to tell you about is the one in Joseph's day. He was called a Shepherd King. He was not as cruel as some.

One night, this Pharaoh had a dream. He dreamed he stood by a river. Out of the river came seven fat cattle which fed in a meadow. Then he saw seven other cattle come out of the river but these were thin. The thin cattle went over and ate the fat ones. When Pharaoh awakened, he was troubled. Then he went back to sleep. His dream continued. He saw corn growing in a field. Seven ears came up on the corn stalk. These were large and healthy. Next, seven poor ears came. The east wind blew on them and they withered. Then the seven thin ears devoured the good ones.

The next morning when Pharaoh awoke, he was worried. He called his magicians, who were very wise, to tell him the meaning of his dreams. None could tell him. Then the king's butler remembered that Joseph had told him the meaning of his dream when he was in prison. Joseph had been put in prison when Potiphar's wife had told a lie about him. She was a wicked woman.

Pharaoh sent for Joseph. He was found in a dungeon. Joseph shaved, changed his clothes, and came before the king. Pharaoh told him he heard he could tell the meaning of dreams. Joseph said, "It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace."

After listening to the dream, Joseph told the king that God was about to do something. He said the seven good cattle were seven good years and the seven good ears of corn were also seven good years. The seven thin cattle and the seven empty ears of corn were the seven years of famine. He told the king that there would be seven years of plenty in Egypt and after that seven years of famine, which would be a sad time for the people.

Joseph told Pharaoh he must find a wise man to govern the land of Egypt and store up food in the years of plenty. The king believed Joseph. He asked his servants, "Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?" Then realizing Joseph was the man, he chose him. The king said, "... only on the throne will I be greater than thou." Pharaoh made Joseph the ruler of all Egypt and commanded the people to obey him.

The seven years of plenty came just as the Lord had said. In all parts of Egypt there was an abundance of food. Joseph built large storehouses

and filled them with corn and other kinds of food. Joseph gathered corn as the sands of the sea; it could not be numbered, because it was so plentiful.

When the seven years of plenty were over, the famine then came. In the countries around Egypt, the people had not prepared for this. Only in Egypt was there corn. People came to Pharaoh and cried for bread. He said, "Go unto Joseph; what he saith to you, do." Joseph opened the storehouses and fed the people. All Egypt was happy. God was with Joseph and blessed the People.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

Find these rulers in the Bible. Which were cruel and which good?

1. What kind of a Pharaoh was the one in the above story?
2. The Pharaoh in Moses' day (Exodus 5: 1, 2).
3. What kind of a Herod do we read about at the birth of Jesus? (St. Matthew 2: 1-18).
4. What kind of a ruler lived in John the Baptist's day? (St. Matthew 14: 1, 10).
5. What about Herod the king in Acts 12: 1, 2?
6. King Ahasuerus the husband of Esther? (Esther 2: 17).
7. What king did Israel fear because they saw the wisdom of God in him? (1 Kings 3:28).

Sincerely,
Sister Mabel.

ATTENTION CHILDREN!

Sister Mabel would like to know whether there are any subjects from the Bible or Book of Mormon which you would like her to tell about in the Children's Corner. You can write to her at 6 Ronald Street, West Elizabeth, Pennsylvania 15088, and she will be happy to relate them for you.

Maybe your Sunday School or Missionary Benevolent Association classes can think of some suggestions if you do not have any ideas of your own. Perhaps even your parents or relatives may give you some thoughts about this. Sister Mabel said that, even though she has some more topics in mind, she would prefer to write about the things you might want.

In addition, any of you children who would like to have Pen Pals can let Sister Mabel know your address so she can print it.

Above everything else, it is certain Sister Mabel would like to know how you are enjoying this section, which is yours in the Gospel News, and would be most pleased to hear from you.

By the way, research has found that it will soon be ten years that Sister Mabel has been presenting the Children's Corner. This section for boys and girls first appeared in November 1959, and we are sure everyone wants to thank her for her splendid writings over the years.

The Editor

"Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." Matt. 6:34.



UR WOMEN TODAY

QUARTERLY LADIES' CIRCLE CONFERENCE

The Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference was hosted by the Imperial and McKees Rocks Circles at McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania on Saturday, December 14. Among those in attendance were Sisters from North Carolina, Ohio, and Pennsylvania who came despite the bad weather.

The gathering was devoted to both fellowship and official business proceedings. Also, plans for the future were outlined.

Sisters from Imperial and McKees Rocks sang some selections from the new **Saints Favorites** hymn book, and they read scriptures pertaining to the Restoration. Sister Mabel Bickerton, General Circle President, spoke about the great blessings that are received when hearing about the Restoration, and she related the great edification which was experienced in the choosing of the Restoration hymns. In addition, Sister Bickerton talked about The Church's missionary work. It was pointed out that, if unable to actually be in the mission field, help can be given through prayers and finances to do what The Lord wants done.

Tapes from the San Carlos Indian Reservation in Arizona and from Mexico were played. It was especially enjoyable to hear the singing and testimonies of our Indian Saints there. They illustrated the true value to be found in bringing souls to The Gospel. Brothers John Manes and Dan Casasanta, invited to speak, stated that they were very impressed with the desire of the Circles to help the Indian people. Brother Casasanta also told of the outstanding conversion of one of the Sisters at one of these locations.

During the presentation of official General Circle reports, it was stated that \$517.31 had been received for the General Church Auditorium for the concluded three-month period. It was additionally stipulated that finances and/or food will be contributed to the Spanish mission in Lorain, Ohio. There are many children there, and it was decided to donate money to purchase gifts for those in need.

A vote of thanks was given to the Imperial and McKees Rocks Circles. The balance of the time was spent in singing hymns.

The dates and places for this year's General Circle Conferences are as follows: March 22 in Youngstown, Ohio; June 21, place to be announced; September 20 in New Brunswick, New Jersey; and December 13 in Monongahela, Pennsylvania.

By Mary Tamburrino, Reporter

IF EVERY DAY WERE CHRISTMAS

Even though Christmas has passed over a month ago and has become part of our memories, it is significant to reflect on it. A season of idealism and rebuke to selfish living, it has been typified as being a time when men and women substituted thoughts of themselves for

those of others. Under this setting, it is understandable that serving others and making them happy affects even the usually hard, cold, and indifferent. The idea that it is more blessed to give than to receive touches those who are not accustomed to tender and benevolent thoughts.

One source has stated that Christmas is when cruel competitions are lessened or forgotten briefly and that all humanity seems to be one family. It is truly delightful to see so many so happy.

Christmas is the one time when everyone is reminded to take Jesus seriously for "peace on earth, goodwill to men" is heard everywhere. Then, as not at any other time, the "Sermon on the Mount" appears practical and workable. Furthermore, the emphasis is on hope.

In giving, sharing, and sacrificing, thoughts are turned primarily to children, with reference to the Christ child. Immediately, our thoughts turn to what Jesus said about little children, "Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

Christmastime accentuates the home and highlights family life. It requires father and mother, children, and family groups to give it reality. To us as mothers, it takes on greater significance because our daily love for our families takes on a new glow. Our daily concern for others, particularly our household, suddenly appears to be rediscovered; and this, of course, is not only most rewarding but very inspiring.

While the happy "rediscovery" of the season is very encouraging, it poses the challenge which faces us in the future. The task involves our protesting against selfishness continually, keeping our thoughts on the children and less fortunate and maintaining our Christmas spirit of goodwill throughout every day. It means demonstrating to our children and everyone else with whom we come in contact that Christianity is not confined to certain days but must be practiced under all conditions and at all times.

Mothers are well aware of the importance of their teachings. Some writers have even stressed the fact that the part played by parents, particularly the mothers, is perhaps the most basic and far-reaching mortal influence in everyone's life. The teachings, training, and examples thus received mold the characters and behavior for later life. It has been suggested then what better way for guidance is there than teaching and showing that the Christmas spirit should be present every day?

With these thoughts in mind, it is encouraging to note that the Sisters of the Ladies' Circles everywhere are dedicated to keeping the principles mentioned alive, as they strive to further assist in the work of The Church. Their continued interest in missionary work and other Church needs is reflected by the time, resources, and efforts they are planning to extend in the future. The indication is that they are not content with just being good and beneficial influences in their homes but are desirous of being helpful wherever else possible. In short, they are concerned with keeping the proper Christmas spirit alive all year.

By Helen C. Tisler

PRAYER

By Joseph Calabrese

The disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray as John had taught his followers. He replied, as recorded in **St. Matthew 6: 9-13**:

"After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

"Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

"Give us this day our daily bread.

"And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

"And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen."

You will note that Jesus started by giving His Father due reverence first, "Our Father . . . Hallowed be thy name." God cannot hear us unless we call on Him first. This must be done sincerely and clearly, so there will be no question of our desire to communicate with our Creator.

In the next statement, our Saviour iterates that His Father's kingdom should come to earth, as it is in heaven. It is our prayer that this will become a reality someday. That is His promise. Jesus told His disciples in **St. Matthew 28:19**, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:". If men will believe and obey The Gospel completely, His kingdom will grow on earth as it is in heaven.

DAILY BREAD

Next is the necessity to ask Him for our daily bread, our basic need for survival. In bread is found the ingredients which strengthen our bodies so we can serve Him. It is difficult, for example, to talk to people, asking them to serve God when they are hungry or in need of clothing and shelter. **James 2:15, 16** stipulate "If a brother or a sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?" It is obvious that man cannot survive without daily bread (food) so requesting it is unquestionable.

Notice that He now continues His prayer by telling us to forgive our debts, as we forgive our debtors. If we want forgiveness, we must ask God to give us the strength to forgive others. This effort works both ways. If we forgive men their trespasses, our Heavenly Father will forgive us. Otherwise He will not.

Understandably, it must also be requested that we be not led into temptation and that we be delivered from evil. Today, temptation and evil are on all sides of us. In particular, young people must be most careful, because satan has his agents working overtime in our society, in schools, and in the colleges of our day. Drugs, intoxicants, and immorality are great temptations. Young people say they are not accepted by others if they do not participate in these ob-

jectionable activities. Asking young innocent people, male and female alike, to sin in order to belong or to be noticed is about the most deteriorated condition possible. If there ever was a time needed to pray for our youth, it is now! It is essential that God give them, as well as the rest of us, that overcoming grace to yield not to temptation, for yielding is sin.

"For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen." It must be realized that all we have and enjoy belongs to God, both naturally and spiritually. He can and will strip us of all our belongings if we do not give Him the honor and the glory. Have you ever tried to go it alone? Sooner or later you will have to answer to God, whether one lives to be old or passes on at a young age. Everyone will have to give an account of his actions. The best way known to inherit the kingdom is to pray and to observe all teachings of the Lord.

MUST BELIEVE

In praying, it must be believed that God answers prayer. The following passages illustrate that He does.

"Therefore I say unto you, What thing soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." (**St. Mark 11:24**).

"Lord, thou hast heard the desire of the humble: thou wilt prepare their heart, thou wilt cause thine ear to hear:" (**Psalms 10:17**).

"Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice." (**Psalms 55:17**).

Furthermore, the Saviour stated in **St. Luke 18:1** that we should pray continually, "And He spoke a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint:". More pointedly, **1 Thessalonians 5:17** teaches to "Pray without ceasing."

Prayer is the key to heaven. While you are in this stage of life, pray and ask God what you can do to help build His kingdom. What part does He want you to play? How can you fulfill your promise to serve Him? You will receive the answer from God, because He said, if we pray believing, He will answer. He may want you to preach. He may want you to teach. He may want you to serve in the Sunday School, the Missionary Benevolent Association, or the Ladies' Circle. The Lord has many things that He would like us to do; but we must first ask. "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:". (**St. Matthew 7:7**).

In conclusion, let us remember the method, purpose, and expectations for our prayers. Our words may not be the same as Jesus in His model prayer, but our intentions will be the same; and our Creator will understand our desires. Then let us be prepared to acknowledge and act for God when we receive our answers.

"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." **Luke 6:38**.

Committee Reviews Preliminary Plans

By Spencer G. Everett

Secretary General Board of Trustees

The Auditorium Committee met with the architects in Warren, Ohio on Saturday, January 11. The purpose of this meeting was to review the architectural and lighting drawings and to set the dates for the two remaining meetings to be held before April Conference.

The plans for the Auditorium building were analyzed in some detail, along with the proposals for improving the site on which the structure will be located. The only major change from the design set forth in the published brochure distributed throughout The Church was the elimination of three windows in the kitchen area. This was necessary to provide more wall space and for increased utility in this part of the facility. Fill dirt for the building site will be taken from both the Auditorium plot and from our property across the road from where the structure will be placed.

Several items of importance about the interior finishes were discussed, and recommendations were made which will be incorporated into the final plans.

Funds are coming in as anticipated. There was an increase of about \$5,000 since the December Auditorium Committee Meeting, according to the Branches and Districts reporting. Not all Branches and Districts had a report available for this January accounting, however.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 8 in Warren, Ohio. At that time, the Committee will go over the final plans and specifications for the Auditorium. In addition, the list of general contractors to be invited to bid on the Auditorium will be studied and evaluated. Right after this review, the architects will send out the plans and specifications for final bids.

On March 22, the Committee will meet in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania to open the bids which will be presented to the architects. The contracts will be awarded only after a study and analysis of all the facts pertinent to the construction of your Auditorium are conducted and a determination is made of the ability of the contractor to perform, based on the firm's past history, experience, and financial condition. Information about the construction, contractors, bids, as well as all subsequent decisions and items of interest, will be presented in future articles on the Auditorium.

A Kitchen Designed With Sisters In Mind

Plans for the new General Church Auditorium's kitchen have been drawn to eliminate as many current problems as possible through the design of this part of the facility. Problems which were impossible to remove entirely have been

considerably lessened by the "time-saving" equipment and methods designed with our "Sisters in mind."

Whenever Conferences are held for the General Church, the General Missionary Benevolent Association, the General Ladies' Circle or other general functions, the women of The Church, as well as friends, volunteer many hours of time in the planning, preparing and cooking of these most delicious meals. Added to this are many more hours which must be spent in the cleaning of pots and pans, the washing of dishes, and in general cleaning up. Sometimes there is also the problem of disposing of leftover food and the uncomfortable atmosphere of working in a hot kitchen for hours on end. There is always the disappointment of missing the meetings in which the workers would like to take part and enjoy the fellowship of Brothers, Sisters, and friends from out-of-town.

The planning of the Auditorium brought still another problem. Because of a permanent location, were the same Sisters to plan, prepare, serve, and clean-up after every meal at all Conferences? It was felt that this was something which should not be done and which could well be the proverbial straw that "broke the camel's back."

Pre-cooked meals, in unlimited variety, are now available from many companies and are being viewed as the means to improve the situation. They include scups, hot sandwiches, fish and seafood plates, meat dishes, vegetables, baked goods and specialty foods. Individual servings and dinners vary in price from 15¢ to 70¢ with an average from 40¢ to 60¢. This cost is about the same as is now being paid by us and is much less than the cost of having food catered to the Auditorium. The meals are of excellent quality and are being used successfully by many groups and establishments today.

Without itemizing all of the equipment needed to prepare, serve, and store these foods, the provisions will include a walk-in cooler, a dual-temp refrigerator-freezer, a standard range with 10 burners and 2 ovens, an automatic dishwasher, a steam table to keep food warm while being served, a coffee and waitress station, and tables and chairs. The cost of the ovens and other items specified is already included in the proposed budget amount of \$10,000 allocated for kitchen equipment.

A departure from past methods of planning, purchasing, storing, preparing, serving and disposing of food will be possible with a minimum of personnel selected in advance. For example, a committee can plan all meals and order all of the food for all functions during a calendar year. The food can be delivered directly to the Auditorium prior to the meeting date and be placed in the refrigerated storage area until the time to be used. On the day of the gathering, a selected group of persons can begin preparing the food a short time before it is actually to be served. Pre-cooking and pre-portioning will then allow better portion control and faster, more efficient service. It will also permit a quicker turn-

over in the dining area. This method will provide better nourishment, particularly for those on restrictive medical diets. It should also result in less food waste and less clean-up time. Left-over food can remain frozen, be frozen, or be refrigerated for use later in the day or at a later date. It can eliminate waste and left-overs, increase menu variety, reduce space requirements and improve food quality.

It is the Committee's hope that this modern kitchen, which will be a time and labor-saving asset to our new Auditorium, will add to the overall enjoyment of all who gather there.

My Testimony

By Anthony Pietrangelo

My first contact with The Church of Jesus Christ was in 1921 when Brothers Ishmael D'Amico and Joseph Duliss were holding Church services at the home of Brother Ralph and Sister Anna Frammolin.

My wife, who was not a member at that time, was attending the services. She enjoyed them very much and attempted to encourage me to go to the meetings with her. I had no desire to attend because I was of another faith and had no interest in any other church.

One night, Brother D'Amico came to visit me. He related many wonderful experiences that The Lord had given him since his conversion and calling in The Church of Jesus Christ. Before leaving, he suggested that I kneel down and pray to ask God if the experiences that he related to me were true. It was the first time in my life that I got down on my knees in prayer to God before going to bed. I asked God to show me in some way if the experiences were true. I then got into bed but I could not sleep. In my room and before my eyes appeared a man all dressed in white. He stood at the foot of my bed and just looked at me. I tossed and turned, closing my eyes and hoping that this man would disappear. His presence remained in my room all night, and I lay there awake throughout the entire night. This experience, however, did not bring me closer to God, although I began to attend the services with my wife occasionally.

In the meantime, my wife had had an experience which verified the facts that she had to repent and be baptized as the first steps to obtain salvation. She was waiting for me to be baptized first. She continually prayed to God that He would call me; but my desires were not to serve God because I felt that, as a young man, I could enjoy life and possibly when I became older I would then come to The Church.

On July 26, 1923, I went to work as any other day, and everything was normal until the end of my lunch period. The whistle blew to start work, and I proceeded back to my work area. Suddenly, as I was walking, all of my strength left my body and perspiration broke out all over my body. I became so weak that I felt like I was going to fall on the floor from weakness. I cried out, "Oh God, what's wrong with me?" At

once I heard a voice like thunder saying, "Today is the day if you want to obey me." I answered, "Lord, I will."

I told my foreman I had to go home and proceeded out of the plant. When I reached the plant gate, my strength returned to me completely. When this happened, I thought to myself, "Why should I go home, I feel fine now." As soon as this thought entered my mind, I felt a hand on my back pushing me and I heard a voice say, "Go, and don't turn back." I then continued on home.

While this was happening to me, Brother D'Amico was at his job which was about fifteen miles away. While he was working, The Spirit spoke to him and told him to go home because he had a work to perform. He questioned The Spirit because he could not understand what could be so important that it was necessary for him to leave his job. He suddenly became so ill that he was forced to go home to his bed. The Spirit told him while he was lying in his bed, "The one to be here will soon come."

After I arrived home, The Spirit directed me to go to Brother D'Amico's house. I obeyed, not knowing that he was home from work. When he saw me, he asked me why I was not working. I then related my experience to him. He just slid off the bed onto his knees to thank God for what happened to me and also to ask forgiveness for questioning God as to why he should leave his job that day. The Spirit of God that had led me to Brother D'Amico had also led him from his job so that he could baptize me. That same day my wife also asked for her baptism, and we were both taken to the river and baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ.

It will soon be 46 years since I came into The Church. I shall never forget the day when The Lord called me into The Gospel of Jesus Christ and my desire is to serve him faithfully to the end of my days.

The Bright Light

I wandered around in darkness until I saw the light,

Of someone who really cares and makes everything just right,

Someone who cares enough that He gave His life for me,

How bright indeed was this light from Him that I did see.

Greatly disturbed was I the day He came to me, Tormented and unsure, I was as afraid as I could be,

He eased my troubled mind and wiped the fears away,

Simply because through Him I learned sincerely how to pray.

Even more important in my home He always does abide,

Alone, forlorn and frightened no longer will I be, Because each moment of the day my Saviour walks with me.

By Margaret Abbott

Two More Baptisms At Spanish Mission

The Spirit of God was in much evidence on Sunday, December 15, as Pedro and Gladys Gonzales were baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ at the Lorain, Ohio Spanish Mission. Verifications of the Heavenly influence were received by both the new Sister and another Sister of the mission who experienced identical visions at the regularly scheduled evening service at which the confirmations were performed.

Sister Gonzales, who had requested her baptism the week prior, was taken unafraid into the waters amid the rough and cold waves of Lake Erie by Brother Juan Gonzalez, Spanish Elder at the mission. It appeared that a special wave had been prepared especially for her immersion. Her husband had been concerned about his wife's welfare; but, observing her great faith, he immediately felt the spirit of repentance and became deeply convicted. He then asked for his baptism and was also immersed.

While the congregation was singing "How Great Thou Art" at the ensuing evening meeting, the two Sisters saw an Angel with a crown in her hand. The Heavenly Personage was experienced as placing the crown upon the head of the just-baptized Sister and as remaining for the balance of the most highly edifying service.

Valuable Assistance Given For Tijuana, Mexico Missions

Outside assistance has proven very valuable for the San Diego, California Branch in its continued efforts to help the Tijuana, Mexico missions. The aids have been most appreciated by not only the San Diego members but have been most beneficial for the labors of Brother Edward and Sister Evelyn Perdue, full-time missionaries at these locations.

The assistance has been given in varied forms. One has been the use of a building for a rummage sale to raise funds for the missions, and the other was the outright donation of some articles of clothing to Tijuana. The owner of the facility used for the sale even insisted on defraying the expenses for utilities when the purpose of the sale was explained. The additional clothing was furnished by volunteers of an Indian Affairs Committee which collects and transports these items to reservations.

Other projects which have been undertaken for Tijuana include the giving of Christmas gifts as in the past to the many children at the missions, the making of kimonos for infants there, and the selling of candy to obtain further proceeds for the total missionary endeavor. In addition, the Sisters of the Ladies' Circle are financing the building of living quarters for a homeless Sister at one of the missions.

The work being done by Brother and Sister Perdue has been very outstanding, as have been those of others in the missionary fields. There

have been over 100 baptisms at the Tijuana missions, and there are many children who are being tutored in The Gospel. Many experiences have been received from God, which have been highly edifying to everyone associated with the locations. The sincerity and thankfulness of all residents of the missions for the fulfillment of their spiritual and natural needs are heartwarming, satisfying, and noteworthy.

Members of the San Diego congregation are also involved in a home missionary program. Door-to-door visits are being made in that community. Church literature is being distributed and invitations are being extended to attend services. Favorable results are being experienced.

Two Baptized, Three Ordained At Ft. Pierce, Florida

Two more baptisms and three ordinations were performed at Ft. Pierce, Florida toward the end of 1968. A young couple was baptized on December 8, and the three new officers were ordained at the Florida District Gathering on November 24.

Miles and Deborah Fisher were taken into the waters by Brother V. James Lovalvo. Their identical desires to join The Church of Jesus Christ added to the many blessings which have been received in Florida recently. As reported last month, three other converts were baptized into The Church there early in November.

At the Florida-wide meeting, the following three were ordained: Brother Anthony Arcuri, Sr., a Teacher; Brother Bruce Russell, a Deacon; and Sister Juanita Rogolino, a Deaconess. Many gifts of The Spirit were also manifested in this service, immeasurably increasing the spiritual enjoyment at the gathering.

Brief News Of Interest

PRAYERS APPRECIATED

Brother Gorie Ciaravino, General Church President, has expressed his thanks to all the Brothers, Sisters, and friends who have prayed for him during his recent illness. He asks for continued prayer on his behalf as he progresses through his recuperative period. Brother Ciaravino has also stated that he has been highly uplifted by the many cards and well wishes sent by many throughout The Church.

SIGNIFICANT THANKSGIVING

The Aliquippa, Pennsylvania Branch was especially thankful during the recent holiday season, because it was still able to use its building which had been damaged by fire about five months previous.

The congregation gathered in the basement, where it has been meeting since the misfortune, for its usual Thanksgiving Day service. The Elders presented a history of this nation's forefathers and an analysis of our needs for praising God for this blessed land. The children's choir sang a few appropriate hymns, and members gave

their testimonies.

This Branch has held meetings on holidays in its building ever since its organization, and it was especially significant during the past holidays that it could continue to do so despite the recent tragedy in its beautiful location.

MOVE TO FLORIDA

Brother Ross and Sister Philomena Bartuccio, along with their son, Dennis, have moved from the Cleveland, Ohio mission to Cape Coral, Florida. Brother and Sister Bartuccio had been attending in Cleveland ever since they were baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ in May 1937. They were members of Cleveland Branch No. 1 until 1957 when they transferred to the mission which was begun on the west side. Three of their children, Carl, Ross Jr., and Sister Geraldine Gawronski, along with their families, preceded them in moving to Florida.

Although they are greatly missed by all those who fellowshiped with them in Cleveland, all members of that city as well of other parts of The Church send their best wishes to the Bartuccios in their new location.

EXPERIENCE RECALLED

Sister Fannie Prudenti of Bronx, New York recently recalled a healing experience she received when attending a General Missionary Benevolent Association Conference in Youngstown, Ohio. She had been ill with Thrombophlebitis, but she had had a strong desire to make the trip by bus with other members from the east coast.

While at the conference, she was seized by an attack similar to one she had suffered eight years prior. She asked to be anointed; and, during the prayer by Brothers of The Ministry, the severe pains she was feeling left her immediately. Her statement was that she had meditatively placed her thoughts completely towards God, as had the others present, asking to be healed; and she was.

UNEXPECTED HELP

Besides the Christmas food baskets donated to residents of the Muncey and Six Nations Indian Reservations in Ontario, Canada by members of the Michigan-Ontario MBA Area as reported in the last issue, gifts were given by people of this region to the children on the two reservations. Notable among these gift-givers were the employees of a Detroit financial institution who heard of the M—O District's intention to deliver the gifts and sent many which they purchased and wrapped themselves. The deeds of these compassionate individuals, as well as those of members of the Michigan — Ontario District, made it a happy holiday season for the recipients.

NEW ADDRESS

The new address of Brother Ether and Sister Ella Furnier is 44254 Beech, Apartment K, Lancaster, California 93534. The Furniers, who lived in California at one time, have returned after stays in the Phoenix, Arizona and St. Louis, Missouri areas. The last two moves have been made at the direction of Brother Furnier's employers.

At Phoenix, he had served as Presiding Elder.

Brother and Sister Furnier were once again able to attend regular Church services at San Fernando after a considerable absence. Needless to say, they were most pleased with this opportunity, as were the members of San Fernando with whom they fellowshiped.

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

(Continued From Page 3)

a people, we shall never reach the summit of the mountain of The Lord's house unless we are spiritually fit.

How do we become spiritually fit? Physical fitness depends much on the nutrition found in food. We cannot possibly be in good health unless we eat the proper food. The same thing holds true of the inner man. The most formidable obstruction preventing God's people from advancing in all ages of time, I believe, is the lack of obedience to the Word of God wherein lies that spiritual nutrition. The Word says, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

The scriptures are replete with evidence that the Word of God is the food that feeds the soul of man. For instance, David has written, that the man who delights in the law (or Word) of the Lord and meditates on it day and night shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water. We are all aware that the largest and strongest trees the world over are found growing near the waters. Nephi's admonition is to "... feast upon the words of Christ; for behold, the words of Christ will tell you all things what ye should do." Mosiah warned his three sons that "... were it not for these plates, which contain these records and these commandments, we must have suffered in ignorance, ... that even our fathers would have dwindled in unbelief, and we should have been like unto our brethren the Lamanites, ..." Peter says, "For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever."

How far away is Zion? I do not know, but I am convinced that adherence and obedience to the Word of God can produce a Zion condition which we, as a people, can enjoy in our day. I am certain that Zion is no closer nor any farther away than the righteousness of God's people.

MBA HIGHLIGHTS

(Continued From Page 4)

ity of helping The General Church in any way that it can. Young people can thus be active and useful, and their desires and resourcefulness are invaluable as they work to further the causes of the parent organization. The progress achieved through the years can continue as both parties work together and gain in stature: The Church by the labors of the youth and the youth by the guidance and aids of the MBA and The General Church.

1969 CHURCH CALENDAR

Following is a list of 1969 Church events of general and regional interest.

FEBRUARY

- 15 — Second Annual Michigan - Ontario MBA Area Seminar Day at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3.
- 21 - 22 — Semi - Annual California General Church District Conference at Bell, California.

MARCH

Semi - Annual General Church District Conferences:

- 7 — Atlantic Coast at Hopelawn, New Jersey.
- 8 — Florida at Ft. Pierce, Florida.
- 12 - 13 - 14 — Michigan-Ontario at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1.
- 14 - 15 - 16 — Ohio at Cleveland, Ohio Branch No. 1.
- Pennsylvania at McKees Rock, Pennsylvania (date to be announced)

- 22 — Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference at Youngtown, Ohio.

APRIL

- 17 - 18 - 19 - 20 — Semi - Annual General Church Conference at Monongahela, Pennsylvania.

MAY

Groundbreaking for new General Church Auditorium near Imperial, Pennsylvania (completion scheduled for 1970).

- 17 — Semi - Annual General Missionary Benevolent Association Conference in New Jersey.

JUNE

- 21 — Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference (place to be announced).
- 27 - 28 - 29 — General Church Gathering in Bell, California.
- 30 — General Missionary Benevolent Association Field Trip to California through July 6.

JULY

Annual Missionary Benevolent Association Area Conferences:

- 19 — Atlantic Area at Hopelawn, New Jersey.
- 19 — California Area at San Fernando Valley, California.
- Florida Area (date and place to be announced).
- 18 — Michigan - Ontario Area at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3.
- 20 — Michigan-Ontario Area at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4.
- 19 — Ohio Area at Cleveland, Ohio Branch No. 1.
- 19 — Pennsylvania Area (place to be announced).

SEPTEMBER

- Semi - Annual General Church District Con-

ferences (dates and places to be announced).

- 20 — Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference at New Brunswick, New Jersey.

OCTOBER

Semi - Annual General Church Conference (dates and place to be announced).

Tentative month for dedication of new Warren, Ohio church building (date to be announced).

NOVEMBER

- 8 — Semi - Annual General Missionary Benevolent Association Conference in Pennsylvania.

DECEMBER

- 13 — Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference at Monongahela, Pennsylvania.

NUPTIAL

LAVERIE — PREMOZICH

Mr. Jack Laverie Jr. and Miss Charlotte Premozich were united in holy matrimony at the Youngstown, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ on Saturday, December 14. Brother Don Pandone officiated at the ceremony.

The newlyweds are now living in Youngstown.

OBITUARIES

BEATRICE EMMA WESLEY

Beatrice Emma Wesley of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 passed on to her eternal reward on December 26. Born on June 2, 1891, Sister Wesley was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ along with her husband, the late Brother Charles A. Wesley, on February 13, 1927.

Left to mourn are five children, 12 grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother John Buffa, assisted by Brothers Spencer Everett and Carl Frammolin.

Sister Wesley's mild manner and splendid example will be missed by all who knew her.

JENNIE HANNA

Jennie Hanna of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3 who resided in Port Huron, Michigan died on January 6. A Deaconess, she was born on August 24, 1874 and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on June 6, 1948.

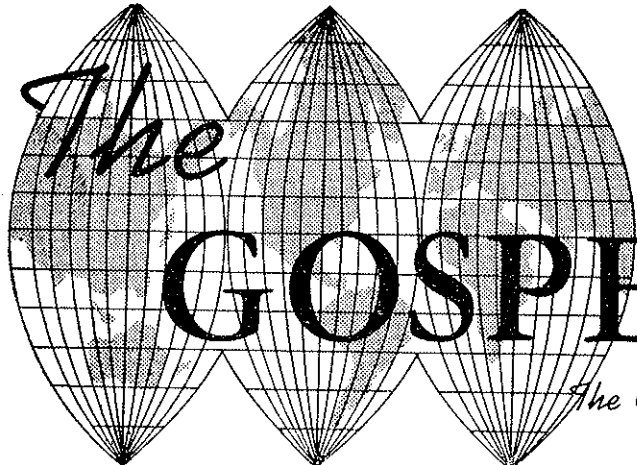
She is survived by one son, two grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

Brother Peter H. Capone officiated at the funeral services.

Sister Hanna was a staunch and faithful member of The Church of Jesus Christ, and she was always humble, kind, and exemplary in her dealings with everyone.

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Gal. 6:7.

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Matt. 5:16.



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Second Annual Seminar Day Held By M-O MBA Area

By Leonard A. Lovalvo

Michigan - Ontario MBA Area Editor

The Michigan - Ontario Missionary Benevolent Association Area successfully sponsored its second annual seminar day on Saturday, February 15, at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3. In addition to participants from the Area, visitors from Aliquippa and Monongahela, Pennsylvania took part.

There were three sessions to the day's program. The first two in the morning and afternoon were devoted to group discussions, while the third one in the evening featured Paul Palmieri and Anthony Ross of Aliquippa as the guest speakers.

Topics of Interest

As last year, topics of interest were discussed by various age groups. Subjects analyzed ranged from those on Church beliefs to acceptable social customs and behavior. Pre-registration to determine the make-up of the units had been held two weeks before the date. How the topics could be adapted to the individual groups was then evaluated.

The youngest section found junior high students discussing topics which were similar to those examined by the "slightly old but wise" group at the other end of the age scale. Only the level of understanding was different in the practical adaptations.

The list of subjects selected by the pilot planning committee included suggested far-sighted, thought-provoking, and challenging insights about responsibilities in The Church. Through their discussion, the topics disclosed the growing concern of young people about their roles. "What should be considered the age of religious maturity?" and "What is the role of The Church?" illustrated, for example, this kind of concern. How young people can take an active, responsible role in The Church also occupied much attention.

The planning committee for the seminars consisted of Co-Chairman Paul Whitton and Richard Bologna, Dominic Moraco, Carl Frammolin, Frank Morle, Paul Francione, Joseph Carlini, Peter Sclaro, Yvonne Capone, and the writer. Section leaders were assigned to each group, but the unit members assumed the major discussion

parts as they thought through the questions being raised.

Culminating Session

In the evening culminating session, Brothers Palmieri and Ross spoke inspiringly about the day's proceedings. They talked about the beneficial implications that seminars of this nature have for The Church. They noted that similar discussions have been held at the General MBA level during the annual Association-wide field trips, at other Area gatherings around The Church, and at some MBA Local meetings. The benefits to be derived from the transfer of ideas were pointed out.

The Brothers offered much encouragement to the participants as they continue to press on in The Gospel. They assured them that God would be their constant companion so long as they attempt to work for Him.

The words were heartwarming and fitting, like those of Brother James Grazan from Monongahela who was last year's guest speaker. On both occasions, the Brothers captured the real significance of the activity — better understanding for the individual and for The Church — and presented the proper climax to the day's schedule.

BIDS FOR AUDITORIUM TO BE OPENED MARCH 22

(Story on Page 9)

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The Missionary Field

CHURCH'S INDIAN MISSIONS

By Dominic Moraco

The purpose of this column is to acquaint all members of The Church of Jesus Christ and other readers of the *Gospel News* with periodic reports on the missionary efforts of The Church. An analysis of some missions was presented in the January issue. Following is a brief resume of some Indian missions, currently under the jurisdiction of the General Church Board of Missions.

SAN CARLOS, ARIZONA

Brother Dan Picciuto and his wife, Sister Dolores, along with their six children, are permanently located at San Carlos. In 1968, they spent another enjoyable year on this reservation, nestled in the Arizona mountains. They were assisted whenever possible by various young people who served on a missionary-lay program which was reported in the December, 1968 issue of the *Gospel News*. This help was certainly well appreciated, and the volunteers were also in a position to learn more about The Church's missionary endeavors and to gain a greater appreciation for the energies being expended wholeheartedly on behalf of the Indian people.

The dedication and commitment of the missionary-minded Picciuto family over the past several years have resulted in helping this mission to grow and become a credit to The Church of Jesus Christ. During the past year, a number of baptisms and many good meetings have been experienced; and the blessings of God have been inspirational to all there.

Although the Picciutos miss the fellowship and company of the many Brothers and Sisters whom they left behind, especially from their home state of Ohio, they find it very rewarding to work for the conversion of the Indian people. They have made many appreciative friends at San Carlos whom they would miss equally as much if they were to leave there.

TIJUANA, MEXICO

Two Indian missions are being operated by Brother Edward and Sister Evelyn Perdue in Tijuana, Mexico. Located just across the border from San Diego, California, these missions, as in San Carlos, are being maintained in cooperation with the California District Board of Missions.

Only those who have visited these missions can truly appreciate the efforts of those who labor there. The people are generally among the most indigent, lacking many of the comforts of life which many of us take for granted. To observe their smiling faces as they sing hymns in Spanish with vigor, one sees them putting all of their poverty and problems behind so that they might offer a wholehearted worship to The Lord.

As reported in another article last month, there have been over 100 baptisms in Tijuana, and there are many children who are being tutored in The Gospel. It has been through the sincere endeavors of Brother and Sister Perdue, in addition to those who have assisted them, that many souls have been given a new life through The Church. The testimonies of those who have been

converted there attest to the many valuable spiritual and temporal gains they have made and for which they are most grateful.

MUNCEY AND SIX NATIONS

The Muncey and Six Nations Indian Reservations are located in Ontario, Canada, and they are being served by the Michigan-Ontario District Board of Missions. There are no full time missionaries presently at either place, but Brothers from Detroit, Michigan are in charge of their operation. They travel about 120 miles to Muncey and approximately 240 miles to Six Nations to hold services. Meetings are held every Sunday in Muncey and every other weekend at Six Nations because of the greater distance involved.

During the winter months, our Brothers must sometimes travel ice-covered pavements, both on the highways and on the roads on the reservations. Although they and others have been making trips there for over 30 years, they have yet to report any accidents involving injury. They have always felt God's protection and company.

Currently, Brothers Joseph Milantoni and Anthony Gerace are in charge of Muncey, and Brothers Anthony R. Lovalvo and Norman Campitelle are responsible for the operation of Six Nations. They are assisted by other members of The Ministry who make rotational trips there with them. In addition, other Brothers go with them primarily to transport members and children at both missions to and from services.

Both missions report good meetings and a number of visitors attending the services. The Sunday Schools are well-attended, and it is certain that much good is being received, particularly by the children as they are taught the Word of God.

Words are inadequate to properly express praises to the missionaries, their wives and families who many times accompany them, and to the young men from the Detroit Branches who act as drivers and Sunday School teachers. Neither the inclement weather nor the many problems associated with missionary work have dimmed their desires to serve. Perhaps the testimonies of thanksgiving by our Indian Brothers and Sisters serve as the greatest rewards for their dedicated and willing labors.

INSPIRING WORDS

It is hoped the following words from the *Book of Mormon* will serve as a constant source of inspiration to all missionaries and workers who toil for Zion.

"And O how beautiful upon the mountains were their feet!

"And again, how beautiful are the feet of those that are still publishing peace!" (Mosiah 15: 15, 16).

Our prayers are that the peace, blessings, and protection continue to be with each of our workers and that their efforts result in the conversion of many souls to Christ.

In closing, everyone is encouraged to become a part of the missionary activity by the giving of their finances and talents. A small sum from all parties will not only keep our present missions operating but will also enable us to open new missions as well.

The American Indian

WHAT ONCE WAS WILL BE AGAIN

By Thomas Everett

When Cortez marched into Mexico in the year of 1519, he discovered a people living in beautiful cities the likes of which surpassed those of the old world. There were even palaces filled with gold, silver and jade art.

The engineering feats were unbelievable. In Peru, there was an imperial highway of the Incas, knifing three thousand miles down the ice-crested Andes. It tunneled through rock, spanned river chasms, and marched mile after mile across burning desert. Twenty-ton cut stones were filled without mortar so that even today a piece of paper cannot be passed between them.

These people also excelled in the field of medicine. Today's surgeons are astounded by the delicate brain operations successfully performed by Indians of the Andes in pre-Columbian days when old world doctors were still prescribing ground unicorn horn and lioness milk.

As you speed along on our present highways, you are riding on rubber from the Indian. If you travel too fast and have an accident, a doctor will probably ease the pain of your injuries with cocaine - also Indian. Another Indian medicine, quinine, allowed the white man to conquer the tropics.

The early inhabitants were also far advanced in their knowledge of astronomy, mathematics, and agriculture. For example, millions of people living today owe their subsistence to potatoes, corn, manioc, and beans - all foods first cultivated by the American Indian. Among many other items which they passed down were hot chocolate and peanuts.

In another vein, the constitution of the United State is patterned after that of the Iroquois Confederacy. This fact, along with many of their other accomplishments, makes us ask: "What has happened to these people to whom our nation and the other parts of the world are so greatly indebted?"

LIVE DIFFERENTLY

It is widely known that the Indians of North, South, and Central America do not live in thriving cities anymore. Out of the 600,000 Indians in the United States, about 400,000 live on reservations. Many of these places will not support their rapidly increasing population. The largest of these is the Navajo Indian Reservation in Arizona, with a population of about 100,000. The bulk of the Indian population is located in the western and midwestern states. They are concentrated in group numbers like 25,000 in New Mexico; 65,000 in Oklahoma; 25,000 in South Dakota; 20,000 in Montana; 12,000 in Washington; 15,000 in Wisconsin; and 10,000 in Minnesota.

Indians today do not have much silver or gold. In fact, they form one of the most, if not the most, poverty stricken ethnic groups in the United States and Canada. In Canada, for instance, where there are about 300,000 Indians, about 40 per cent are unemployed. Approximately 47 per cent of the Indian families earn less than

\$1,000 a year, and 75 per cent of the balance earn less than \$2,000 a year. It is also estimated that 57 per cent of all Indian families in Canada live in three-room houses or less.

A report on the previously mentioned 100,000 strong Navajo Indian Reservation at Window Rock, Arizona has disclosed some illuminating facts about this base which covers an area approximately the size of West Virginia. It has been found that the median income of a family of five is \$580 a year. Sources of water are located at least a mile from 75 per cent of the homes. About 60 per cent of the people are unemployed, while another 20 per cent work only occasionally.

At Window Rock, seven out of ten adult Navajos cannot speak or write English, and only 2,500 young people graduate from high school each year. Tuberculosis is ten times as prevalent as it is in the rest of the nation, and the infant mortality rate is 1.7 times the national average. This region has been described as the most backward, least productive locations of its size in the country.

WHAT IS IN FUTURE?

When the plight of the American Indian (North American, South American, and Central American) is viewed today, it is easy to ask "Has God forgotten His people?" The scriptures answer, "No."

"Behold, I will send for many fishers, saith the Lord, and they shall fish them; and after will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks. For mine eyes are upon all their ways: they are not hid from my face . . ." (Jeremiah 16: 16-17).

It is notable that within the last couple of years the Indian people of the United States and Canada have become more widely recognized and are beginning to occupy a greater spot in national affairs. Indian leaders from across Canada have formed the National Indian Brotherhood, which gives them a unified voice from coast - to - coast for the first time. The governments of these nations have become more aware of their conditions and are taking measures to deal with their problems.

For example, the United States Government has leased land in Yuma County, Arizona for agricultural purposes. In the same state, it has also leased 500 acres of land from the Pima Indians in the Gila Reservation for industry to help train Indians and give them jobs to help alleviate their unemployment problems.

It is our hope to follow the developments of these people, the chosen people of God, and to analyze their role in current events as they are related to the work of The Church of Jesus Christ and as they are in confirmation of the scriptures. In following this trend, it would be well for us to remember the words in "III Nephi 20: 22" of the **Book of Mormon**:

"And behold, this people will I establish in this land, unto the fulfilling of the covenant which I made with your father Jacob; and it shall be a New Jerusalem. And the powers of heaven shall be in the midst of this people; yea, even I will be in the midst of you."

Counseling, Guidance Available To Youth

By Carl J. Frammolin

It is always comforting to know there is a helping hand available when it is needed. It is even more comforting when the helping hand consists of competent assistance. Fortunately, such assistance is available to our young people as they plan for their future.

Today, there are many well-qualified members of The Church of Jesus Christ who have been or are presently engaged in counseling and guidance in the areas of further education, technical, or specialized training for students. These individuals have volunteered their services because they realize there are many questions which must be answered before an appropriate career field can be selected. They are concerned because they know problems may arise in choosing a professional or vocational pursuit and they are in a position to assist in making the proper decisions. Significantly, they are also aware that there may be some questions as to how to combine a person's life work with his service to God and The Church.

Most of the counselors are presently employed in the school systems in the communities where they reside. They have taken specialized training in addition to their teaching experience, so they can offer counseling and guidance to the students with whom they deal daily. The counselors' exposure in helping these youngsters has enabled them to recognize what factors must be considered in preparing for a particular professional or vocational position. In working with young people, they have learned the employment possibilities which are available and the potentials which may be realized from various fields.

WHAT AND WHERE?

The leading questions which must be answered by students are "What do I want to be?" and "Where can I study my chosen vocation?"

The first inquiry can only be answered after the individual has been able to analyze his abilities, his ambitions, and his preferences. These may be obvious to some students, but they may be less apparent to others. It is at this point of uncertainty that competent assistance becomes most valuable. Asking the right questions and examining the thinking of the student will probably uncover what interests are best suited to him and what possibilities he has to pursue the selection he has made. If no determinations can be made, various tests can be administered to direct the student to the appropriate pursuit.

The question of "Where?" involves a study of the proper schools, universities, or training centers where the necessary preparation can be pursued. Knowledge of local or out-state facilities can be referred to in selecting the proper place to attend. If no further formal training is necessary, the insights as to where to gain employment may prove to be just as important.

Not all people may be in a financial position to pursue advanced education or training if it is

decided to go on. Today, there are many scholarships, grants, and loans available to students who may need or desire them. The sad part is that many of these resources go unused because they are unknown. Possible claimants do not seek them because they do not even know they exist. In many cases, youngsters could have completed their education and become more useful if they had been aware of these opportunities. Counselors are informed of these aids and can direct the individuals to the proper agencies dispensing them.

Prior to making a final choice about what field he wants to enter, a student may find the help of a counselor invaluable. The acquiring of proper study habits, the selection of high school courses, and the additional reading which may help the overall development of the youngster are other ways in which guidance may be given.

The sooner a person can learn the right way to study, the more quickly he can advance. Many failures are attributed to the fact that the individuals have not learned how to apply themselves properly, thus being unable to learn as they should. Allocating the necessary amount of time and learning how to study under the proper conditions are fundamental principles needed for success. How they may be acquired can be taught.

Selection of high school courses can determine in large measure the future direction an individual's life will take. Many times, an inappropriate commitment in high school, for example, will discourage persons from actually going into the fields they prefer. This condition can then bring frustrations which could have severe affects later. It may be even more important that assistance be given at this stage of life rather than at any other time, so understanding advice is most desirous.

In recommending additional reading or reference material, an experienced counselor can possibly allow the youngster to progress at his own rate of learning. Since individual stimulation can be the secret which can lead to greater improvement, the helper can suggest what should be investigated.

ADDITIONAL HELP

Most schools around the country have counselors from whom young people can obtain beneficial direction. The assistance that Church members can render would supplement their efforts. In addition, their interest would be more oriented along Church lines. They come from the same background, so they would tend to perhaps better understand the perspective from which our young people face their situations. Also, they have probably had to ask themselves the same kinds of questions as they pursued their careers, so obviously they are well-equipped to help in thinking through solutions. Even more important, in The Church they can pray along with the youngsters in their search to seek the right course to follow.

Any young person who wants to avail himself of the services of a Church counselor may do

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Editorial Viewpoint

By George A. Neill

As men come in contact with Christ, there is something about Him which awakens the evil or the good within their hearts.

" . . . Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; . . . that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." (Luke 2: 34-35).

I read one time about a painting in a certain art gallery depicting Mary and her child, Jesus, at the presentation in the Temple. I find it very interesting to imagine some of the thoughts Mary must have had as she stood there listening to these words of Simeon, for this just and devout man was casting the horoscope of her child's destiny. No doubt she was filled with wonder and awe, and perhaps sorrow too, as she contemplated the path her son was to travel.

I wonder what it would be like if you or I, as members of the Ministry, were able to speak the destiny of a child whose mother had presented it for the blessing of God to be asked upon; if we were able to reveal the sorrow, the pain, honor or fame, anguish, or shame that would touch this child's life. I suppose it is just as well that there are no Simeons among us and that the future is veiled. About all one can say is to repeat the very words spoken in regards to the child, John the Baptist, by those who looked into his face, "What manner of child shall this be?"

Three things are mentioned in this scripture regarding Christ: first, He is set for the rise and fall of many; second, He is a sign which shall be spoken against; and third, the thoughts of many hearts shall be revealed. Someone has said, "Christ is either a blessing or a condemnation." Simeon said that He " . . . is set for the fall and rising again of many . . . " In Him, men are either saved or lost; He becomes either a stepping-stone or a stumbling-block. So men, when confronted with Christ, rise or fall.

When Simeon, who spoke by the Holy Ghost, said that many would rise and fall, he did not mean that God had sent His Son into the world to make men stumble and fall, but that falling and rising would ever be the effect of His person as mankind encounters Him upon the pathway of life. Men are either for Him or against Him. They rise through Him, or they fall through Him. We know how true this was during His ministry. There were many who were offended in Him; many stumbled and fell. The Pharisees, the Sadducees, Pilate, Herod, Judas - all of these men fell; but many others, like Peter, James, John, Martha, and Mary, rose to higher levels. Many who stood high fell, while others who were humble and poor were exalted.

I believe the last earthly scene of Christ's life as He hung upon the cross is a true demonstration of how He divides among men. One of the malefactors who was crucified with Him railed upon Him saying, "If thou be Christ, save Thyself and us.", while the other answering rebuked him saying, "Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation?" (Luke 24: 39 - 40). His request of Jesus was that He remember him, and so it appears as though one fell to outer darkness while the other rose to Paradise.

It is sad to reflect on the passage, " . . . for a sign which shall be spoken against; . . . " When we recall that some said, "He hath a devil, and is mad; . . . " (John 10: 20) and that men took up stones to stone Him, and that He was betrayed, spat upon, mocked, and even crowned with thorns and crucified, we are reminded how far man can go in rebellion against Him. This rebellion is still going on today, for wherever Christ is preached and His cause proclaimed, wherever His Church, His Gospel, or His doctrines are set forth, there are those who speak against them. When the real Christ and the real Gospel are preached, both become a sign to be spoken against.

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M.B.A. Highlights

Young People Want Facts

By Charles Jumper, Jr.
Asst. GMBA Editor

In the past, young people generally accepted brief answers on religious questions, taking the word of their parents feeling that they knew better. Today, however, young people usually want every situation defined and their cry seems to be "Give us the facts as they really are!"

Many of you young people, unlike myself, have had the opportunity of being raised in The Church and have seen God work in your homes. This is an experience you should prize very highly. Unfortunately, it is possible that some of you may have taken this matter lightly. Although you have never denied the examples of your parents, you could not fully understand just how your mothers and fathers could trust with such deep and devoted faith in God whom they could not see. Others of you may have completely believed all the teachings of your parents, prayed to God, and trusted in Him even though things were not entirely clear to you and possibly many questions remained unanswered.

Some young people, while not ashamed of The Church and her teachings, have been nevertheless hesitant to speak about her teachings to their friends. They may have felt a fear of being rejected by their pals or that they would be out of step with their school peers. This feeling of insecurity lessens as young people mature and gain personal experience with God. The many unanswered questions and the facts they sought which once disturbed them are gone or no longer seem important, because, they too, like their parents, have found in their personal lives that God is truly dependable, gracious, and merciful.

Quite often the influence of The Church within the home is not fully appreciated until young people grow up and leave home. Recently, I read a letter from a young man in Viet Nam. In the letter, the young man wrote of locking his rifle on the ceiling of his quarters, explaining that his duty had been changed from combat to that of a clerk. "Mom, I guess you and I worried too much about my coming to Viet Nam," he stated. "Remember what you and dad told me about praying and trusting in God? Well, how do you think I got this kind of duty over here?" he asked. He had prayed, and God had answered him personally with this change of assignment. This example points out the fact that, as young people encounter situations of their own, they will invariably turn to what they learned at home and say to themselves, "Now I know what father and mother tried to tell me."

We live in a materialistic world today, and many feel that success is determined only by the amount of wealth one might amass. Life is now also very complex and often cruel. This is

a fact which every young person must learn to face. It behooves all young people to prepare themselves, therefore, for the competitive struggle that modern life seems to demand. Their preparation should not be centered only around education, however, but must include a deep spiritual experience which can be found within The Church. They should exercise the utmost care never to lose sight of God's purposes by maintaining a constant relationship with Him.

Young people should bear in mind that the devil even dared to tempt The Lord with the wealth of this world. He certainly will continue to tempt mankind while he is able to do so. This, too, is a fact which each young person should realize as early in life as possible and try to become insulated against this evil power.

Today, more than ever in our history, the world needs dedicated young men and women who are willing to discover God in all His beauty and mercy and who are not afraid to tell the world that Jesus Christ is the Saviour of the world and the answer to all of our questions and problems. This is the most important fact that can be told!

GMBA Activities Committee Meets In Monongahela, Pa.

By James D. Gibson,
GMBA Editor

The General Missionary Benevolent Association Activities Committee met at Monongahela, Pennsylvania on Saturday, January 18, to organize its assignments for the current year. Review of past projects and accomplishments was first made, and then plans for the future were outlined.

The General Association Field Trip to California this summer, projection of further work on the MBA Lesson Plans, and ways to assist MBA Locals occupied the major portion of the day's agenda. Administrative procedures were also scrutinized.

Recommendation on how to more fully involve young people in The Church's missionary work were taken under advisement in planning for the future. Among these were the proposals that an Indian mission field be supported (at least in part) by the GMBA, that the GMBA assist in the constructive progress of the "lay mission service," and that the Association assist in providing house trailers at various mission fields. It is understood, of course, that General Church approval must be obtained before any of these kinds of endeavors are undertaken. They would first have to be approved by the GMBA Conference, however. Presently, the Association is dedicated to assisting The General Church in the construction of the General Church Auditorium.

The GMBA Activities Committee is composed of General Association officers and the MBA Area Presidents. The next committee meeting is scheduled for March 29 at Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you." St. John 13: 15.

Dear Girls and Boys,

I want to tell you a story about "humility." Jesus taught this to His disciples in the very humble act of washing feet. Does your Church observe this? It is one of the ordinances in The Church of Jesus Christ. We think all of Jesus' examples are very important.

Jesus was sad when He met with His disciples in the upper room the evening of the Last Supper. He was sad because He was soon going to leave them. Most of all, He was sad because one of His disciples was soon to betray Him. Judas had planned to deliver Jesus to the priests and rulers. He was given thirty pieces of silver for this, the price of a slave.

Jesus had been with His disciples almost daily for about three years. He had taught them The Gospel. He had told them many parables and performed marvelous miracles. He hoped they were now strong and able to teach and lead people in the Narrow Way. It was so important for them to be good leaders.

While they were together, they began to argue among themselves, "Which of them was the greatest?" Jesus gently reproved them and gave them an example of humility. It was very important that they should learn to be humble and have great love for one another.

After supper was ended, the devil entered into the heart of Judas Iscariot. Jesus knew all things. He rose from supper and laid aside His outer garment, took a towel, poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and wipe them with a towel. When He came to Simon Peter, Peter asked, "Lord, dost thou wash my feet?" Peter felt that Jesus should not be doing this lowly task. He felt that Jesus was their Lord and Master and was surprised that He would do this. Then he said, "Thou shalt never wash my feet." Peter felt so unworthy of this service; but Jesus did not view this as Peter did. He wanted His disciples to learn that serving is an honor and privilege. Jesus said to Peter, "If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me." Poor Peter, quickly he said, "Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head."

After Jesus had washed all the disciples' feet, very kindly He said, "Know ye what I have done to you? Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Master have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him. If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them."

As Jesus returned to the table, He was very sad, being troubled in spirit. He wanted these men to know what a great privilege it was to help others. He then took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them. He said, "Take, eat: this is my body." And He took the cup and when He gave thanks, He gave it to them. They drank all of it. Then He told them to do this often in remembrance of Him.

After Judas left, Jesus talked with the eleven for some time. He told them of wonderful blessings which would be theirs if they proved faithful. He said, "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another." Then they sang a hymn and together they went out into the Mount of Olives.

Search The Scriptures

Can you name the twelve disciples?

What was the name of the man chosen to take Judas' place? **Acts 1: 23, 26.**

How was he chosen?

In this same chapter we read what happened to Judas.

Sincerely, Sister Mabel

COUNSELING, GUIDANCE

(Continued from Page 4)

so by writing to the **Gospel News**, and his request will be forwarded to the appropriate individual in his vicinity. The kind of aid required may be indicated to expedite the matter. If the party would rather correspond directly with any of these people, the names will be supplied by return mail. The important thing is that the proper attention be given, and this will be done.

To be remembered is that the helping hand is being extended. It may be used for the betterment of our youth and The Church. A word of appreciation to all the Counselors and Teachers who have volunteered their services also seems appropriate as they seek to lend their talents and experience for the good of all concerned.

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

(Continued from Page 5)

It is definite " . . . that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." Christ acts upon the hearts of men. He is ever revealing, ever uncovering and discovering what is in the heart of man. Every man's heart writes a description of his character. It is not what goes into the man that defiles him but what emanates from the heart. As men come in contact with Christ, there is something about Him which awakens the evil or the good within their hearts. The Pharisees, Sadducees, Herod, Judas and others revealed themselves through their hatred, their anger, hypocrisy, bitterness, and enmity; while others confronted by Him revealed the good in their hearts through love, gratitude, and penitence. The same sun that shines upon the earth today ripens the wheat and also the tares. So it is that Christ acts upon the hearts of men. When Sir Walter Raleigh was led to the block his executioner asked him, "Does your head lay right?" Raleigh answered saying, "My friend, it makes little difference which way the head lies providing the heart is right."



UR WOMEN TODAY

God Multiplies Small Sum Many Times For Missions

It is my pleasure to share an experience which occurred recently, showing me how The Lord can multiply a little good which is done for others.

I had been given some money to purchase clothing for our Church Mexican missions in Tijuana. Of course, it was my intent to obtain as much as I possibly could. There were two dollars left, and I did not know what to do with them. Suddenly, the thought came to me to put an advertisement in our community newspaper. This was easily accomplished and the ad read: "Wanted-baby clothes for Indians."

Really, at this point I did not know what to expect. When the small paper came out, however, my telephone began to ring, and it continued to do so constantly. As a matter of fact, it rang every day for a month. Many people responded. One Jewish woman in particular gave clothing, large donations of money, and many things toward our garage sale to raise money for food at Tijuana.

When Sister Mabel Bickerton, General Ladies' Circle President, came to my home on her last trip here, I showed her the clothing which had been collected through this ad. Our two-car garage was so full that the door could barely be opened.

There will be no end to the generosity which was displayed because many of the donors said they will continue to give us clothing in the future. You can understand why this was such a wonderful experience for me when you remember that I was uncertain of the results which would be achieved. It showed me that all that is needed is the desire and the proper effort, and The Lord will surely help us by doing the rest.

—Grace Brutz

San Fernando, California

(Following is an article written by Sister Rosa Robinson Williams of the Niagara Falls, New York area in which she described parts of a trip she and her husband made to Europe. The descriptions of meeting new Brothers and Sisters in that section of the world illustrates very adequately the kind of love that is felt within The Gospel. — Editor's Note).

A BROTHER AND A FRIEND

By Rosa Robinson Williams

It is difficult to find a starting point because so much happened in the two-year span during which my husband and I took a trip to the continent of Europe. Somehow, I do not want to dwell on my travels from Oslo, Norway to the Rock of Gibraltar except in those instances where I was really blessed. It is sufficient to say that all during my travels, especially through Italy and

Spain, I would read passages of scriptures to my husband which pertained to these locations. When we traveled in places about which there was nothing written to my knowledge, I would inquire in my heart, "Lord, when will these people hear The Gospel?"

My mind seems to be racing to tell of one of the high points in our European stay — our trip to Italy. Italy, as you know, is bursting with history, especially Rome. After visiting Milan, Turin, and other places, we journeyed to Venice. We had longed to see this city but I was more anxious to meet the Brothers and Sisters who lived in Vecenzia, which is about seven miles from Venice.

We arrived at Brother Emidio Milano's home late one evening. They were very kind and insisted that we stay there, but we persuaded them that we were prepared to stay in a hotel. He and his son (who spoke a little English) went with us to find a place. The next day, we drove back to their home and all of us, including his wife and daughter, went into Venice. It was a heartwarming scene to see Brother Milano (who is also an instructor or professor) and my husband, walking the streets of Venice arm in arm singing at the tops of their voices in Italian. Venice is very commercial, but it is still fascinating from the nature of the terrain itself. As you probably know, its main travel arteries are canals.

It was the end of this day-and-a-half visit that I shall never forget. Something happened, or should I say that the Love of God showered down upon us as we were saying goodbye. We were outside our Brother's house. He had given us a letter of introduction written in Italian, explaining to other Brothers and Sisters whom we would meet in other places in Italy who we were and from where we had come. This would allow us to more freely worship with the other Saints there of The Church of Jesus Christ.

My Brother and I shook hands, and tears flowed down both our cheeks. I felt then like I was living in that day of which it is spoken that, no matter where one travels, he will meet a Brother and a friend. It was wonderful to know that the love exhibited in that departure was the same type of love that will prevail among us "in that day." It seemed unbelievable that we had traveled thousands of miles, met people of The Church whom we had not known previously, and felt the Spirit of God manifest itself in that same way as it has been experienced many times in gathering with the Brothers and Sisters in our home locality.

(To be continued.)

Dedication At St. John Scheduled For Easter

Tentative plans have been made to dedicate the Church building being purchased in St. John, Kansas on Easter Sunday, April 6. This acquisition was reported in the January issue of the Gospel News. According to latest information, the offer to purchase has been accepted and the final papers are now being processed.

Bids For Auditorium To Be Opened March 22

By Spencer G. Everett, Secretary
General Board of Trustees

The General Church Auditorium Committee, along with the General Church Board of Trustees, will meet in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania at 12:30 p.m. on March 22 to open the sealed bids which will be received by our architects on or before March 17 for the new General Church Auditorium to be constructed near Imperial, Pennsylvania.

The approved plans and specifications were reviewed on February 8 at Warren, O. and were let out to general contractors and sub-contractors on February 17. The bidders are being given 30 days in which to estimate the cost of building the Auditorium. The sealed bids are to then be returned to the office of the architects, Pellis and Lettrich, 124 W. Pittsburgh Street, Greensburg, Pennsylvania 15601.

TO BE ANALYZED

The bids will be opened, recorded, and discussed by the Auditorium Committee and the architects on March 22. The quoted prices will be broken down to analyze the construction cost of the structure, the electrical contractors' bids, the bids for the mechanical work (heating and plumbing), the bids for furnishings, and other separate bids for items designated as alternates. The breakdown will enable The Church to meet the proposed budget or to possibly arrive at a final cost slightly less than was anticipated. If some items prove to be too costly, they can be eliminated on the spot; likewise, alternate items can be added if practical. Once opened, the bids will be turned over to the architects who will check on them if clarification is required and who will evaluate the performance record and financial condition of the bidders.

Another Auditorium Committee Meeting will be scheduled for just prior to the coming General Church Conference, and the General Contract and other contracts will be then awarded. A full report will be presented to April Conference.

GROUND BREAKING

A definite date for "groundbreaking" will be set after the bids have been opened. Tentative plans have been made to have this event take place during May. A specific date will depend upon the ability of the contractors to comply with the schedule, weather conditions, and other unforeseen circumstances. The details should be finalized and the date should be available to the April Conference, however.

The Auditorium, so badly needed and for which so many have been working very diligently, will soon be noted in The Church's list of accomplishments. All the ideas and hopes on its behalf will soon become realities. A united effort by all the membership to do their best as individuals to help finance this venture will give The Church of Jesus Christ a place to meet without being subjected to the limitations and many times lack of availability of outside facilities.

Second Service Conducted In Hammond, Indiana

On Sunday, February 2, Brothers Joseph Calabrese, Dominic Thomas, and Spencer Everett conducted the second Church service at Hammond, Indiana. The first meeting held in this city, located within the greater Chicago area, was on November 16.

Brother Calabrese introduced the latest service. He elaborated on the **Book of Mormon** teachings on the concern for others which should be shown by the people of God. He pointed out how the love of God can be displayed for those who are sad because of trials and tribulations, for those who mourn because of loss of their loved ones, and for those who have burdens which can be alleviated by being shared with others. Brother Thomas followed on the same subject, giving many wonderful personal experiences.

Both meetings held in Hammond have been well-attended by Church members and friends, disclosing that there is much potential and dedication to The Gospel in this part of the country. All present indicated a strong desire for future services, and the next one was scheduled for March 9. In addition, an invitation was extended to everyone to attend the Sunday meeting of the Michigan-Ontario District Conference to be held in Warren, Michigan on March 16. Incidentally, the M — O District is in charge of the Hammond meetings.

Another Meeting Held In Warren, Michigan

An additional meeting was held in Warren, Michigan on Sunday, February 23, as a result of the success of three trial services conducted there on January 19 and 26 and February 2. A large attendance for the first series of services indicated great interest in pursuing the matter of starting a mission in this part of the Detroit metropolitan area.

There are many Church families in this section on the east side of Detroit of which Warren serves as the hub. Other communities involved in which members reside and who attend Detroit Branches No. 1 and 3 primarily are Roseville, East Detroit, Fraser, Mt. Clemens and Rochester. The Michigan-Ontario District Conference in mid-March will determine what next official steps will be taken in regards to expansion.

The first three services held proved to be edifying and enjoyable. Subjects presented were "The Way," "Gathering in God's Name," and "The Divine Nature." The sermons defined the ways to serve God, the benefits and joys received in meeting together, and the characteristics essential for entering The Kingdom of God. The District officers in charge of the meetings were the principal speakers. They are Brothers Nicholas Pietrangelo, President; Peter Capone, First Counselor; and Joseph Milantoni, Second Counselor.

It's Never Too Late!

After attending services with her husband and worshipping with members of The Church of Jesus Christ for about 28 years, Ina Giovannone of Newton Falls, Ohio obeyed The Gospel on Sunday, January 26, at Vero Beach, Florida. She was baptized at Vero Beach by her father-in-law, Brother Dominic Giovannone, and she was confirmed at the Ft. Pierce Branch by Brother Ernest Schultz.

The new Sister was in Florida for the funeral of her late aunt in Ft. Lauderdale. While there, she had a dream in which she was shown that she was "lost." For three nights thereafter, she could not sleep, and she kept hearing a voice which seemed to repeat over and over, "Don't wait." She requested her baptism following these experiences.

During the day of her conversion, the gift of tongues was spoken twice. The interpretations were, "Take my hand." and "You have been doing a wonderful work; keep it up." An exemplary person, Sister Giovannone had labored for The Church throughout the years and had always encouraged her husband, Brother Frank, a Church Evangelist and former Presiding Elder of the Warren, Ohio Branch, in his work for The Gospel; but surprisingly her time for repentance and baptism did not come until her Florida visit.

The many Brothers, Sisters, and friends with whom she has become acquainted over the years and with whom she has fellowshiped will be most happy to hear the wonderful news of Sister Giovannone's conversion and welcome her into the fold.

Break Ice For Baptism At Greensburg Branch

It was necessary to break the ice to allow Joseph Saeli to be baptized at Greensburg, Pennsylvania on January 5. The new Brother's fervent desire to even brave the elements to make a covenant with God reflected the wonderful spirit which has prevailed over the last year or so at this Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

There have been 17 baptisms during this span at Greensburg, and many new Church families are reported in the growth of this congregation. A more complete report of the blessings received at this location will be presented in next month's issue of the *Gospel News*.

Aliquippa Congregation Rededicates Building

The Aliquippa, Pennsylvania congregation of The Church of Jesus Christ rededicated its building on Sunday, January 12. The structure, which had been extensively damaged by a vandalous fire last July 28, has been renovated and restored for use.

The tone for the meeting was set by the opening hymn, "I Need Thee Every Hour." Brother John Ross, Presiding Elder, then offered a most

fitting prayer, asking God to bless His house and to keep it safe from the powers of evil. The feelings of all members and friends were embodied in these requests; and these sentiments were further expressed throughout the service.

Branch services had been held in the basement of the building during the repair period since the tragedy.

Services Being Held In Cape Coral, Fla.

Church services are being held in Cape Coral, Florida on a regular basis. Brother James Sheffler, who is in charge of this mission, travels there from Miami every other Sunday to conduct the meetings.

The recent influx of members from other parts of the country, primarily from Ohio, has caused this city's Church population to increase. Efforts to spread The Gospel in Florida are thus being expanded.

Other locations where The Church is established in this state include Miami, Ft. Pierce, Lake Worth, and Vero Beach. Services are also being conducted in St. Petersburg.

Another Baptism At Detroit No. 4

Martin Yusko was baptized at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4 on Sunday, January 19, following the afternoon service. He was immersed in Edison Lake by Brother Ralph Leet and was confirmed back at The Church building by Brother Dominic Moraco.

By entering The Church of Jesus Christ, Brother Martin joined his wife, Sister Candace, who was baptized at Branch No. 4 last December 1 as reported in the January issue of the *Gospel News*. The Yuskos are former residents of Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

Brief News Of Interest

Resting After Injury

Readers will be saddened by the news that Brother Herman F. Kennedy fell and fractured a hip recently. He is now recuperating at the Miss Linda Hopkins Rest Home, 720 North Main Street, Washington, Pennsylvania 15301. Brother Kennedy, who is 82, would like to be remembered in prayer, and it is certain he would be cheered to hear from Brothers, Sisters, and friends.

Recuperating at Fredonia

Brother Alma B. Cadman, President of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles, is recuperating from a recent illness at the home of his son and daughter-in-law, Brother Russell and Sister Ethel, in Fredonia, Pennsylvania. The address for well-wishers wanting to write to him is RD No. 2, Fredonia, Pennsylvania 16124. The well-known

author of the **Seventh Day of Rest** and other scripturally inspired writings, Brother Cadman is now 90 years old. Continued prayers on his behalf will, of course, be greatly appreciated, as they have been in the past.

Thanks Expressed

Brother William Gennaro Sr. of Youngstown, Ohio wants to thank the Brothers, Sisters, and friends who prayed for him during his recent illness and surgery. In addition, the many cards and thoughtful expressions in his time of need were most welcomed and appreciated. Although unable to thank everyone personally, he has stated, "I pray that God may bless you and repay you for your kindness in some way."

Moved to Ohio

Brother Thurman S. Furnier, General Church First Counselor, and his wife, Sister Birdie, have moved to Lorain, Ohio. Their new address is 901 7th Court, Lorain, Ohio 44052. The Furniers had been living in the Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania area.

Represents People

Brother Richard Isaacs, Chief of the Council at the Six Nations Indian Reservation in Ontario, Canada and an ordained Teacher of The Church of Jesus Christ, was selected by his people to represent about nine thousand Indians living in Canada. He spent five days discussing Indian treaties with the Canadian Prime Minister Pierre E. Trudeau Government.

Brother Isaacs has received a very high recommendation from the Indian Agency in Canada. We pray for his success on behalf of his people.

Home Open

Correspondence has been received from Paul and Helen Schlabbach of Refugio, Texas in which they send their best wishes to all the Brothers and Sisters of The Church. Sister Schlabbach is the former Helen Ashley of Detroit, Michigan and St. John, Kansas.

Although there is no Branch of The Church in Refugio, they have offered their home to witness for The Gospel and hopefully start a mission there. They read in the **Gospel News** about the visit to Florida by Brother V. James and Sister Mary Lovalvo on the official Church home missionary program, and they have invited them and anyone else from The Church in a position to visit them to do so.

The Schlabbachs have asked to be remembered in prayers. They have said they plan to continue to pray for the Brothers, Sisters, and The Church as they remain in contact through our paper.

Welcomed Visitors

The Lorain, Ohio Branch has had recent visitors from South America and from both coasts of the United States. Brother Pasquale Cocciola from Argentina, Brother Eugene Perri Sr. from Somerset, New Jersey, and Sister Rose Surdoch Lombardo from San Diego, California were the well-received guests.

Brother Cocciola was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ in Italy about 18 years ago and was ordained into The Ministry during his stay in this country. He is the nephew of our

recently departed Brother Anthony Cucuzza (Obituary on page 12), who passed away shortly after his visit. The Lorain Missionary Benevolent Association Local held a social hour in Brother Cocciola's honor and presented him with a token gift as a memento of the occasion.

Brother Perri was an Elder in the early history of the Lorain Branch. Reminiscing with him about the many experiences of the infant days of The Restored Gospel in that city proved edifying and enjoyable for everyone. Sister Lombardo, Brother Perri's niece, was a resident of Lorain until about six years ago, and most of her relatives still live there.

Appreciate Visits

Another congregation which has reported receiving welcomed visitors is the one in Vero Beach, Florida. Visiting there have been Brothers and Sisters from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, California, Ohio, and other parts of Florida.

Among those coming from other locations recently have been Brother Charles and Sister Eileen Smith from Pennsylvania; Brother Anthony and Sister Elsie Ensana and their family from New Jersey; Brother V. James and Sister Mary Lovalvo from California; and the newly-baptized Sister Ina Giovannone from Ohio. Visiting from the state of Florida have been Brother Alvin and Sister Viola Swanson from Miami and Sister Carmella Mazzeo from Palm Beach.

The members in Vero Beach are thankful for having their honored guests, and they send their best wishes to the rest of The Church.

Dates Approaching

Parties planning their vacations for this year are reminded that the dates for The General Church Gathering and for the immediately following week-long General Missionary Benevolent Association Field Trip, both to be held in California at the end of June and the beginning of July, are fast approaching. (See "1969 Church Calendar" on page 12). More details will be provided in future issues for persons who anticipate attending the events.

Tentative plans to charter an airplane from the New York - New Jersey area are being formulated. There would be one stop en route, at Pittsburgh, to pick up passengers on the way to California and to discharge them on the return flight. The number of reservations made will determine whether the project will materialize. Individuals who can possibly make the connections to take the flight and are interested in obtaining more information about it may write to Brother Nicholas Zinzi, 1260 Burke Avenue, Bronx, New York 10469 for further particulars. It has been learned that some favorable responses are being received for this venture.

Congratulations !

Congratulations are extended to the following families for their new arrivals. Recently born were Michele Renee to the Don Maranos of San Diego, California; Craig Martin to the Martin Yuskos of Detroit, Michigan No. 4; Karen Eileen to the William Zemkos of Youngstown, Ohio; Luke Andrew to the Donald Collisons of Windsor, Ontario, Canada; and Lori Ann to the Miles Fishers of Ft. Pierce, Florida.

1969 CHURCH CALENDAR

Following is a list of 1969 Church events of general and regional interest.

MARCH

Semi - Annual General Church District Conferences:

- 8 — Pennsylvania at McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania.
- 8 — Florida at Ft. Pierce, Florida.
- 12 - 13 - 14 — Michigan-Ontario at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1.
- 14 - 15 - 16 — Atlantic Coast at Hopelawn, New Jersey.
- 14 - 15 - 16 — Ohio at Cleveland, Ohio Branch No. 1.
- 22 — Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference at Youngtown, Ohio.
- 22 — General Church Board of Missions Meeting at Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.
- 22 — General Church Auditorium Committee Meeting at Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.
- 29 — General Missionary Benevolent Association Activities Committee Meeting at Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.

APRIL

- 17 - 18 - 19 - 20 — Semi - Annual General Church Conference at Monongahela, Pennsylvania.

MAY

Groundbreaking for new General Church Auditorium near Imperial, Pennsylvania (completion scheduled for 1970).

- 17 — Semi - Annual General Missionary Benevolent Association Conference in New Jersey.

JUNE

- 21 — Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference (place to be announced).
- 27 - 28 - 29 — General Church Gathering in Bell, California.
- 30 — General Missionary Benevolent Association Field Trip to California through July 6.

JULY

Annual Missionary Benevolent Association Area Conferences:

- 19 — Atlantic Area at Hopelawn, New Jersey.
- 19 — California Area at San Fernando Valley, California.
- Florida Area (date and place to be announced).
- 18 — Michigan - Ontario Area at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3.
- 20 — Michigan-Ontario Area at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4.
- 19 — Ohio Area at Cleveland, Ohio Branch No. 1.
- 19 — Pennsylvania Area (place to be announced).

SEPTEMBER

Semi - Annual General Church District Con-

ferences (dates and places to be announced).

- 20 — Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference at New Brunswick, New Jersey.

OCTOBER

Semi - Annual General Church Conference (dates and place to be announced).

Tentative month for dedication of new Warren, Ohio church building (date to be announced).

NOVEMBER

- 8 — Semi - Annual General Missionary Benevolent Association Conference in Pennsylvania.

DECEMBER

- 13 — Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference at Monongahela, Pennsylvania.

NUPTIALS

LIBER—PALERMO

Mr. David Liber and Miss Marietta Palermo were united in marriage on Saturday, January 11. The setting for the ceremony was the Lakewood, Ohio Methodist Church Chapel. Brother August Perloni officiated. Sister Carla Naro of Lorain, Ohio sang two musical selections.

The couple now resides in Lakewood.

CALABRESE—SAYLOR

Brother Frank Anthony Calabrese and Sister Aileen E. Saylor were married at the Lorain, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ last September 7. Brother Frank Calabrese, father of the groom, joined them in holy wedlock. He was assisted by Brother Joseph Calabrese, uncle of the groom.

The Calabreses now live in Cleveland, Ohio.

CRALL—STRAWN

Mr. William Crall and Miss Sheila Strawn were united in marriage on Saturday, January 18, in Midland, Texas. The groom hails from Streetsboro, Ohio.

OBITUARY

Anthony Cucuzza of Lorain, Ohio passed away last December 26. He had been baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on November 8, 1931 by the late Brother Leonard Alessio. He was 70 years old.

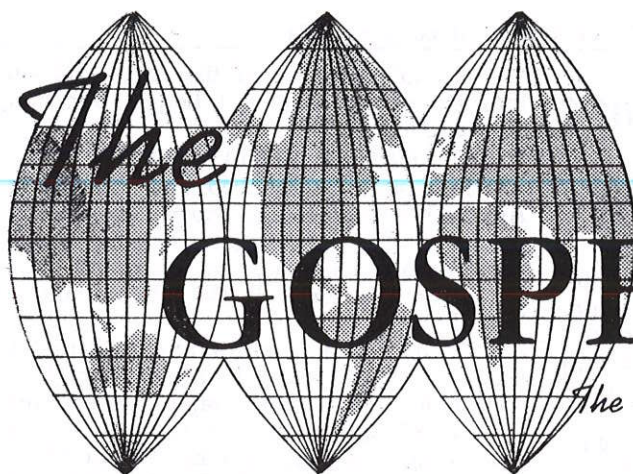
He is survived by his wife, four daughters, and one son.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Alfred Dominico, assisted by Brothers Frank Calabrese and James Velardi.

The deceased was the uncle of Brother Pasquale Coccia of Argentina who had recently visited the United States (see story on page 11). He was most happy to see his nephew embrace The Gospel and bring the good news back to Argentina as an Elder.

Important Notice!

Please notify the Gospel News office in Monongahela, Pennsylvania if you move. In so doing, it would be appreciated if you would include both your new and old addresses so the necessary corrections can be made. Failure to send this notification will penalize The Church with unnecessary mailing costs. Also, Branch and Mission Editors and Librarians are urged to send any changes of address which they have received, thus producing better overall efficiency.



GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

April 1969

Vol. 25 No. 4

Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.

The Risen Savior

By **Gorie Ciaravino**
General Church President

(Reprinted from the radio **Book of Sermons**,
The Church of Jesus Christ, 1963)

Our topic this morning will be on "The Risen Saviour." For our text, we shall use the 5th Verse of the 30th Psalm: "... weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." Surely, these words might be said to depict The Resurrection of Jesus Christ on this Easter morning.

There were sorrow and grief in the hearts of The Disciples, as their Master hung on Calvary's tree. They became even more remorseful when He was carried away and laid in the sepulchre; but, in the morning, when they heard that He had arisen, their hearts were filled with joy.

When Jesus died, His Disciples thought The Light of The World had gone out. Their hopes had vanished, although they had been told many times by Our Saviour that He would not be with them for long. He had endeavored to prepare them for This Day by declaring some of the old prophecies concerning His Sufferings and Inevitable Death; yet, when That Day came, their hopes for the redemption of Israel had vanished.

Israel had been awaiting Redemption from its natural bondage. The Israelites, as a result, overlooked the greater importance of His coming to liberate them from a spiritual bondage. Today, nearly two thousand years later, Israel is still waiting for the prophecies to be fulfilled — still waiting for their liberator to come into the world.

This morning, we are wondering how many Gentiles are still in bondage — not a natural bondage as Israel had been under but a spiritual bondage. They are still wondering about in the darkness, as they were during the hours which Christ lay in His Tomb, not choosing to take advantage of the opportunities presented by His Glorious Resurrection.

In **St. Matthew 28:1**, we read: "... as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre." On arrival, they found it

(Continued on Page 6)

General Church Conference To Convene On April 17

The General Conference of The Church of Jesus Christ will officially convene on Thursday, April 17, in the Monongahela, Pennsylvania Church building at 2:00 P.M. The Thursday, Friday, and Saturday sessions, which will be for The Priesthood only, will include official reports, review of the overall concluded semi-annual period, plans for the future, and election of General Church officers.

Election of officers is scheduled for Saturday. General Church officials are elected for one-year terms, with the exception of the Board of Trustees whose members are chosen for five-years with one expiring each year.

BRANCHES OPEN

Everyone is invited to attend the Sunday morning fellowship service which will also be held in the Monongahela Church building at 10:00 A.M. No suitable outside facility could be rented for this occasion, so all Pennsylvania congregations have also been requested to conduct their regular Sabbath meetings which visiting Brothers of The Ministry could attend. This would afford many members of The Priesthood an opportunity to meet at various locations where they would ordinarily be unable to gather. At the same time, it would also help to alleviate what would be an overcrowded condition at Monongahela.

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Tribute To John O. Thomas

The following is a tribute to my son, John O. Thomas, who was born on March 25, 1916 at a mining town called Hawkeye, Pennsylvania in Westmoreland County.

John was one week old when we took him to The Church in Hawkeye and dedicated him to The Lord, knowing that the blessing asked upon him that day would follow him all through his life. This proved to be true as the events of his life disclosed.

When John was two years old, he sat with me near the pulpit, and he continued to do so until he was five. As a matter of fact, John practically grew up in Church.

In 1924, we moved to the small town of Smock, Pennsylvania where we tried to buy a farm but our finances would not permit us to do so at that time. John fell in love with this farm and kept asking me to move there. Finally, in April 1929, we took up residence on this farm. This was the year of the great depression and things looked very bleak; however, John was very happy living on the farm.

SERVICES HELD

Soon after moving there, we began thinking of holding meetings in Smock. We asked Brothers Charles Ashton and Isaac Smith to come and hold services for us. John and his mother visited all the neighbors inviting them to the meetings. Their efforts were rewarded when 35 persons came to the first one. This became the start of what is today the Vanderbilt Branch. Had it not been for John's insistence on moving to the farm, there might not have been a Branch in Vanderbilt today.

In 1932, John was married to a wonderful girl named Ethel Cotton. They presented us with seven lovely grandchildren who enriched both their lives, as well as ours.

One evening, John had a wonderful experience. A stranger came to his door, dressed as a beggar with long hair and tattered clothing. He wanted something to eat. John invited him into the house and allowed him to wash and shave. He invited the man to spend the night with them, and the man, who said his name was John, replied that he would be happy to sleep on the couch located on the front porch. In the morning, John went to call the stranger but he was gone and was nowhere to be found. God gave John to understand that he had been visited by the man who had never died.

John also had two dreams which he felt were from God and which indicated that God was calling him into The Priesthood. On one occasion, he dreamed of a neighbor who was ill and asked John to anoint him with oil. John said: "I cannot anoint you because I have not proven myself, but I will pray for you." At this utterance, the man turned into an old feeble man, and, when John finished praying, the man became a child. I realized upon hearing this dream that the child was symbolic of The Priesthood Authority. Another time, John dreamed of a large group of people who came to me to be baptized. I called

to John to help me baptize them. He answered that he was ready and began baptizing some of the converts.

CALLED INTO PRIESTHOOD

John was called into The Priesthood in the April 1957 Conference. During the short time he served in The Ministry, he baptized twelve converts, enjoyed his place on the pulpit, and anointed many who were ill. He labored untiringly for The Gospel.

As his father, I knew him well and feel like Jacob of old when he heard of what had reportedly befallen his son Joseph. His sentiment was "For I will go down to the grave unto my son mourning." He spent all his life in The Church, and he died in The Faith. Someday I hope to see him again in Paradise.

Hymn 394 in our **Saints Hymnal**, "I Have A Friend In Heaven" was John's favorite hymn. He quoted it all the time. John's passing was just as the last verse states" . . . He may come now at any time — It could be while I sing . . . " He had worked all week, and on Sunday Brother George Neill had come to his home. They were talking about The Lord, The Church, and the seed of Joseph when he died suddenly.

John honored his parents and for this I am proud of him. The Lord called his mother to her reward only four months before John's death. I am glad He did it that way, for she thought so much of him and was spared the heavy sorrow of his untimely death. How good is The Lord!

My prayer to God is that He will heal our wounded, broken hearts and save us by His Grace. May God bless his dear wife and children who mourn so deeply their loss. John was everything I have said and more. I felt that I owed him this brief tribute.

I shall be 80 years old soon and have been in The Church over 59 years. God has been my comfort through all my tribulations and sorrow, and I must give Him all the honor and glory for having such a rewarding life in The Gospel with a wonderful wife and family.

By Oran Thomas

Last Year's Index Is Now Available

The 1968 Gospel News Index is now available through Branches and Missions for 25c a copy.

Compiler of this alphabetical listing by category has been Mark Landrey. As in the past, he has also listed the authors and the months in which the articles were published. The ready reference makes it simple to find whatever material is desired with a minimum of time and effort. Paulette Griffith was the typist again for this project, and Sara Vancik has reproduced the materials, as she has done in former years.

Copies may be obtained by writing to the Gospel News office in Monongahela, Pennsylvania (address on page 3). There is a small supply remaining from other years, and they may also be procured from the same location.

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Editorial Viewpoint

By George A. Neill

"What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?" This question has been answered in one way or another by all peoples. Upon this answer hangs the eternal future of every soul. This question cannot be answered by one individual for another; every person must face the issue and answer for himself.

Ever since Pilate posed that most profound question, "What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?", nearly two thousand years ago, people have been and are still struggling with it. It is true Jesus has been a disturbing element in the lives of people for over nineteen centuries, and there have always been those who have endeavored to get rid of Him.

Pilate was responsible for the administration of justice according to the Roman law, and he knew Jesus had been delivered to him because of prejudice and envy. While this trial was in process, Pilate received a message from his wife which said, "Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of him." Pilate's verdict was, "... I find no fault in him."

Why did this man back down when his conscience, better judgment, and even the advice of his wife bade him otherwise? Perhaps the cry of the mob affected him when they said, "If thou let this man go, thou art not Caesar's friend: ..." He did not want innocent blood on his hands, but more important, he did not want his standing with Caesar to be jeopardized. He decided to be neutral and wash his hands of the whole matter, declaring, "I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it."

I am afraid, however, that Pilate was mistaken, for I do not believe any man can get rid of Jesus by washing his hands of Him, or, in other words, by shirking his duties and responsibility to Him. What the people of this world need today is not more education, light, or truth, but more courage and spiritual insight to act on the truth and light they have. It would seem that Pilate had plenty of truth, light, and knowledge, for he acknowledged there was no fault to be found in Christ. He lacked the courage to live up to the light he had. Like Pilate, too many of us are afraid of the consequences if we do what we know is right. We may jeopardize our standing with certain ones in the action we take, but Christ is still on our hands and we cannot get rid of Him by washing them; neither can we get rid of Him by crucifying Him afresh.

Fence-riding Pilates are many today. They are not Christians, but neither are they really bad. They even believe the Bible and will attend church; they turn the color of the company they are with. But what good is a Pilate to Christ, or even to a church? Whistle-blowing, bandwagon-riding Pilates who follow only because others are following, and even desert if others desert, are certainly a menace rather than an asset to Christ. There is no "neutral nest" where some seem to find rest. Jesus made a statement one time that proves there is no neutrality in Christ when He said, "He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad." Matt. 12:30. Since there is no neutral position, we either put on Christ or we put Him off. We are either the children of obedience or the children of disobedience.

We have many such Pilates in our day; they even speak of Jesus as The Lord but know very little about Him. When the mob demanded of Pilate that Jesus should die, he said, "Behold the man!" This was their last chance, and he wanted them to take a long look at Jesus. Many today, like those in that day, just take a glimpse of Jesus and then lose sight of Him. Many look upon Him and think of Him on certain occasions, or on special days, then go their way failing to remember what manner of Man He is.

Pilate also asked the mob the question, "What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?" This question has been answered in one way or another by all peoples. Upon this answer hangs the eternal future of every soul. This question cannot be answered by one individual for another; every person must face the issue and answer for himself.

M.B.A. Highlights

MBA Area Project Has Been Completed

By James D. Gibson, GMBA Editor

About three years ago, the Pennsylvania Area of the Missionary Benevolent Association began a project which would allow all its members to share in a worthwhile, overall activity. The endeavor was to save and collect savings stamp books which could be redeemed for money to purchase a bus-type vehicle for General Church Missionary use. This, it was thought, would to some extent alleviate the financial burden of The Church in its mission field work.

The projected plans and groundwork were laid out, and Brother Joseph Ross of the Aliquippa, Pennsylvania Local was selected to be the Coordinator. From its very beginning, there were hopes that the project would be completed in a relatively short period of time. Such was not to be the case, however, as, after the primary thrust of activity had been expended, there was an eventual tapering off. It was not necessarily a lack of interest in many individuals that began to manifest itself but rather, in some cases, it took time to acquire the stamps. Also, the capabilities of individuals or groups of individuals to purchase items and the availability of businesses dispensing the stamps were many times limited. Nevertheless, the assistance that such a projected plan might lend to The Church was always uppermost in the minds of those concerned; thus, the project held on even through the slower periods.

From time to time, Brother Ross and others who were either directly or indirectly involved stimulated renewed interest. This was done through monthly reports, offering of encouragement, and reminders for continued activity in each Area Local for this cause. Everyone's backing was needed, of course, and it was received, including that basically from all officers. As time progressed, it became obvious that an additional mode of contribution would have to be used. It was then decided that monetary donations could and would be accepted. Where it was more convenient to donate cash, this outlet was now provided.

Although this project was primarily sponsored by the Pennsylvania MBA Area, other Areas, Locals, and individuals took part by donating books they had accumulated. Their assistance was, of course, greatly appreciated. Whether it be on a Local, Area or National level, it is not only important that a project be started but that it come to a satisfactory conclusion. Also, each Association member can feel a close-association with the MBA and the parent Church through his active participation.

Gratitude must also be given to the General Church Board of Missions for the assistance it

gave on this matter. It became necessary to obtain the final sum of \$260 from the Board to consummate the purchase of the small-type bus, which was eventually given to the Spanish Mission in Lorain, Ohio. Thanks is also extended to all those in the Ohio Area of The Church who donated \$1,000 toward the purchase price, and the Pennsylvania MBA Area is indebted to each and everyone for their concern and support. In the process, it is certain all contributors are hopeful that the vehicle will afford the kind of service so necessary in the work for The Gospel.



UR WOMEN TODAY

(Following is the second in a series of three articles written by Sister Rosa Robinson Williams about a trip she made to Europe with her husband. The last installment will appear next month. — Editor's Note).

A BROTHER AND A FRIEND

By Rosa Robinson Williams

We traveled to Florence, Rome and throughout southern Italy in Naples, Salerno, and Buccino. Rome is full of the remains of ancient history and one must travel in and out of cathedrals to find much of it. While there, we visited the catacombs, the burial place of many early Christians during the third and fourth centuries. We were deeply impressed by these underground passageways which stretched for twenty miles in various directions and thought of the early Christians who took refuge there during the great persecution.

Only certain routes were open to tourists and what impressed us most was that all of the writings these Christians had put on the walls had been painstakingly taken away, making me wonder "Why?" I asked many questions of our guide, many of which went unanswered. Visiting these ancient burial places gave me a greater appreciation of the Apostasy, especially the scriptures which state that "... the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force." (Matt. 11:12) and "... upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matt 16:18).

We visited Vatican City, with its riches, and saw the squalor and poverty just beyond. We were amazed at the reverence in the eyes of nuns who had come many miles to kiss the concrete cross outside St. Peter's Basilica. Throngs stood and gazed at the bronze statue of Peter as though in a trance, while others paid obeisance and kissed the large toe of the statue's right foot. The metal is worn from having been kissed and caressed these many years. We tried to capture with our camera the "gaze of awe" we saw in the eyes of the tourists, as they paid homage to this "creation of man"; but it was too dark, and our pictures did not come out. How alive the scripture came to me which describes

"... the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people..." (Is. 60:2).

START FOR BUCCINO

The next highlight of our trip to Italy and one of our most satisfying experiences was our journey to our Church in Buccino, near Salerno in Southern Italy. Our plans were to spend a day in Naples and begin early Sunday morning for The Church. We had prayed for this mightily for we wanted so much to commune with the Brothers and Sisters. We arrived in Naples late on that hot humid Saturday night and were unable to find suitable sleeping quarters. There were people engaged in all kinds of revelry; thus Naples impressed us as a city of riotous living. We slept in our station wagon on the thruway toward Salerno, not in the city of Naples.

After a few hours sleep, we continued our journey, but found it farther than we had anticipated. Travel was much slower after leaving the autostrada, especially in the mountains. We arrived at the Brother's home whose address we had been given, only to find he was not in. People would not give us information. The houses in this mountainous area were like huts, but, then, the entire setting was ancient with no modern facilities.

My husband was beginning to become weary, and I prayed in my heart and choked back tears of disappointment. We had only that address and did not know where The Church was located. One man we asked said our Brother had gone to Church in Buccino and we were to ask about it when we got there. This did not give us much hope as people were so reluctant to give any information of another church; but God was with us.

WRONG TURN, RIGHT TURN

As we went back to the main road, we made a left turn which would take us away from Buccino; however, the wrong turn turned out to be the "right turn." My husband, who had not joined The Church at that time, saw two men coming down the road and he said, "I believe that is the man you are looking for, because he has a book in his hand." We stopped the car, and, although we could not speak Italian, we inquired about the Brother. He hesitated and questioned me as to where I had gotten his name and as to whom we were. I gave him the letter Brother Emidio Milano had given me in Vencenza.

By this time, I was in tears, overjoyed that The Lord had led us to my Brother-in-Christ. He introduced us to his traveling companion, also a Brother, and they got into the car, as we turned to go back to Buccino. My Brother started singing "What A Friend We Have in Jesus" in Italian, and I began to sing in English. We did not get too far along in the hymn before The Spirit of God fell upon us and showered us with His blessing. I could not continue singing for weeping; and although tears streamed down his face, he managed to continue singing.

(To Be Continued)



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"... O grave, where is thy victory?" I Corinthians 15: 55.

Dear Boys and Girls,

Many, many years have passed since our King Jesus was born, died, and resurrected from the dead. This King was very different from the kings of today and the rulers in His day. He did not have a beautiful palace for a home. Kings today have thrones, castles, and many servants to work for them. Jesus taught that a servant is not greater than his master nor is a master greater than a servant. He was meek and humble and set an example by washing His disciples' feet. He had no home of His own. Once He said, "The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head." His first bed was a manger.

As a tiny baby, Jesus startled a king. When King Herod, heard from the wisemen a king was born, he was worried. Even all Jerusalem was troubled at this news. Herod thought Jesus would take his throne. He did not understand the kingdom of this little prince, Jesus. When Jesus was a man, He said, "My kingdom is not of this world: . . ."

When Jesus ascended into heaven and left this world, He went up in a cloud. His disciples were gathered around Him, and, as He was blessing them, He lifted up His hands and began rising from the earth. They watched Him go higher, higher, and higher. Two persons dressed in white descended from heaven and said, "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." What a glorious promise was given to them; and we, too, are looking for its fulfillment.

Jesus was a very kind man, not like the rulers of His day. Do you remember how Herod wanted all the baby boys under two years of age slain when he heard of Jesus' birth? Our King Jesus was touched when He saw people in trouble. He did so many good deeds. In John's writings, he tells us if all the things Jesus did were written, the world could not contain the books. Jesus never wrote a book, nor a song; yet more songs have been written about Him than any other theme. Jesus was kind to the children. He said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God." Jesus took the little ones in His arms and blessed them. Our Church follows His example too. All the things Jesus did are very important to us.

Our Saviour was a patient, gentle and sympathetic man. He lived the most beautiful life ever known. He said we also can have the

(Continued on Page 6)

THE CHILDREN'S CORNER

(Continued from Page 5)

abundant life. His words were, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." His yoke is easy and His burden light. He loved to help people and ease their burdens. He never charged money for His services. When He healed the sick, He made statements like "Go in peace, thy faith has made thee whole" or "Take up thy bed and walk." He only had to say a word and immediately the sick were healed. Once He just touched the spot where a soldier's ear had been cut off, and it was healed; others touched His garment. Even people who were against Him were healed by His power. Multitudes rejoiced for all the glorious things that He did. They were made to exclaim. "Never man spake like this man." and "... What manner of man is this! ..."

After living such a beautiful life and leaving a perfect example for us to follow, our Saviour died. He died on the cross for the sins of man. Pilate said, "... I find no fault in this man." Jesus is the Redeemer and Saviour of the world. Kings and rulers in His day could not destroy Him, and the grave could not hold Him. Let us review His teachings, take up our cross, and follow Him, this King of Kings.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

Can you finish the seven last expressions of Jesus?

1. To the thief on the cross: "Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou"
2. Words to His beloved mother: "Woman, behold"
3. To John: "Behold thy"
4. Through the darkness these words were heard: "My God, my God, why" ?"
5. Jesus grew faint, and His throat was parched. He cried, "I"
6. In a loud voice, Jesus said, "It is"
7. The last words spoken were, "Father, into thy hands I commend"

Jesus Christ, the Saviour, was dead.

Sincerely,
Sister Mabel.

THE RISEN SAVIOUR

(Continued from Page 1)

empty, for The Master had arisen.

With The Resurrection of Jesus came the dawn of a new day for God's People. The Resurrection of Christ brought hope for eternal life.

Continuing with the account in St. Matthew, we find that "... behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, ..." (Matt. 28:2). The stone which had been used as a barrier had been removed, just as were the walls of Jericho which stood as a barrier before Israel.

On this Easter morning, The Christian World is celebrating The Resurrection of "The Risen Saviour." I sometimes wonder whether we realize the real importance of His Resurrection. What

does it mean to you and me? How does it affect us?

No doubt, all the world knows The Story of Jesus, about His Death on Calvary's Cross, and His Resurrection on The Third Day. Again, may I ask, do we understand the deep significance of This Wonderful Plan of God?

When God created Adam and Eve, our first parents, He placed them in The Garden of Eden and instructed them to eat of the fruit of all the trees there except the fruit of The Tree of Knowledge. In their disobedience, they ate the fruit which had been forbidden them. God had warned them that "... in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." (Gen. 2:17).

We all know that The Word of God is never spoken in vain; therefore, for their transgression, death came upon our first parents. This death could only be removed by The Supreme Sacrifice. His Death and Resurrection were necessities. Jesus declared unto His Disciples.

"... Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

"And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

"And ye are witnesses of these things." (Luke 24: 46-48).

We read in The Scriptures, "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." (John 3:16). Death, being the stone which formed the barrier between man and eternal life, has been removed by Our Risen Master.

The prophecies have been fulfilled. Men have the opportunity for working out their own soul's salvation. Let me warn you this morning, however, that only believing that He is The Christ will not bring you your salvation.

In his letter to the Corinthians, the Apostle Paul wrote, "But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway." (I Cor. 9:27). We see that even Paul was concerned about enduring until the end. In order that we may benefit by The Death of Christ and His Resurrection, we must first believe in Him as The Son of The Living God. Then, we must keep The Commandments and Ordinances which He taught and attempt to follow in His Footsteps. After all, was not His Life an example for us? Finally, we must keep faithful and endure to the end, as the Apostle Paul has said.

It behooves us to avail ourselves of the opportunity granted us to be His Disciples in these, the latter days. Also, in remembering His Resurrection, we may endeavor to learn of His Ways and ask as they did on The Day of Pentecost.

"... Men and brethren, what shall we do?

"Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

"For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as

the Lord our God shall call.

"And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation." (Acts 2:37-40).

The Dawn

Christ walked along the paths of old,
As ancient prophets had foretold;
And some were there who crowned Him King,
While praises to His name did sing.

A message to the world He brought,
Eternal life for man He taught;
To serve the Father was His goal,
To win Him every living soul.

But in a darkened hour of shame,
One of His own to Jesus came.
BETRAYAL: And Jesus wept within,
The world was full of wicked men.

Along the way a cross did wait,
With men whose hearts were stirred to hate,
They crucified the only Begotten Son,
And Jesus said, "God's will be done."

The world was darkened, without light,
His followers wept throughout the night;
Then angels from the realms on high,
Sang, "Christ is not dead, but reigneth nigh."

Now there are mansions here for you,
And arms outstretched in welcome, too.
Arise, Rejoice, the night is gone.
Through Christ each soul may see The Dawn!

By Janice Hansen

Two Guest Speakers At Hopelawn, N.J.

Brother Paul D'Amico, Apostle from Lockport, New York, and Brother Dominic Rose, President of the Atlantic Coast District, were the guest speakers at the Hopelawn, New Jersey Branch on Sunday, February 23. In addition, there were other visitors from this District of The Church.

The text used by Brother D'Amico, who opened the service, was taken from the third chapter of John. Discussed were the ruler who came to Jesus by night and the passage which deals with the necessity for being born again by the water and The Spirit. Brother D'Amico related a few experiences concerning the early days of The Church. He illustrated how God shows His authority and opens the way for the spreading of The Gospel through His people. After concluding his talk in English, Brother D'Amico spoke in the Italian language for the benefit of those of that extraction who were in attendance, explaining John the Baptist's baptism of Jesus by water.

Brother Rose followed, speaking further on the new birth. He elaborated on its importance and necessity.

Also heard at the inspiring service was a trio from Hopelawn. This group, which consisted of Philip Benyola, Karen Wantuch, and Joyce Feher, sang "He'll Hold My Hand."

Greensburg Branch Has Many Blessings

Many blessings have been experienced by the Greensburg, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ in the last year-and-a-half. As was stated in last month's issue of the *Gospel News*, there have been 17 baptisms, many prayers for infant blessings, and edifying services during that period.

The sequence began when three new members came into the fold just before 1968 began. In January 1968, John Nalevanko and Robert Beam were baptized on the same day. Nine inches of ice had to be broken for their baptisms, and the broken ice was heaped on the sides of what resembled a freshly dug grave in which "to bury the old man" and from which the new man was to be born in The Spirit.

The next week, Paul Bright obeyed The Gospel, and, as time went on, the following new converts were also baptized: Patricia Beam, Patricia Mellor, Vera Smith, Kenneth Mellor, Alice Beam, Virginia Blosser, Margaret Bright, Alice Saeli, Judith Griere, Pamela Lavelle, and Joseph Saeli. Sister Lavelle was baptized at the California gathering.

The most remarkable part of this growth is that most of the new Brothers and Sisters had not previously heard of The Gospel. It was all new to them; when they heard about it, however, they happily accepted it. Some were converted quickly, while others took a little longer; but, as is known, the purpose of The Gospel is to bring persons to the realization of their situations and to teach them how to save their souls not to bring them into the fold without being sufficiently informed with the teachings of Christ.

Because of its many new members, the Greensburg Branch has what are called "New Members' Meetings." The purpose of these services is to more thoroughly teach the points of interest about The Church which these new Brothers and Sisters are concerned.

The many prayers of blessings for infants have reflected the new influx of members. As parents became acquainted with and accepted The Church, they asked that The Ministry offer prayers for their children so they would have God's protection and guidance throughout their lives.

Visitors have helped to sustain the high quality of meetings and fellowship which have been prevalent. Among those traveling here from out-state have been Brothers Gorie Ciaravino, Nicholas Pietrangelo, Dominic Thomas, Joseph Milantoni, and Dominic Moraco. Their words of wisdom and encouragement have been most beneficial.

In adding all the happenings of the past year-and-a-half, the Greensburg Branch has been greatly enriched and not enough thanks can be expressed to God for His blessings. A continuation of the same virtues is all that is being asked, as the group further attempts to spread The Gospel.

Three In One Family, Over 2500 Miles Apart, Baptized In One Week

The Spirit of God worked with three members in one family in two different states about 2500 miles apart, calling them into The Gospel within one week. Two of them, a daughter and her father, Diane and John Salerno, are from Detroit, Michigan No. 3; the other, an uncle and brother-in-law to the other new members, Vincent (James) Camarda, is from the Modesto, California Branch.

The events began on February 16 when Diane entered the fold. She was baptized by Brother Paul Palmieri and confirmed by Brother Peter H. Capone. She had asked for her baptism almost at the end of the morning service at which Brothers Anthony Ross and Palmieri of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania had spoken. The visiting Brothers had also been the guest speakers the day before at the second annual Michigan-Ontario MBA Area Seminar Day.

It was extremely cold and approximately a foot of ice on Lake St. Clair had to be broken before Sister Salerno's baptism could be performed. A spot just large enough to permit her to be immersed was prepared after an hour-and-a-half of intensified ice-chopping. As seen below in one of pictures taken by Diane's brother, John, she has just emerged from the frigid water. Incident-



ally, Brother Palmieri had felt he would baptize a member of the John Salerno family while in Detroit.

Meanwhile, in more balmy Modesto the same day, the new Brother Camarda, uncle of the new Sister Salerno, was driving to work when he felt the spirit of repentance. Upon arriving at his job, he asked his superior to be excused, telling him he had to go to Church. He then left and went to Church; and he asked for his baptism as the congregation was singing a hymn before the service. He was baptized by Brother Leonard J. Lovalvo after the meeting and was confirmed by Brother Mark Randy. Brother Camarda did not know that his niece had been baptized even though it had taken place a few hours prior in the earlier midwest time zone.

The next Sunday evening, February 23, Detroit No. 3 was having a "Singspiration." Near the end of this service, the congregation sang,

"It May Be Today." Immediately after this hymn was sung, Sister Diane's father, John Salerno, arose and asked for his baptism, which was performed in the darkness at 10 p.m. by improvised lighting as pictured. He was baptized by Brother Frank Vitto in the same spot where his daughter had been immersed the week before. Although the ice was still solid, the previously broken area was reasonably intact, and it was made workable with a minimum of effort. The new convert was confirmed back at Branch No. 3 by Brother Paul Vitto immediately thereafter. It is interesting to note that Brother Gregory Vitto had introduced The Gospel to Brother Salerno's parents about 30 years ago, so it seemed fitting that his sons should baptize and confirm the senior Brother Salerno's son.

The reaction of the one most affected, Sister Rosalie Salerno was understandable. The fact that her daughter, brother and husband had been baptized in that order within eight days had left her speechless but indescribably thankful. As a matter of fact, like the Psalmist David, she and all the Brothers and Sisters in both Detroit and Modesto have had their "cups filled to overflowing."

Couple Also Added On Canadian Side

While the happy baptismal events were being unfolded in Detroit on the United States side of the international waterway, a husband and wife were also being added to the Windsor, Ontario flock on the Canadian side. Mario Onorato was baptized on Sunday, February 23, and his wife, Enza, came into the fold on Sunday, March 9.

Brother Onorato was taken into the waters by Brother Samuel Cuomo, and he was confirmed by Brother Allan Henderson. He had called for his baptism during the testimony segment of the meeting. Brother John Buffa, visiting from Detroit, had opened the service, speaking on the third chapter of "Ether" in the Book of Mormon and of the faith exhibited by the brother of Jared.

Two weeks before Brother Onorato had asked for prayer that he might be alleviated from an affliction and find peace. On February 23, he made his peace with God.

Sister Onorato was baptized by Brother Frank Morle, and she was confirmed by Brother Cuomo. Speakers during the service at which she asked to enter The Church of Jesus Christ were Brothers Jack Ford, visiting from Kinsman, Ohio, and Morle, spending the day from Detroit. It took about 45 minutes to chop approximately ten inches of ice before she could be baptized.

Healed Of Blindness, Obeys Gospel March 9

An 80 year-old resident of the Muncey Indian Reservation in Ontario, Canada who was healed of blindness, Willis Logan, obeyed The Gospel on Sunday, March 9. He was baptized and con-

firmed by Brother Joseph Milantoni.

Two weeks prior to his baptism, Brother Logan testified that he had been blind. He said that he had been led to The Church of Jesus Christ by the hand of God and that his sight had been restored.

While lying in bed one night, he felt a numbness and then a warm feeling come over his body. He felt as though someone were present in his room. He stated, "I felt like someone passed his hands from the top of my head over my eyes and then over my whole body. I lay there frightened with my eyes closed for a few minutes, not knowing what was happening. Gathering courage, I opened my eyes and my blindness was gone. I could see!"

Former Minister Of Another Faith Baptized At Lorain

A former minister of another faith for over 20 years, Jesus Gilberto Feleciano Soto, was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ at the Lorain, Ohio Spanish Mission on Sunday, February 23. He was immersed in Lake Erie by Brother Frank Calabrese, and he was confirmed by Brother Joseph Calabrese.

The entire day was filled with The Lord's Blessings. During the confirmation service, the gift of tongues was spoken and a Sister was reinstated.

Experiences Received At Edison Baptism

Two visions were experienced when Deborah Sgro of the Edison, New Jersey Branch was being baptized on Sunday, February 2. While Brother Carmen Sgro, her uncle, was performing the baptism, Brother Louis Benyola observed a personage, all dressed in white, standing behind them.

After they emerged from the water and Brother Nathan Petterkin offered prayer, Brother Benyola saw a white cloud cover the whole Priesthood. Sister Sgro was confirmed by Brother Anthony Ensana back at the Church building.

San Diego Branch Welcomes New Brother

The San Diego, California Branch welcomed another soul into The Church of Jesus Christ when Paul Liberto was baptized on Sunday, January 26. He was baptized by his brother, Elder Thomas Liberto, and he was confirmed by Brother Ben Ciccatti.

The new Brother Liberto was raised in The Church, and he had attended services for many years. He was touched by the wonderful hymns sung during the meeting, making him repentant and desirous of obeying The Gospel of Christ.

Understandably, the San Diego congregation

has been greatly overjoyed by the addition of Brother Liberto and has been most grateful to God for His mercies.

March 9 Happy Day For New Sister

Sunday, March 9, was a happy day for Carolyn Benson of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4, for it was on that date that she became a member of The Church of Jesus Christ. She was immersed in Edison Lake by Brother Anthony Gerace and confirmed by Brother Gorie Ciaravino.

Sister Benson had asked for her baptism the week before when she felt the spirit of repentance at the end of the service. Circumstances had made it impractical for her to be baptized on March 2, but she was not denied the opportunity the following Sunday, much to her happiness and that of all the Brothers and Sisters of Detroit No. 4.

The new Sister had been attending services with her husband, Brother Raymond, for over two years, ever since The Gospel had been introduced to him through Brother Gerace at their place of employment. He was baptized after fellowshipping for a period of time.

Christ's Teachings Discussed At Hammond

Jesus Christ's examples and teachings comprised the subject matter presented by Brother Peter H. Capone and Spencer Everett at an edifying service held at Hammond, Indiana on Sunday, March 9. The text was taken from II Nephi 31: 12-14.

How The Saviour lived and taught His disciples was explained by Brother Capone, who opened the meeting. He elaborated on the examples and instructions, with emphasis on faith, repentance, and baptism.

Brother Everett spoke in the same vein. He also related some meaningful experiences which illustrated the importance of following in Christ's footsteps.

Services are being conducted in Hammond at the request of members and other interested parties in that area. Good attendance and continued desires for future meetings have been found there. The work is under the jurisdiction of the Michigan-Ontario Church District.

Dates Clarified

Some readers have questioned the dates in the article titled, "Who Really Discovered America," written by the undersigned and printed in the February issue of the *Gospel News*.

Be it known that, while the writers are fully aware and cognizant of generally accepted scriptural dates, the actual dates presented in this article were archaeological and historical dates.

Dominic Moraco and
Spencer Everett

Church President Visits Florida

Brother Gorie Ciaravino, General Church President who was recuperating from a recent illness, was privileged to visit some of the Florida Church locations for about two weeks. Among the places he visited were Fort Pierce, Lake Worth, and Miami.

On Sunday, February 23, Brother Ciaravino attended the Fort Pierce Branch, and he talked on the Kingdom of Heaven. In addition, he related some valuable experiences. Brothers Alvin Swanson of Miami, Dominic Giovannone of Vero Beach, and Frank Rogolino of Fort Pierce also spoke during the services, at which both the gift of tongues and the receiving of a vision were experienced.

The following Sunday, March 2, Brother Ciaravino addressed the Lake Worth Branch, speaking on the Beatitudes taken from Christ's Sermon on the Mount. Other Brothers who talked were Anthony Ensana, visiting from New Jersey, Swanson and James Sheffler of Miami, and Frank Sirangelo of Lake Worth.

Brother Ciaravino also visited the Miami congregation for their Missionary Benevolent Association meetings on two Thursday evenings, February 20 and 27. A delegation from Fort Pierce was present at this latter service.

Evangelist Speaks To Calif. District

Brother Peter Capone, Church Evangelist from Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4, was the guest speaker at the Sunday part of the California District Conference at Bell, California on Sunday, February 23. Other Brothers who spoke included John Dulisse, Mark Randy, and James Heaps.

The subject presented by Brother Capone was "Redigging the Old Wells." It was based on the scripture found in **Genesis 26:18**. The other speakers elaborated on this text and discussed further points in conjunction with the theme.

At this service, the choirs from the various locations of the California District sang many inspiring selections. These offerings were rendered before the talks by The Ministry.

Brother Capone also spoke to the Bell Branch on Sunday, March 2. He followed Brother Louis Biscotti, who introduced the service with an examination of the importance of "obedience." Brother Otto Henderson made the concluding remarks at this meeting.

On the way to California, Brother Capone stopped in Phoenix, Arizona on Sunday, February 16, where he addressed the Brothers and Sisters of that congregation on the merits of the Restored Gospel. Brothers Ether Furnier and Richard Christman also talked at that service, evaluating the many wonderful opportunities and experiences which have been given to The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brief News Of Interest

COMMUNICATIONS RESTORED

Brother John Ross, Nigerian General Church liaison official, has disclosed that full communications have been restored with the Brothers and Sisters in that part of the world. Considerable correspondence has been received from The Church there, and replies are being dispatched as soon as possible. All restrictions have been lifted since the liberation from the Biafrans and since control has been assumed by the Federal Government of Nigeria in all areas where The Church of Jesus Christ is located.

Of great interest also is the news that the Nigerian part of The Church held its semi-annual Conference on February 13, 14, and 15. This was the first Conference there since 1967.

All the prayers and best wishes from Brothers and Sisters in other parts of the world are extended to those in Nigeria for their continued safety.

EXPERIENCES RELATED

Two recent experiences which were received at Tijuana, Mexico not only make us thankful to God for His mercies but make us grateful for our wonderful missionaries who are in the various fields.

A young girl about 14 years old came, burdened with a broken arm, to one of the mission buildings. She asked for a prayer, and Brother Edward Perdue, missionary Elder at Tijuana, anointed her. Sometime later, Brother Perdue met her again, and the girl told him that The Lord had healed her and she wanted him to come to her home because her father was very ill and near death. Brother Perdue went with her and anointed her father. He told the father that "As God healed your daughter, so shall He heal you." A week later, the man's wife came to Church to thank God because He had indeed healed her husband.

The Lord has certainly been good to our missionaries and has answered their requests for whatever purposes they have asked His help, as has been illustrated on many occasions.

THANKFUL FOR HELP

The Streetsboro, Ohio Mission (formerly known as the Kent Mission) is thankful to the nearby Niles, Ohio Branch for sending an Elder the 35 - 40 miles every other Sunday, weather permitting, to help in conducting services. Streetsboro members have expressed their gratitude for the kind deeds performed for them and for the many words of encouragement spoken to them. In addition, they have been edified by the many inspiring testimonies which have been given not only by the visiting Elders but by their wives and families as well.

Presiding Elder at Streetsboro has been Brother Oliver Lloyd. His dedication during the past two years has also been acclaimed by the membership. He has not missed one Sunday service since he has been the Presiding Elder, even though he is 74 years old. His efforts and

those of his family have been most appreciated.

Streetsboro is a mission under Cleveland, Ohio Branch No. 1.

MILESTONE REACHED

Brother Anthony A. Corrado, member of The Quorum of Twelve Apostles, has recently been retired from his occupation in the steel industry. Having reached this milestone, Brother Corrado is now in a position to devote himself more thoroughly to the affairs of The Church. His immediate attention has been directed to visiting hospitals and offering prayers and encouragement for the sick.

His many relatives and friends in Youngstown, Ohio, where Brother Corrado resides, presented him with gifts to mark his retirement. Congratulations and best wishes are also being sent him through this column on behalf of all the Brothers, Sisters, and friends who have been acquainted with him for the many years he has been in The Church and for which he has labored so diligently.

97 YEARS YOUNG

Two of the oldest members in The Church are located in the Pennsylvania District. Both 97 years young recently were Sisters Agnes Pacini of Monongahela and Elizabeth Cadman Davidson of West Elizabeth. Sister Pacini was 97 on January 21, and a number of Brothers and Sisters assembled at her home for the occasion. Sister Davidson reached the same age on February 16.

Their examples have been inspiring to all around them. Although she needs the assistance of a crutch and a cane to get around, Sister Pacini still bears her testimony steadfastly and she sings hymns of praise enthusiastically. Sister Davidson, who was baptized about 82 years ago, is still able to attend meetings and to offer thanks to God for her life in The Gospel.

The Church is honored by their presence.

SAN DIEGO VISITORS

The San Diego, California Branch has had the pleasure of having Brother Rocco and Sister Nancy Ensana of New Jersey and Brother Vincent and Sister Catherine Aquilino from Detroit, Michigan visit there for the winter. Brother Ensana's sermons will long be remembered.

There have also been many other visiting Brothers and Sisters from the east in San Diego recently. Their company has been most welcomed.

In addition, God has been showing His mercies and blessings through His healings of the sick and through inspiring sermons by members of The Ministry there.

HAPPY HOMECOMING

On February 2, Sister Ina Giovannone attended her home Warren, Ohio Branch for the first time since her baptism in Fort Pierce, Florida January 26. Many Brothers and Sisters from Youngstown, Cleveland, and Lorain gathered to welcome her. Everyone at the meeting experienced the outpouring of God's Spirit. The Elder Brothers spoke about Christ's being the solution to all situations and problems and offered many

words of encouragement.

Brother Frank Giovannone, Sister Ina's husband, happily gave his testimony. He noted that his wife and he have been married about 27½ years and that he was overjoyed with his wife's baptism.

All assembled concurred with his sentiments over Sister Ina's entry into the fold.

SAYINGS COLLECTED

Since the summer of 1966 which she spent mostly in Detroit, Michigan, Sister Violet Thomas of San Diego, California has acquired a collection of sayings which has proved a blessing to her. While visiting in Detroit and on the east coast, The Lord seemed to have opened up her mind and she listened to The Ministry with a "wonderment." As each Elder spoke, she jotted down quotations from their sermons, and she realized then what great inspirational quotations were being given.

Following are a few sayings which were just quoted recently in San Diego and which are informative and thought-provoking.

"Great men have passed away, and we have no communication with them. But with Jesus, although He passed away many, many years ago, we have direct communication with Him through prayer."

"God does not always answer prayers right away, but He never answers too late."

"True faith is like a kite. A contrary wind raises it higher."

"Reach up as far as you can by 'FAITH', and trust in God to do the rest."

"The most expensive thing in the world is sin. It may cost you your soul."

Sister Thomas' collection is most noteworthy, and the Gospel News is indebted to her for her contribution. Incidentally, any readers who have either heard similar sayings in the past or who may collect them in the future as they are spoken by The Church's Ministry are invited to submit them for publication.

NEW ARRIVALS

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the indicated new members of their families. New arrivals have been Robert Glenn to the Edward Grices in Glassport, Pennsylvania; Salvatore Martin Jr. to the Salvatore Martin Lupos Sr. of Brooklyn, New York; and Gillian Marie to the Robert Staneks of Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

Auditorium Bid Data To Be In May Issue

The results of the bids for the new General Church Auditorium opened on March 22 in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania will be reported in the May issue of the Gospel News. The official date for groundbreaking which will be set by the April General Church Conference, presently tentatively scheduled for May, will also be disclosed.

The publication deadline for April made it impossible to present the information this month.

NUPTIALS

COOK-DE BELLIS

Mr. Donald Gregory Cook and Sister Kathy Barbara DeBellis were married on Saturday, March 1, at the Fort Pierce, Florida Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother Frank Rogolino conducted the marriage ceremony. Mrs. Delores Deen sang two musical selections.

The Cooks are now residents of Albany, Georgia.

PAXON-CHAMBERS

Brother Malcolm Paxon and Sister Shirley Chambers were united in holy matrimony on Saturday, March 1, at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 of The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother Joseph Milantoni officiated at the ceremony, assisted by Brother Anthony Scolaro. Two musical selections were sung by Brother David Majoros.

The couple now resides in Dearborn, Michigan.

RUBENCHAK-HUMPHREY

Mr. Raymond Rubenchak and Miss Florence Cynthia Humphrey were joined in holy wedlock on Saturday, February 22, at the Glassport, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother Alma Nolfi performed the marriage ceremony, assisted by Brother James Curry. Sister Ann Pape was the soloist at the wedding.

The Rubenchaks now live in Clairton, Pennsylvania.

OBITUARIES

MARY VALETTA

Sister Mary (Greco) Valetta, a long-time member of the Rochester, New York Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed away to her eternal reward on February 2. Born on July 15, 1895, she was baptized into The Church on July 17, 1932.

She is survived by three brothers, two of whom reside in Italy.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Ansel D'Amico.

Sister Valetta was faithful in her devotion to The Gospel, and she will be greatly missed by those who were enriched by her presence.

WANDA JOHNSON

Sister Wanda Johnson of the Roscoe, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ died suddenly on January 12. She was born on July 2, 1913 and was baptized into The Church February 26, 1939.

Left to mourn her loss are her husband, two sons, and one grandchild.

Brother Joseph Shazer officiated at the funeral services.

Sister Johnson was not only faithful in performing her duties in The Church but was dedicated in supporting the work of her husband, Brother George Johnson Sr., in The Ministry.

RUTH IRENE SCAGLINE

Sister Ruth Irene Scagline, a faithful member of the Monongahela, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ died on February 21. She was born on May 13, 1904 and was baptized into The Church on March 3, 1930.

Surviving her are her husband, three daughters, three sons, 19 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Brother Meredith R. Griffith officiated at the funeral services.

Sister Scagline had been ill for a number of years. She will be greatly missed by all her loved ones, the Brothers and Sisters in The Gospel, and her friends to whom she had become endeared throughout the years.

HUGH MORRISON JONES

Mr. Hugh Morrison Jones, husband of Sister Hertha Jones who is circulation Manager of the Gospel News, passed away on February 21. He was born on October 1, 1905.

Besides his wife, he is survived by a daughter, a son, and four grandchildren.

Brother John Olexa conducted the funeral services.

Mr. Jones was very well-liked and much respected. He always displayed fine gentlemanly conduct, and he was extremely well-appreciated by all the Brothers and Sisters.

1969 CHURCH CALENDAR

Following is a six - month list of 1969 Church events of general and regional interest.

APRIL

17 - 18 - 19 - 20 — Semi - Annual General Church Conference at Monongahela, Pennsylvania.

MAY

Groundbreaking for new General Church Auditorium near Imperial, Pennsylvania (completion scheduled for 1970).

17 — Semi - Annual General Missionary Benevolent Association Conference in New Jersey.

30 — Michigan-Ontario MBA Area Field Trip through June 1.

JUNE

21 — Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference (place to be announced).

27 - 28 - 29 — General Church Gathering in Bell, California.

30 — General Missionary Benevolent Association Field Trip to California through July 6.

JULY

Annual Missionary Benevolent Association Area Conferences:

19 — Atlantic Area at Hopelawn, New Jersey.

19 — California Area at San Fernando Valley, California.

Florida Area (date and place to be announced).

18 — Michigan - Ontario Area at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3.

20 — Michigan-Ontario Area at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4.

19 — Ohio Area at Cleveland, Ohio Branch No. 1.

19 — Pennsylvania Area (place to be announced).

SEPTEMBER

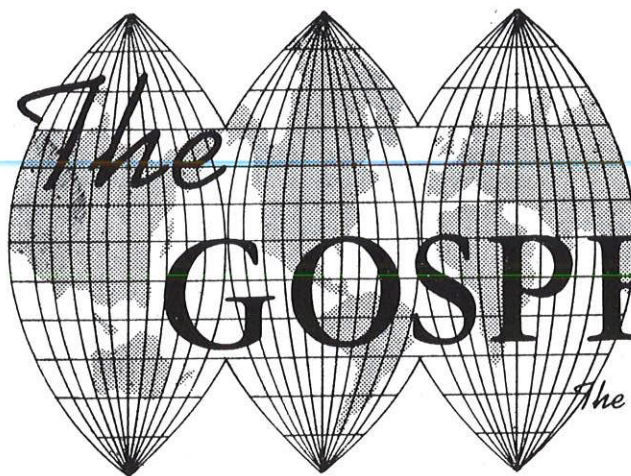
Semi - Annual General Church District Conferences (dates and places to be announced).

20 — Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference at New Brunswick, New Jersey.

OCTOBER

Semi - Annual General Church Conference (dates and place to be announced).

Tentative month for dedication of new Warren, Ohio church building (date to be announced).



The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

May 1969

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Elect Officers, Place Auditorium Contract, Expand Missionary Work At April Conference

By Carl J. Frammolin

Election of officers for the next year, placement of the contract for the General Church Auditorium, and approval for further expansion of Indian missionary work were among the major items of the agenda completed at the first three days of the General Church Conference in Monongahela, Pennsylvania on April 17, 18 and 19. On the last day, Sunday, April 20, the regular fellowship services were conducted at the Monongahela Church Building, as well as in some of the neighboring locations in the Pennsylvania District.

Incumbent general officials, with few exceptions, were reelected. They were led by President Gorie Ciaravino, First Counselor Thurman S. Furnier, and Second Counselor Joseph Bittinger who were returned to office. Brother Ciaravino has recuperated satisfactorily from his serious illness at the end of last year; thus he is able to continue in his position. (A list of all General Officers will be presented next month).

The general contract for the Auditorium was awarded to the F. J. Busse Company Incorporated of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The total contract amount for the new facility is \$269,800. The architects for the project are Pellis and Lettrich of Greensburg, Pennsylvania. They are responsible for supervising all the work to be done to make certain all the plans and specifications, which they prepared, are being properly followed and completed.

In addition to awarding the general contract, the Conference designated May 3 as the groundbreaking date for the Auditorium to be constructed near Imperial, Pennsylvania. All members and interested parties are invited to attend this historical event which will take place at 2 p.m.

MISSIONARY EXPANSION

The Church's Indian missionary program was expanded when the Conference approved the move of Brothers Isaac Smith and John Bickerton, along with their families, from Monongahela to the White River Indian Reservation in

Arizona. The Brothers had expressed a desire to the General Church Board of Missions to labor among the Seed of Joseph at the location indicated, and they were asked to present an evaluation of the matter. They made a study of the locality, which disclosed exceptionally favorable conditions were there for missionary work. The Board then recommended that Brothers Smith and Bickerton be appointed full-time missionaries at White River.

Among other measures presented by the Board of Missions which were approved by the General Conference were items devoted to the continued support of established Indian Missions in Tijuana, Mexico; San Carlos, Arizona; Wakpala, South Dakota; and Six Nations and

(Continued on Page 6)

GMBA Meets May 17 In New Jersey

The semi-annual General Missionary Benevolent Association Conference is scheduled to be held at the Pine Grove Manor School in Franklin Township, New Jersey on Saturday, May 17. The first session will convene at 10 a.m., followed by afternoon and evening meetings. The Atlantic Coast MBA Area is the host for the gathering.

The next morning's regular service will also be conducted at the same location at 10 a.m.

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MAN IN GOD'S CREATION

By James Heaps

Because of recent space events, our minds have once again been turned to the wonderful creation of God. In I Corinthians 15:41 we read "There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory." Study of this statement finds that it goes a little deeper than appears on the surface.

The magnitude of God's creation is so great that the mind of man cannot comprehend all its glories. The earth, sun, and moon are planets, and astronomers have given us the distance around the earth, the sizes of the sun and the moon, and the distances between the sun and moon and our planet, earth. Although we do not know how exact these experts are, we generally accept their estimates. These calculations leave us incapable of comprehending God's creation.

First, what can we do without the sun? David tells us in Psalms 19:5 that the sun "... is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race."

People began very early in the history of the world to pay close attention to the sun, as they recognized its great value. They asked questions like, "Was the sun really as large as it looked, or was it indeed larger? If larger, how large? How far was it from the earth?" There have been some ideas on these matters. It had been estimated that the sun was 91 million miles from the earth. Now it is said to be 93 million miles away. The earth is almost eight thousand miles in diameter, according to reported calculations. When we stop to think about the magnitude of the universe, we realize how small we earthly creatures really are.

All Things By Him

God's Word tells us that "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not." (St. John 1:3-5).

David, in analyzing God's greatness, wrote inspiringly in Psalms 8:3,4, "When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visited him?"

As we awaited the landing of our most recent astronauts, we were anxious to hear about the things which they had seen. They participated in a wonderful adventure, to say the least, as they were able to see many of the glories of God's creation. His infinite power in His mighty creation of the sun, earth, and moon is just as mighty as His creation of a grain of wheat or a blade of grass. The rushing stars of the universe are in His hand, not a sparrow shall fall without His notice, and He looks from His throne to ponder the ways of man.

Many spiritual comparisons have been drawn from God's great creation. In Revelation

12:1, we read of the woman who was "... clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars:". This is a picture of The Church in all her glory. She was a glorious Church directed by the Holy Ghost. She was the light of the world, as the sun is the light of the earth.

Paul uses the glory of God's universe to effectively depict the resurrection. As one star differs from another in glory, "So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:". There is no glory in corruption, and there is no glory in death. Death brings sadness. The departure of our loved ones brings no glory, but the resurrection does bring glory, and blessing, and hope to all who walk in His light. When our sun fails to shine for several days, it has its affect on us, and everything appears gloomy. As soon as the sun comes out again, life becomes much happier, so as the children of God let us walk in His light that we might have joy.

Light Reveals

Jesus said they would not come to the light lest their deeds be revealed, for this light reveals just as the sun does. When sunlight shines through our windows, it reveals every speck of dust in its path. This dust cannot be seen until the sun's bright rays expose it. Jesus is the light of the world, and He enlightens every man who comes to Him.

When George Washington was given the vision of the times, God was showing him some of the great things of the universe. A voice spoke to him and said, "Son of the Republic, look." It seemed there were a thousand suns shining about him as the vision continued to show him many things which would happen to our nation. What a wonderful experience it must have been, being engulfed in the light of God!

As we draw these inspiring comparisons between the earthly creation and the glory of the spiritual, we become perplexed at how easily many depart from Christ's simple commandments. The sun, the moon, and the stars remain fixed in the galaxy of heaven, but man departs from the ways of his Creator.

The Apostle Paul explained the significance of baptism. In Romans 6, he pointed out that our baptism was in the likeness of Christ's death and resurrection, and he specified that no one could be baptized for the dead.

Man's Responsibilities

The responsibilities of man were also enumerated in Alma 34:32,33. "For behold, this life is the time for men to prepare to meet God; yea, behold the day of this life is the day for men to perform their labors. And now, as I said unto you before, as ye have had so many witnesses, therefore, I beseech of you that ye do not procrastinate the day of your repentance until the end; for after this day of life, which is given us to prepare for eternity, behold, if we do not improve our time while in this life, then cometh the night of darkness wherein there can be no labor performed."

The Book of Mormon plainly states that no work can be performed after death, emphasizing

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Editorial Viewpoint

By George A. Neill

The world's most urgent need today is an army of mothers, ten million strong, who will lift the standard of holy living in the home and in society.

May 11th is Mother's Day, a day set aside to give tribute to mothers: to your mother, to my mother, and to all good mothers the world over. I have been fortunate in my experience with mothers — my mother, my wife's mother, and the mother of my only child; and now this child is a very fine mother. I can also trace this good quality to my grandmother. I believe the greatest persons to have blessed our world have been the good mothers with their unselfish acts of service, their forbearance, patience, endurance, tenderness, long-suffering, and love. The individual who has, or has had, such a mother should, as Solomon said, rise up "... and call her blessed; . . ."

Most every mother desires that her children be upright and forthright, yet it seems to me many mothers do very little to cultivate this type of living in their children. A lot of wishing and hoping will not in itself produce good boys and girls. There is an old adage we so often hear, "Boys will be boys, you know."; but remember they are not boys for long. They soon become men and girls soon become women.

Mother, what kind of adults do you want your children to become? I believe in order for a mother to produce good men and women, her work with them must become an intentional one, or in other words her molding of character must be done deliberately. Mother must, with sincerity, fervency, and concern, express her desire that her children be Christians and honorable citizens. She must take her children to Church and stand by them until they become workers in The Church. Children need to be introduced to the right kind of people, and mother is responsible for taking her children where the right kind of people are. Mothers should be faithful Church attenders themselves and participate in Church activities. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6).

The Apostle Paul, writing to Timothy (his spiritual son, as he calls him) says: "When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also." (II Timothy 1:5). One of the greatest helps for a child to stand tall in spiritual values is the fact that faith is transferred from grandmother to mother, from mother to son or daughter. Someone must furnish a Godly example, and who shall it be? Well, Mother is with them most; she knows her children personally and intimately.

In Paul's second epistle to Timothy he writes, "... from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation . . ." (II Timothy 3:15). Paul proceeds further to tell Timothy that through the faith he had received from grandmother and mother he was able to defeat problems that might confront him. In II Timothy 1:7 he says, "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." That is what children need most and they can have it if mother will take time to transmit it to them.

Many mothers today are cross and frustrated. They either over-correct or do not correct at all. This brings to my mind something I once read about a little girl who asked her mother what the word "transatlantic" meant. "Oh, across the Atlantic," answered the mother, "but don't bother me with your questions." The little girl then asked, "Does trans always mean across?" The mother replied, "I guess it does, but, if you keep bothering me, I'll put you to bed." The girl was evidently put to bed for she asked again, "Does transparent mean a cross parent?" This mother was certainly unfair to her child. I would that all mothers be fair to their children. If you want them to be fair and honest men and women, mothers, do not disappoint us. Be fair and give the children a Godly example; be clean, honest, and forthright.

The influence of mother is not only strong in childhood and youth but throughout one's entire lifetime. The world's most urgent need today is an army of mothers, ten million strong, who will lift the standard of holy living in the home and in society. We hear a great deal these days about

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M.B.A. Highlights

Activities Committee Meets In Aliquippa

By James D. Gibson
GMBA Editor

The General Missionary Benevolent Association Activities Committee met on March 29 in the Aliquippa, Pennsylvania Church building to discuss current and future projects. Among the matters considered were the organizing of new Locals, the MBA lesson plans, the annual Association-wide field trip to California June 30, lay-missionary programs, and Area activities.

Locations which have indicated an interest in forming MBA Locals are Erie, Pennsylvania; Streetsboro, Ohio; and Nigeria, Africa. All three requests are being explored, and GMBA Organizers in the Erie and Streetsboro regions are making the necessary arrangements to follow through as required. In Africa, some of the young people there have visited five areas of The Church to lay the groundwork for future organization of MBA units in that part of the world.

Methods to expedite the preparation, printing, and distribution of the MBA lesson plans were discussed. The first in the Book of Mormon series, from "I and II Nephi," were put in circulation last May, and the second group, primarily from the book of "Alma," will be given out this month at the GMBA Conference in New Jersey. Lessons are presently being prepared from the book of "Helaman."

Common Binder

A common binder for the lessons will be displayed at the GMBA Conference, and it was suggested that MBA Area Presidents distribute future lessons to the Locals within their respective regions through their designees. The member units are being asked to specify how many copies they require and to what extent they are using the lessons.

A report on the possible handling of lay mission work by the GMBA was analyzed. It was suggested by the General Church Board of Missions that the Association might become interested in being involved in this work. This matter was discussed by the Mission Board and appropriate guidelines set up, which will be presented at the GMBA Conference. If accepted by the MBA, an Association committee will be elected to handle the lay Mission work, submitting regular reports to the Board of Missions.

A discussion on this year's GMBA Field Trip to be held in California the week of June 30 ensued. A schedule of the proposed activities for the eight-day event was considered, and the Committee made further recommendations. These will be forwarded to the California Area which is coordinating the project.

Information from the MBA regions disclosed

that fund-raising projects to raise finances for the General Church Auditorium and plans for Area Outings were of primary concern at this time. In addition, Area Gatherings and seminars were reported as part of the programs.

The Michigan-Ontario MBA Area will hold an outing at the end of this month over the Memorial Day weekend. It will be held at Camp Nahelu a short distance from Detroit, Michigan and will run from May 30 through June 1. The Pennsylvania MBA Area is planning a one-day outing for July 19 at the Roundhill Camp in Elizabethtown, Pa. and an Area campout for this August 28 until September 1 at the Pine Springs Camp, Jennerstown, Pa. Adequate facilities are available at all these Area events and everyone is invited to attend, regardless of where they reside.

Two busy and complete meetings were held during the day, which was devoted to considering more benefits for MBA members, Locals, and Areas. More information about the items mentioned, as well as other major matters, will be discussed at this month's GMBA Conference and will be published in the future.



UR WOMEN TODAY

(Following is the third and last in a series by Sister Rosa Robinson Williams of her trip to Europe with her husband. Our gratitude is expressed to her for this well-reported journey.)

—Editor's Note.)

A Brother And A Friend

By Rosa Robinson Williams

After meeting the two Brothers who joined us on the way to the Buccino, Italy location of The Church of Jesus Christ, we could drive only a little farther. Then we had to continue on foot up some wide stone steps to The Church. The surroundings and the cave-like dwelling in which the meeting was held took my thoughts back to what it must have been like 2,000 years ago. People then lived in dwellings similar to the one just described and which was situated all along the path at the top of these stone steps. People, mostly women, were sitting outside, dressed as people must have been attired ages ago in long dresses and bonnets. There were sheep and shepherds on the mountainside. I thought Jesus must have walked over similar mountains, and I better understood the setting and the time when He fed the people bread and could envision those who gathered to hear our Lord speak.

The meeting place was so humble, just like a meeting place must have looked when our Lord walked upon the earth. It was a one-room, hand-built stone building. The faces of my Brothers and Sisters were so sincere and The Spirit of God was with us. How blessed we were! They handed me a black Italian song book, the same

as we now use in our Lockport, New York Branch, and they started to sing. I was overcome. I could not read the words, but some tunes were familiar; and I tried to sing through my tears in English. I could not understand the words they spoke, but I felt The Spirit; and I was familiar enough with the scriptures to know what was being read as my Brother had given me an Italian "New Testament."

We communicated through the love of God. There was love between the Sisters and me when we greeted each other and when they sought to make us comfortable. They too, were dressed very casually. After communion was served, the meeting was closed. The Brother wanted us to stay for dinner, but we were tired and weary after our arduous trip there and wanted to get settled somewhere. The Brother gave us an ice cream cone to show his hospitality. We ate it and parted in the flesh but not in the Spirit. After we left, my husband and I just drove for a while not saying a word. I was still rejoicing within; and, when words were spoken, he said, "I feel like I've been taken back 2,000 years."

Experience Related

The trip to Buccino and my other thoughts to now have been conveying, mainly, how God allowed me to experience His true Love among the Brothers and Sisters of Italy. I feel, however, that I must relate an experience in closing which helped me to understand the Scriptures which specify, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you;" (Matt. 5:44.)

While teaching the fourth grade in Orleans, France, I was forewarned by The Lord in a dream concerning something which was to befall me. In the dream I saw adults dressed in children's clothing. They were all reaching out trying to get me. At the end of the dream, my husband and I were getting into our car and driving away, and a man in the image of the devil was reaching in the car trying to pull me out. We drove away. This dream had no meaning to me then, but I knew it was from God and was a warning, so I just meditated and watched.

As Prewarned

As prewarned, a situation developed with a parent of one of the children in my class. This man, an officer in the service, attempted to have me removed from my position. The fact that I am black made it even more difficult because I did not want to be the subject of controversy. In the end, however, the patience and trust in God which I exercised paid off, as the man and his family were transferred, and the turmoil he had caused was calmed. I had proven the Lord and had been repaid.

Through all our travels in Europe, God was our company and guide. Also, as just explained, he warned me and protected me through the most trying times. In traveling abroad, one fact remained uppermost: the day will soon come when trials and tribulations will be past and it will be possible to travel anywhere and expect to find a "Brother and a Friend." This, we can say from experience, is indescribably heartwarming and edifying.

CIRCLES GATHER AT YOUNGSTOWN

The Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference was hosted at the Youngstown, Ohio Branch building on Saturday, March 22. In attendance were Sisters from Michigan, New Jersey, and various parts of Pennsylvania and Ohio.

To begin the services, the scripture reading from I Corinthians 15:1-20 was delivered by Sister Helen C. Tisler. Sister Mabel Bickerton, General Circle President, then spoke on the Resurrection and the role of women in The Church today as in the early days when The Master established The Church of Jesus Christ on the earth. The Youngstown Circle then presented an inspiring devotional program based on the hymn, "Who Am I?"

African Appeal

An appeal from Brother John Ross, Nigerian General Church liaison official, for the Circles to send clothing, food, and finances was presented. He reported that full communications have been restored with the Nigerian Church Center and Branches.

The General Church Board of Missions also commended the Circles for their generous help to The Church in the mission fields and asked them to exert themselves as much as possible in the future, particularly for Africa. The Board also specified that sufficient bedding and clothing have been received at the Lorain, Ohio Spanish Mission and that these donations have been greatly appreciated. In addition, social agencies have been contacted and are helping the Mission.

Official reports from the General Officers and Delegates were accepted. Also, the General Circle History for 1968 was read by Sister Irene Griffith. In addition, the answers to the General Circle scriptural questions were presented by Sister Gail Santilli.

Disbursements Made

Disbursements from the Circles included donations to the General Church Missionary Fund, the General Church Auditorium, and to the Gospel News. A vote of thanks was also given to the Youngstown Sisters for their hospitality.

The next Quarterly General Circle Conference will be held in the Lorain, Ohio Church building on June 21. The following meeting will take place in the New Brunswick, New Jersey Church building on September 20, and the last one for 1969 will be hosted by the Monongahela, Pennsylvania Circles on December 13.

June 1970 will mark the 50th Anniversary of the Circles. Plans for this event will be discussed at the next Quarterly Conference.

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

(Continued From Page 3)

child delinquency. There is no other group who stands as close to this problem as do the mothers of the world. Will the mothers of America and the mothers of the world come forth and shoulder their responsibilities and hold high the Gospel Torch?



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." Psalms 118:24.

Dear Girls and Boys,

I want to tell you of a happy day that followed the crucifixion of Jesus. The three days following this were very sad indeed for Jesus' followers. It was the Jewish Sabbath, and, early in the morning, three women walked to the garden where Jesus was buried. They had spices for the care of His body. They asked each other, "Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?" As they came closer to the tomb, they saw the stone had been rolled away. The women stopped, amazed at this. As they looked in they saw the tomb was empty. A young man, clothed in long white raiment was sitting near the door. Two men in shining garments stood by them and asked, "Why seek ye the living among the dead?" One of them then said, "Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay." The women looked and saw the linen clothes at one side. Truly the tomb was empty. The angel continued, "... remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, Saying The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again?" Yes, the women had forgotten. Again the angel spoke saying "... Go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that He goeth before you into Galilee: there shall you see him, as he said unto you."

Quickly the women fled from the sepulchre. They were trembling with fright. They hurried to tell the glad news that their Lord was risen from the dead. Everywhere Jesus' followers began to hear that Jesus was alive. It was very hard to believe. For forty days Jesus appeared to His loved ones. What a happy time it was!

One afternoon, seven of Jesus' disciples were together. They were Peter, Thomas, John, James and Nathanael and two others. Peter said, "I go a fishing." The other disciples spoke, "We also go with thee." Immediately they went out on the Sea of Tiberias in a ship. They fished all night long, but caught nothing. Over and over they let their net down into the water, and each time they pulled it up empty. They could see the rising sun and they had caught nothing. Suddenly they heard a voice saying, "Children, have you any meat?" They answered, "No." Again the voice spoke, "Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find." The fishermen did as they were told. Down, down went the large net. Then they waited and then they pulled. The net was heavy with fish! It was difficult to bring the net in. What a miracle! There were 153 fish and the net was not broken!

John recognized the man on the shore and said, "It is the Lord." When Peter heard it was Jesus, he wrapped his fisher's coat about him and jumped into the water. He was so anxious to be with Jesus. The others came to shore in the little ship. Soon there was a fire ready and Jesus told them to bring the fish which they had caught. Jesus said, "Come and dine." They all sat down with Jesus and ate bread and fish. What a happy morning!

After they had eaten, Jesus turned to Peter. He asked, "Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these?" Perhaps Jesus pointed to the net full of fish. Peter answered, "Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee." "Feed my sheep," said Jesus. Again Jesus asked the same question, and Peter's reply was the same. The third time Jesus asked Peter, "Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?" Peter, being grieved, replied, "Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep." What a trust Jesus was giving Peter. He knew he would try to be true to this trust. He followed Jesus to the end of his days. The disciples knew death had not taken their Lord from them. He expected them to carry on His work of love among men.

Next month I will tell you of the events following this story. It is called The Ascension.

Search The Scripture

Can you find how many times Jesus appeared to his followers these forty days?

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

GENERAL CONFERENCE

Continued From Page 1)

Muncey Reservations in Ontario, Canada. At the same time, the Michigan-Ontario District announced that a new mission is being established in Warren, Michigan and that it is continuing its efforts to hold meetings in Hammond, Indiana.

All reports presented by the Quorums, Committees, and General Officers were accepted. They included those from the Quorum of Twelve Apostles, the Ministerial Board, the Quorum of Seventy Evangelists, the Faith and Doctrines Committee, the Board of Missions, the Board of Trustees, the Finance Committee, the Financial Secretary, the Treasurer, the Librarian, the Historian, the Districts' Reports Custodian, the Auditors, and the Gospel News Editor-in-Chief.

The Conference also sanctioned the increase of \$1 a year in the subscription price to the Gospel News, beginning this June. The added amount, which raised the annual rate to \$3, was found to be essential to pay for the printing and mailing of our monthly publication. It has been necessary in the past to subsidize the paper from the General Fund and through other donations, so it is hoped that the new price will allow the publication to pay for itself.

ELECT DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

District Presidents were elected by the General Conference. The following Brothers were recommended by their respective Districts and approved by the General Priesthood to head their regions for the next year: Dominic Rose, Atlantic Coast; Joseph Lovaivo, California; Alvin Swanson, Florida; Nicholas Pietrangelo, Michigan-On-

tario; Rocco V. Biscotti, Ohio; and Joseph Bittinger, Pennsylvania.

The Ministerial Board recommended ten Brothers as candidates for The Priesthood. The Conference passed a motion to accept the report, which also directed the locations from where they were called to ordain them as Elders as soon as possible. The Brothers are Michael Radd of the Lake Worth, Florida Branch; Richard Santilli of the Youngstown, Ohio Branch; Michael LaSala of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1; Alex Gentile of Detroit Branch No. 2; Claude Kayson of the San Carlos, Arizona Mission; English Webb of the West Elizabeth, Pennsylvania Branch; John Ali of the Glassport, Pennsylvania Branch; John R. Thomas of the Bitner, Pennsylvania Mission; and Herbert Hemmings and John R. Griffith of the Monongahela, Pennsylvania Branch.

Dreams and revelations were also reviewed. The revelations accepted by the General Priesthood are being reported in the Conference Minutes, and they will be read to the Branches and Missions by the Presiding Elders.

A vote of thanks was given to the Monongahela Branch for its hospitality. As usual, the accommodations and provisions were in keeping with the high Church standards.

District Services

Following are accounts of the Sunday Services of the District Conferences in March. In addition to the speakers and topics reported, some of the District Choirs, groups, and soloists sang at these gatherings. The California Sabbath meeting, which took place at Bell, California on February 23, was summarized in last month's issue of the *Gospel News*.

Atlantic Coast

Hopelawn, New Jersey was the site of the Atlantic Coast service on March 16. The speakers were Brothers Rocco Ensana, Eugene Perri Jr., and Dominic Rose.

Brother Ensana read Rev. 14:6, applying it to the Restoration of The Gospel and to the great work which is before The Church in these last days. He admonished the Brothers and Sisters to be prepared and reminded everyone of the woe that is pronounced upon those who do not repent before God.

While referring to the subject scripture, Brother Perri also discussed the new Jerusalem and of the great hope that awaits the Saints of God. He additionally related how God had blessed him and how The Lord similarly blesses those who trust in Him.

Brother Rose encouraged all to be faithful to God. In addition, he cited experiences given to The Church on how service to God should be cultivated.

Florida

The Florida District met at the Fort Pierce Branch Building on March 9. Brother Alvin Swanson opened the service, comparing the members and The Church of today with our counterparts in the days of Christ. He used prophecies and types and shadows from the Old Tes-

tament to illustrate the events foretold of our day and of what has been predicted will occur in the future.

Bothers Dominic Giovannone and Frank Rogolino were the other speakers. They further explored the topic presented and offered experiences which they had received.

The afternoon meeting was devoted to testimonies. Members of the District expressed their gratitude to God for their lives in The Gospel.

A short program was presented between the services to honor Brother Frank Sirangelo. His pioneer Church work in this state was highlighted and the Florida District thanked him and demonstrated its appreciation for his efforts. Brother Sirangelo is now 80 years old.

Michigan—Ontario

The Michigan-Ontario District held its service in Warren, Michigan on March 16. Brothers Gorie Ciaravino, Anthony R. Lovalvo, and Nicholas Pietrangelo addressed the assembly.

The subject was "The Restored Gospel," with the passage in Rev. 14:6,7 as the text. How Christ established His Church, how the Apostasy set in after a period of time, and how God restored The Gospel were examined. The significance of present membership in The Church of Jesus Christ was pointed out, as the many benefits received were enumerated. The Brothers also reviewed the valuable influence The Gospel has had on our lives in preparing us for the future heavenly eternal life desired by the Saints of God.

Ohio

The Ohio District met in Cleveland, Ohio on March 16. The speakers were Brothers Russell Cadman, Thurman S. Furnier, Vincent Gibson, Frank Giovannone, Dominic Bucci, and Rocco V. Biscotti.

The message was taken from Micah 4:1-10, and the prophecies contained therein were discussed. The great events which will shortly take place when the mountain of The Lord's House will be established and all nations will flow into it were described. The role of the Restored Gospel in this work was portrayed, and the way to prepare for this eventual desirable estate was outlined. Present conditions were also analyzed, and the necessities for faithfulness to The Gospel Of Christ were emphasized.

Pennsylvania

The Pennsylvania District service on March 9 in McKees Rocks was introduced by Brother Robert Buffington who used St. Matthew 25:1-13 as his text. He discussed the parable of the ten virgins and elaborated on the need for preparing to meet God. Brother Buffington stressed the importance of cultivating and watering the "good seed" (the Word of God) once it is planted in our hearts.

Other Brothers who spoke were Meredith Griffith, Samuel Kirschner, and Joseph Bittinger. They analyzed the importance of the Restored Gospel and the requirement for remaining steadfast to The Faith. They also pointed out that it is imperative to always heed the spirit of discernment which is prevalent in The Church of Jesus Christ so that good will overcome evil and so that good works may be done for God.

Travel To Attend St. John Dedication

Many Brothers, Sisters, and friends from various parts of The Church of Jesus Christ were present at the dedication of the St. John. Kansas Church Building on Easter Sunday, April 6. Travelers came from California, South Dakota, Ohio, Michigan and Pennsylvania to join with the local congregation and visitors from nearby to make the event memorable and edifying.

The well-attended service climaxed a series of Church meetings which included Evangelistic services the preceding Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings and a fast-and-prayer meeting on Saturday morning. It was followed by a Sunday afternoon testimony service.

Speakers at the dedication meeting were Brothers Gorie Ciaravino, Isaac Smith, Joseph Calabrese, and Alex Robinson. The message was taken from St. John 20:1-19, and it dealt with the significance of the Resurrection of Christ. It was pointed out that, without His death, there would have been no resurrection. Without Christ's Resurrection, there would be no hope for heavenly eternal life. This hope, it was explained, should be extended to all those who are desirous of saving their souls; thus laborers of The Gospel of Christ should plant the seed which The Lord can make grow and reach fruition.

History Given

Prior to the talks, the St. John young people sang an inspiring hymn, after which Brother Robinson gave a history of St. John. He told how the early band of Brothers and Sisters had traveled to Kansas and reached the locality which they named, "Zion's Valley," and he described how the group led by Brother William Bickerton had journeyed with all their provisions to establish themselves independently in the 1870's. Some had come by train as close to the planned meeting-place as it would take them, and others had come by covered wagon. They all met as pre-arranged, decided on the location for the community, and began to work the uninhabited country into what became a well-settled and self-sufficing area.

Brother Smith then offered the dedicatory prayer, in which he asked The Lord to bless The Church in St. John, so that many people would hear about and come into The Gospel of Christ there. His supplication also set the tone for the following talks when he noted that not only was the dedication service being held on that day but that the Resurrection of Our Lord and Saviour was being observed as well.

Evangelistic Services

The Evangelistic services had been conducted by Brother Calabrese, Vice-President of the Quorum of Seventy Evangelists. All the other speakers on Sunday morning had also taken part in these night meetings. The fast-and-prayer service was held for the purpose of asking God to bless St. John, so that it would grow in spirit and in number.

Purchase of the building had been prompted by the availability of the site which had once been owned by The Church of Jesus Christ in the days of Brother Bickerton. The present plot covers about one-half of a city block and has ample room for expansion.

The St. John congregation has been also growing. Many new members have come into The Church over the last few years, with the latest convert being Stephen Nathaniel Robinson, who was baptized last January 5. He had been immersed and confirmed by his father, Brother Alex.

The return to the original mid-America site in Kansas bridged almost a century of time. Although there is now a newer structure on the land, the spirit and intent are the same: doing The Lord's work as he requires.

Guest Speakers At Aliquippa, Pa.

Three guest speakers addressed the Aliquippa, Pennsylvania congregation on Sunday, March 23. Brothers Joseph Bittinger, General Church Second Counselor and Pennsylvania District President; Rocco V. Biscotti, Apostle and Ohio District President; and Thurman S. Furnier, General Church First Counselor spoke in that order.

The subject was based on the passage "Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters . . ." (Jer. 17: 7, 8). Besides elaborating on the scriptural text, the Brothers told some personal experiences and explored the meaning of the Restoration movement and the signs that are found today.

Brother Clifford A. Burgess, President of the Quorum of Seventy Evangelists now living in California, was also present. He obligingly sang a solo, which had been requested at the beginning of the service.

Apostles, Visitors At Youngstown, Ohio

Four Apostles and visitors from two other Ohio locations were present at a special meeting on the faith and doctrine of The Church of Jesus Christ held at the Youngstown Branch on Saturday, February 22. Many questions were asked at this open discussion, and they were answered to the satisfaction of all assembled.

The four Apostles were Rocco V. Biscotti, A. A. Corrado, William Gennaro, and Frank Calabrese. The visitors included members and friends from Warren and Niles, who attended along with those from the host congregation.

Two Sisters were also anointed during the service, in which a good spirit prevailed. The evening was well spent and enjoyed by everyone.

More meetings of this type are eagerly awaited in the future.

Evangelist Talks At Detroit No. 4

Brother Dominic Rose, President of the Atlantic Coast District and an Evangelist, was the guest speaker at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4 on Sunday, March 30. He spoke on keeping the commandments of God.

The subject was based on the fifth Chapter of "Helaman" in the **Book of Mormon**. Brother Rose elaborated on how it is necessary to heed the words of God and how "... there is no other way nor means whereby man can be saved, only through the atoning blood of Jesus Christ ..."

Brother Gorie Ciaravino, General Church President, was the other speaker. He explained the veracity and authenticity of the **Book of Mormon**, as he further discussed the topic introduced by Brother Rose.

Greensburg Choir Visits Glassport

The Greensburg, Pennsylvania Choir visited the Glassport, Pennsylvania Branch on Sunday afternoon, March 2. The group sang various appropriate selections for the host congregation.

The meeting was opened by Brother Louis Checchi from Greensburg. He gave a very inspiring discourse on the Prophet Alma. The choir followed, rendering some very enjoyable songs, after which a Sister asked to be reinstated. A wonderful blessing was felt by all when this occurred.

After the testimony part of the meeting, The Lord's Supper was observed. Brother Alma Nolfi then made some concluding statements, and the service ended thereafter, leaving members from both Greensburg and Glassport edified by the period of time they had spent together.

79 Year-Old Man Obeys The Gospel; Visitors At Niles

A 79 year-old repentant man, Vincenzo Mercure, obeyed The Gospel at the Niles, Ohio Branch on Sunday, March 16. He was immersed by Brother Joseph Genaro and confirmed by Brother Russell Martorana.

The entire congregation felt The Spirit, and everyone testified, giving thanks to God for His goodness and mercy toward them. They were inspired by the entry of Brother Mercure into The Church of Jesus Christ, and their expressions reflected the joy they shared in welcoming another soul.

The following Sunday, March 23, Brothers Dominic Moraco and Dominic Thomas from Detroit, Michigan visited the Niles Branch. Brother Moraco, Church Evangelist, introduced the service, using **James 1:5** as the subject. He elaborated on the importance of combining faith

and wisdom, and he explained how they can both be increased through trusting in The Lord. Brother Thomas, Church Apostle, recalled how he came into The Church, and he related various experiences he had received during his life.

Both of those Sunday services were edifying to the members in Niles and typified how God has been blessing them.

Service Completed, Calls For Baptism

Touched by The Spirit and prompted by her wishes to join The Gospel, Betsy Logan called for her baptism at the Muncey Indian Reservation in Ontario, Canada on Sunday, March 30, after the service had been completed and everyone was preparing to leave the building. She was then taken into the waters by Brother Anthony Gerace, who also confirmed her back at The Church.

Sister Logan is 80 years old. Her husband, Brother Willis, also 80, had been baptized at Muncey three weeks prior on March 9.

Another Member Added At Edison N. J.

Another member was added to the Edison, New Jersey Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ on Sunday, March 23, when Edna Venuto obeyed The Gospel there. The new Sister was baptized by Brother August D'Orazio, and she was confirmed by Brother Rocco Ensana.

The Edison congregation is overjoyed at the addition of Sister Venuto and is most appreciative of The Lord's blessings as it further attempts to spread The Word of God and to increase the number in its fold.

Two Enter Church At Detroit No. 1

Two young men, cousins, entered The Church of Jesus Christ at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 on Sunday, March 30. Joseph Michael Castelli and Dennis Everett made their decisions almost at the end of the morning service.

The new Brother Castelli called for his baptism as Brother Nicholas Pietrangelo, the second speaker, was telling how God had answered his prayers, and the new Brother Everett made his intention known as the closing hymn, "Where He Leads Me," was being sung. The service had been opened by Brother Carl Frammolin, who spoke on the watchfulness advocated by The Saviour in **St. Matthew 24: 42-51**.

Brother Castelli was baptized by Brother Louis Vitto and confirmed by Brother Concetto Alessandro. Brother Everett was immersed by his father, Brother Spencer Everett, and he was confirmed by Brother Paul Vitto.

The two baptisms had been revealed in two dreams before their occurrence, and these revelations were disclosed at the afternoon service when the confirmations were performed. Their recitation provided a fitting ending to the wonderfully eventful day.

Perry, Ohio Baptism On Wednesday Night

The Spirit of God manifested itself at the Perry, Ohio Wednesday night service, March 19, as Larry Albert Luxeul was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ. Crippled and unable to walk, he was taken into the waters by Brothers Elmer Santilli and Vincent Gibson, and he was confirmed by Brother Fred Musolino.

At the baptism, Sister Peggy Jarvis saw a halo over our new Brother's head just before he was immersed, and The Spirit was felt throughout the evening. Brother Mario Milano summarized the feeling present when he said, "Surely, we have witnessed a baptism approved by God."

Couple Baptized At Freehold, N.J.

A husband and wife were baptized at the Freehold, New Jersey mission on Sunday, February 2. John Amen and Shirley Margaret Hill were both baptized by Brother Cleveland Baldwin and confirmed by Brother Matthew Rogolino.

The happy day also included prayers of blessings for Rodney Morgan (almost three years old) and Ronald Russell (almost two years old), sons of the new Brother and Sister Hill. The boys were born in Indianapolis, Indiana in 1966 and 1967, respectively.

MY TESTIMONY

Because I have been questioned many times about how I came to be baptized after so many years (it will be 28 years in October that Frank and I of Newton Falls, Ohio have been married), I am sending the following to the Gospel News, relating some of the blessings which were experienced before and on the day of my baptism.

To begin with, I dreamed that my husband and I were walking in a large city. We walked across a bridge and then became separated. I found myself in a house all alone. I was very much afraid because it was so quiet. It seemed that there were no people there—that the city was dead. The telephone hanging on the wall rang, and I was afraid to answer it; but I did, and it was my husband. I asked, "Oh, Frank, how did you know I was here?" He said, "I know where you are." Just then, there was a knock on the door, and I was afraid because I knew that there was no one else in the city. The knock came again, louder. I opened the door and there was Brother Rocco Biscotti. I said, "Oh, Brother Rock, I'm lost." He said, "I know. I have come to help you." Then I awoke.

My desire has always been that, when the time came that I would be baptized, my husband

would be there. Being in Florida, I wanted to wait until I returned home; but for three nights I could not sleep. A voice kept saying, "Don't wait. Be baptized now. Don't wait."

I asked for baptism in Vero Beach, and it was performed at Fort Pierce. When we went down to the ocean and I saw the big waves, I became frightened again, because I have always had a great fear of the water. The waves were so strong that we could hardly stand up. But there was a prayer in the heart of each one on shore, and it seemed as if the water calmed a little. I was baptized by my father-in-law, Brother Dominic Giovannone, and he was assisted by Brother Frank Rogolino.

I was confirmed by Brother Ernest Schultz, and he said that he knew that he was going to confirm me before he was asked—that he had that feeling.

Sister Mary Glover of Fort Pierce related a vision she saw as the Elders had their hands upon my head. She saw a young, slender, beautiful girl about eighteen or twenty years of age, looking like me, enter into my body. It was related that God truly gives us a new life when we enter into a covenant to serve Him.

Sister Rose Rogolino related that she had a dream the night before. She was shown that there was a woman, traveling in birth, and she told her daughter-in-law, Sister Juanita, to go and help this woman, that she needed help. When she heard that I was being baptized and that her son, Brother Frank (Juanita's husband) was going to assist with the baptism, she understood that that was the meaning of her dream.

The gift of tongues was spoken and the interpretation was, "I have known thy works. I have known the sincere desire of your soul. Carry on as you have, endure all things, for I shall be with you to the end."

Another Sister heard a voice sweetly say, "Take my hand. Take my hand."

I have received many beautiful cards and letters, and I want to thank all the Brothers and Sisters for the wonderful love that they have exhibited toward me.

My prayer is that God will keep me humble in The Church and give me the strength to keep the faith and uphold the promise I made at the water's edge.

By Ina Giovannone

Brief News Of Interest

AMAZING RECOVERY

Brother Richard Christman of Phoenix, Arizona has made an amazing recovery from an affliction for which he has expressed thanks to God for His mercy and healing power. He had been afflicted for about four months, and just prior to last Christmas he was unable to walk for over a month. After having a herniated disc removed, however, he was walking within two days. He is now back at work and feeling much better. The doctors were amazed at the rapid

recovery.

The prayers, letters, and cards on his behalf were greatly appreciated by Brother Christman, as he stated in a recent note to the **Gospel News**.

NOW RECUPERATING

Another recently afflicted Brother, Paul Calabro of Hopelawn, New Jersey, has also written to thank all the Brothers, Sisters, and friends who prayed for him during the time of his recent operation. He is now recuperating at home and would like to request continued prayers on his behalf. In addition, he has acknowledged the cards and letters he received and which he explained proved to be most uplifting. Like Brother Christman, he stated, "May God bless all of you."

WELCOMED VISITORS

Welcomed visitors at the New Brunswick, New Jersey Branch on Sunday afternoon, February 23, were Brothers Paul D'Amico from Lockport, New York and Dominic Rose from Brooklyn, New York. They were accompanied there by other Brothers and Sisters from various Branches and Missions of the Atlantic Coast District.

Both Brothers D'Amico and Rose, who had spoken at Hopelawn, New Jersey that morning as reported last month, were guest speakers at New Brunswick. Their words of encouragement, along with the testimonies presented, were greatly appreciated and comforting to the host congregation.

ARRIVES HOME

Brother John Romano, who spent one year in Italy on missionary work, has returned to his home in Dearborn, Michigan. A devoted Church worker and long-time member of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 2, he has just completed his second tour of duty in his native country.

On both of his trips to Italy, Brother Romano became ill, but he courageously sought to carry on. His first tour was interrupted by an illness which forced him to return home for major surgery. On his recent trip, he was afflicted for six months before his return. His condition has improved since his return, and he has been able to undertake his Branch duties once again.

It is certain everyone wants to extend Brother Romano much gratitude for his foreign missionary service and pray for his continued recovery.

DIRECTION REQUESTED

A request for direction on how to help others has been sent to the **Gospel News** by one of the participants in the Michigan-Ontario Missionary Benevolent Association Area Seminar Day held at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3 last February 15. Brother Dean Longrie of Okemos, Michigan who was spokesman for the young adult discussion group specified that section's members had indicated they would like to become active in assisting others. He wrote, "It was agreed that in doing things for others, we would be moving forward in The Church and that, in turn, we would be blessed and strengthened." He added, however, that direction and assistance were needed to enable them to reach such a goal and that these helps would be greatly appreciated.

Any comments on work being done by young people to help others will, of course, be

published in the **Gospel News**. Also, any appropriate direction or leadership which can be offered to these willing workers will be similarly reported.

RETURNS TO BROOKLYN

Sister Virginia Rose, who has been a member of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4 for about a year-and-a-half, has returned to the Brooklyn, New York congregation. Sister Rose had gone to Detroit to accept a nursing assignment at a hospital there.

The Detroit No. 4 group held a farewell social hour to let Sister Rose know that her presence had been most welcomed and to inform her that she will be greatly missed.

HEALING REPORTED

Brother Kem Metz of Monongahela, Pennsylvania reported a healing he received just before the beginning of the GMBA Activities Committee Meetings at Aliquippa on March 29. He said that the day before he had developed a severe irritation to his gum and one of his teeth which was causing him to encounter extreme pain. After being anointed on the morning of the meetings, he experienced a complete healing.

Understandably, recitation of this experience started the meetings on a reverently appropriate basis and set the tone for the rewarding day.

READERS WRITE

The **Gospel News** staff wants to thank all readers who have written pleasant letters, acknowledging their interest in following Church news in our monthly paper and in sending best wishes to all concerned. It is impossible to personally express the gratitude which should be accorded these thoughtful persons who have taken the time to communicate their sentiments. As a sincere token, however, the staff would like each of you to know that your words of encouragement, along with your kind remarks, are greatly appreciated.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE

While on the subject of readers, it may be well to remind all persons who are unfamiliar with the beliefs of The Church of Jesus Christ that they may receive information about the tenets of faith by simply writing to the Monongahela, Pennsylvania offices (address on page 3) or to the General Church Librarian, James Campbell, 540 High St., Monongahela, Penna. 15063.

In addition, a list of Church literature may be obtained from either source. This collection will familiarize interested parties with the kinds of materials available and will allow them to make their selections accordingly. Also, any specific inquiries about any other matters of concern will, if sent to either of the above, be forwarded to the appropriate Church official.

NEW ARRIVALS

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the indicated new members of their families. New arrivals at Monongahela, Pennsylvania have been Michele Louise to the Anthony Varrones, Justin Robert to the Samuel Sutchs, and Sonya Dare to the James Sutys. Recently welcomed at New Brunswick, New Jersey were Marie Jill by the Salvatore Moccios, Kim Kristine by the Julius Purkalls, and Donna Christine by the Dominic Bilardos.

NUPTIALS

COMBS—LOMBARDI

Mr. Jed Combs and Miss Mary Kay Lombardi were married on Saturday, April 5, at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 of The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother Concetto Alessandro officiated at the ceremony, assisted by Brother Nicholas Pietrangelo. Brother Eugene Amormino offered two organ solos. The couple now resides in Detroit, Michigan.

STALEY—NOLFI

Mr. Thomas Staley Jr. and Miss Joy Nolfi were joined in marriage on Saturday, March 29, at the Glassport, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother Alma Nolfi, uncle of the bride, conducted the marriage ceremony. Sister Florence La-Rosa was the soloist at the wedding.

The Staleys now live in Elizabeth, Pennsylvania.

PALAZZO—TUCCIORELLA

Mr. Bernardo Palazzo and Miss Margaret Tucciorella were united in holy matrimony on Saturday, March 15, at the Rochester, New York Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother Ansel D'Amico performed the marriage ceremony. A piano solo was played by Miss Lydia D'Amico.

The newlyweds now reside in Rochester.

ROSSI—EVANS

Mr. Richard Rossi and Miss Elizabeth Ellen Evans were married in Royersford, Pennsylvania on Saturday, February 22.

The Rossis now live in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania. The groom hails from Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.

OBITUARIES

JOSEPH PEPE

Brother Joseph Pepe of the Youngstown, Ohio Branch, who was baptized into of The Church of Jesus Christ almost fifty years ago, died on April 3. Born on June 10, 1882, he was baptized on March 28, 1920.

Surviving the deceased are three sons and two grandchildren.

Brothers A. A. Corrado and Travis Perry were in charge of the funeral services.

A devoted member, Brother Pepe was faithful and fervent in The Church, and he always attempted to uphold the principles of The Gospel.

PROVIDENZA MONTEROSSO

Sister Providenza Monterosso, a beloved member of the Bell, California Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed from this life on March 31. Born on June 9, 1884, she was baptized into The Church on November 11, 1934.

Left to mourn her loss are two daughters, two sons, 11 grandchildren, and 19 great-grandchildren.

Brother Harry Marshall officiated at the funeral services.

Sister Monterosso will be greatly missed by all those whose lives were enriched by her presence.

ELMER GARLITZ

Brother Elmer Garlitz, a faithful member of the Homewood Chapel Mission of The Church of Jesus Christ in Cumberland, Maryland, died on March 18. Born on May 7, 1911, he was baptized into The Church on August 1, 1965.

He is survived by his wife, two sons, and two daughters.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Idris Martin, assisted by Brother Henry Border.

Brother Garlitz had been afflicted with a heart condition, but he attended meetings devotedly and took an active part in his service to The Lord.

MARIE DI FEDE

Sister Marie DiFede, a long-time devoted member of the New Brunswick, New Jersey Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed on to her eternal re-

ward on February 3. She was born on June 4, 1911 and was baptized into The Church on December 6, 1925.

Left to mourn her loss are her husband, four daughters, two sons, and several grandchildren.

Brother Dominic Rose officiated at the funeral services.

Sister DiFede will long be remembered for her enthusiastic adherence to The Gospel of Christ and for her dedication in supporting the work of her husband, Brother Joseph DiFede, in The Ministry.

MAN IN GOD'S CREATION

(Continued from Page 2)

ing that each person can only answer for himself and that no one can be baptized for another person.

Solomon said, "There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death; and there is no discharge in that war; neither shall wickedness deliver those that are given to it." (Ecclesiastes 8:8).

As a small part of God's creation, man is born, is appointed to die, and is responsible for his own acts in the judgment. His actions and the way he adhered to the Word of God will determine his eventual plight: everlasting light and glory or everlasting darkness. Let all of us pay strict heed to the commandments of our God.

(to be continued)

1969 CHURCH CALENDAR

Following is a three - month list of 1969 Church events of general and regional interest.

MAY

- 3 — Groundbreaking for new General Church Auditorium near Imperial, Pennsylvania (completion scheduled for 1970).
- 17 — Semi - Annual General Missionary Benevolent Association Conference in New Jersey.
- 30 — Michigan-Ontario MBA Area Field Trip through June 1.

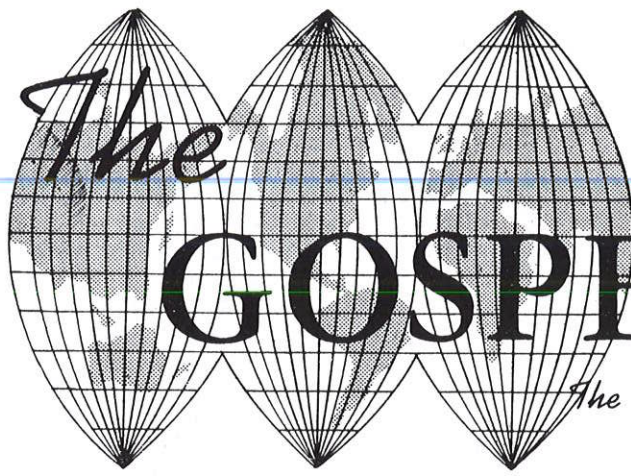
JUNE

- 21 — Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference at Lorain, Ohio.
- 30 — General Missionary Benevolent Association Field Trip to California through July 6.

JULY

Annual Missionary Benevolent Association Area Conferences:

- 19 — Atlantic Area at Hopelawn, New Jersey.
- 19 — California Area at San Fernando Valley, California.
- 19 — Florida Area at Fort Pierce, Florida.
- 18 — Michigan - Ontario Area at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3.
- 20 — Michigan-Ontario Area at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4.
- 19 — Ohio Area at Cleveland, Ohio Branch No. 1.
- 19 — Pennsylvania Area (place to be announced).



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Ground Broken For Auditorium

By Dominic Moraco

Ground was broken for the General Church Auditorium near Imperial, Pennsylvania on Saturday, May 3, with many people in attendance from various parts of The Church. The event on the warm and sunny day officially launched the long-awaited new building, which has been planned for almost a decade.

Brother Gorie Ciaravino, General Church President, was in charge of the 2:00 p.m. ground-breaking ceremony. Other General officials, including members of the Auditorium Committee who have worked devotedly on the project, took part in the program. A platform was erected for

the occasion, along with facilities for an organ and a loud-speaker system.

After community singing, the meeting was opened by singing "America The Beautiful." Brother Joseph Bittinger, General Church Second Counselor, offered the introductory prayer in which he returned thanks for the arrival of the groundbreaking date and in which he asked for The Lord's help in this project. Brother Ciaravino then spoke briefly, noting that the awaited day for the endeavor had come and that it would not be long before The Church would be able to hold Conferences in its own facility.

Brother Dominic Thomas, Secretary of the Auditorium Committee who was also President of the General Missionary Benevolent Association when the Land-Purchasing Fund was inaugurated for the Auditorium, was the next speak-

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Part of the large group assembled is pictured looking on as Gorie Ciaravino, General Church President, breaks ground on May 3 for the future General Church Auditorium near Imperial, Pennsylvania.

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Congratulations To Graduates

By Paul D'Amico, Apostle

It is my pleasure to say, "CONGRATULATIONS," to all of the Brothers, Sisters and friends of The Church of Jesus Christ who will be graduated from high schools, colleges, and other schools of learning this month. Our prayers and best wishes are extended to each of you in your hour of achievement.

Although reflecting on your accomplishments, many of you have already applied to higher schools of learning and are contemplating the furthering of your education, while others of you may be finding jobs or positions for which you have become best qualified. The education and training which you have acquired are the tools which can help to make for a better world and a society of men and women in America equipped to enjoy the freedom and liberty existing upon this land of promise, blessed by God above all other lands.

In addition to our natural positions in life, however, there comes the other phase of our lives, our spiritual existence, which is even more important. Our spiritual needs and the preparation of our souls must be taken into serious consideration, as we progress through life. Perhaps some of you who are our dear friends may have the tendency to want to postpone attending to your spiritual requirements until you arrive at a later age in life. This is unsound, because The Lord will look upon you with favor if you decide to equally pursue both the natural and spiritual needs in your youth. The Church needs the energy and talents of young people who are willing to commit their lives to God. Yes, the saying, "The youth of today is The Church of tomorrow," is certainly true. Will you be ready to fill your place with God and The Church, as well as achieving the goal of your selected field of learning, if our Creator calls upon you to work for Him?

Some people say today that God is dead. To them, I would like to relate an incident I observed while in service. During World War II, an American soldier in Sicily met God for the first

time while he was in a fox hole the night before he was killed in action. A piece of paper, containing his testimony, was found in his possession after he died. He had never believed in or prayed to God in his entire life before; but that night he sought God and prayed to Him before meeting the enemy. This soldier was only one of many who felt compelled to take on religious convictions when confronted with reality. Their hour of danger had forced them to seek God.

Unto the many wonderful young men and women who have not rendered obedience to The Gospel of Christ, let me sincerely say that God is not dead but that He is very much alive. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Are you willing to have Christ as your personal Saviour? Will you allow Him to be a part of your life? If you do, there are many blessings in store for you. The words of a hymn which I sang many times in my childhood and one which we still sing today have special significance for all of us. Please read and analyze them, and I hope you will understand the true meaning of this wonderful hymn, No. 484, in the **Saints Hymnal**.

Know then that every soul is free,
To choose his life and what he'll be;
For this eternal truth is given,
That God will force no man to heaven.

He'll call, persuade, direct him right;
Bless him with wisdom, love and light;
In nameless ways be good and kind,
But never force the human mind.

Freedom and reason make us men;
Take these away, what are you then?
Mere animals — just as well
The beasts may think of heaven or hell.

May we no more our power abuse,
But ways of truth and goodness choose;
Our God is pleased when we improve
His grace, and seek his perfect love.

But if we take the downward road,
And make in hell our last abode,
Our God is clear, and we shall know,
We've plunged ourselves in endless woe.

In conclusion, we pray that God's richest blessings will accompany you always and that you may have great success in everything that you set out to do.

Special Reminder!

As was reported in May, the subscription price for the Gospel News has been increased to \$3 a year, starting this month. The General Church Conference authorized the \$1 addition to defray costs of publishing and mailing. In the past, donations, primarily from the General Church Treasury, were required to subsidize the paper.

Readers need not forward the additional amount unless their subscriptions expire in June. There is no retroactive clause to the increase. Hereafter, whenever a subscription expires, it may be renewed by simply forwarding the \$3 for the next year.

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Editorial Viewpoint

By George A. Neill

It isn't enough to tell children what they should be and the way they should go; we must show them. They are more apt to follow examples than to heed words.

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." **Proverbs 22:6.**

Solomon's wise words raise a number of questions, such as: "What kind of a father do your children have? Would it be wise for them to follow in your footsteps? What kind of a foundation are you laying for them to build upon?" These impress me as being very important questions, and I am sure these considerations help shape the destiny of children who are products of their environment which is generated primarily by both father and mother.

I believe fathers throughout the world determine to some degree what their children will be by the examples they set. Without a doubt, some of the moral laxity which exists among the youth of our land today is traceable to fathers. During the formative years, the opportunity to direct, condition, and influence children is at its peak. Many a father today, as he looks back over the years, is confessing and living with certain regrets because he failed to set a better example before his children. The sad thing about this is, of course, that the pages which are turned in life cannot be turned back again. You cannot send the little ones back to Kindergarten and start all over again. No, Father, you cannot go back.

Going back to our text, "Train up a child in the way he should go: . . .", there is a difference of opinion as to the way he should go. When I was a young man, I knew a father who took great pride in his three year old son's ability to curse. This child had learned every bad word I had ever heard. Another father permitted his four year old son to drink intoxicating beverages until the child would stagger and fall and his mother would have to put him in his small bed. I have lost contact with these children who are men by now and probably fathers. How blind were their two fathers and how lasting must be their regrets. Surely, "prodical" fathers help make prodical sons and daughters.

Father, what kind of adults do you want your children to be? Do you want your children to be upright and forthright - morally good, dependable, and honest? The question is, "How will they become such people?" They will have a much better chance if you, their father, are that kind of person. It isn't enough to tell children what they should be and the way they should go; we must show them. They are more apt to follow examples than to heed words. There are fathers who really want their children to grow up to be honorable citizens but do little to motivate the right kind of living in their little ones. It takes a little more than just wishful thinking to produce good boys and girls.

Many times a father, when his child does something wrong, will pass it off by exclaiming; "Children will be children, you know." They fail to realize that the boy or girl will be a man or woman someday; and, if they keep on doing such things, which may reach a higher scale as they grow older, they may fail to become respectable citizens. I think many times it requires a lot of hard work to produce good boys and girls, but I say they can be produced with very few exceptions. Yes, much thinking, consideration, and effort go into the labor of turning out a future generation of high and honorable people. However, the work must be done in a spirit of dedication and deliberate determination.

Father, what kind of a person do you want your child to be? Are you just wishing and dreaming that they will turn out favorably, or are you working at it? Let's go to our text again, "Train up a child in the way he should go: . . ." The word train means "to make proficient by instruction and practice." The secret to a better world is found within the contents of these words. If the future generation is to be saved from the evils of this world, some of this saving will need to be started with father.

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M.B.A. Highlights

GMBA Field Trip Set For California End Of This Month

By James D. Gibson, GMBA Editor

Plans for the General Missionary Benevolent Association Field Trip in California the end of this month have been finalized. The event will begin at Camp Radford on Saturday, June 28, at 3:00 p.m. and will end the following Saturday, July 5, at 11:00 a.m.

A schedule of activities has been arranged, complete with Church services, seminar discussions, and recreational periods. As at the last two trips, to Arlington, Kansas in 1967 and to Nauvoo, Illinois in 1968, a balanced program will be available to all participants. The seminar and recreational sections will be divided by age groups to give everyone a chance to take part.

All the annual trips to date, which began with the weekend visit to the Muncey Indian Reservation in Ontario, Canada in August, 1965, have proven to be highly successful. The Church services have been edifying, and the period has allowed travelers to spend uninterrupted time with Brothers, Sisters, and friends from different parts of The Church. Numerous baptisms have been experienced and The Spirit of God has been most prominent. In addition, it has been the privilege of those assembled to listen to a cross-section of speakers whom they do not ordinarily get to hear.

The trip will be under the direction of the GMBA officers, but all the arrangements for the week have been made by officials of the California MBA Area. The west coast has conducted its own field trips for the last few years, and they have been satisfying and enjoyable for members of this region. Some of the individuals who were responsible for the success of the California ventures were also instrumental in the last two GMBA annual events.

The California Area has been desirous of hosting a gathering for some years and it has worked diligently to complete the plans. Progress reports have been submitted to the GMBA Activities Committee and further recommendations on the favorable proposals have been returned. The final agenda will officially begin with Sunday services under the direction of the GMBA officers and will follow with the scheduled daily program starting on Monday.

Notices of the arrangements and application forms for those planning to attend the event have been sent to Branches and Missions of The Church. In addition, information about the accommodations has been included. Individuals who may be interested in attending but who have not received the paperwork may write to Sister Judith Calabrese, 16841 Kingsbury, Apartment 10,

Granada Hills, California 91344, and she will supply the appropriate material.

The General Church Gathering which had been scheduled for the weekend before the field trip has been postponed because of the necessity to procure the campsite by the MBA beginning on the Saturday. It was decided by the General Church Conference in April to defer the General Gathering and thus remove the conflict in dates.

Another wonderful time is anticipated at the GMBA venture. Reports of the trip will follow in a later issue.



UR WOMEN TODAY

Ladies' Circle Area Project

By Rosalie Campitelle, Michigan-Ontario
Area Chairman

The Michigan-Ontario District Ladies' Circles have been pursuing the topic, "Mother and the Home," for this year, and different phases of the subject are explored at the quarterly Area Gatherings. To date, a guest speaker and seminar discussions have been on the program.

The main speaker at the first meeting, which was held at Windsor, Ontario, Canada on January 20, was Brother Frank Morle. He spoke on the behavior of our children in schools, how to cope with our children at home, and what to do when certain questions arise. He elaborated on the importance of listening to our children's problems and the necessity for taking an active interest in talking about and helping to solve some of these matters. The Sisters enjoyed this talk very much, especially those who have teen-agers and younger children.

After the speech, the Sisters were given the opportunity to ask Brother Morle and Brother Dominic Thomas, who was also present, questions relating to the points presented.

SEMINAR CLASSES

The second meeting was conducted at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 2 on April 7, and the sub-topic for the evening was "A Happy Home." The meeting was moderated by Sister Rose Milantoni of Branch No. 2, and the assembly was divided into four seminar classes. These groups were for Italian Sisters, grandmothers and others, young mothers, and young ladies. Each unit discussed the things that are important in making a home happy and stable.

Sister Nancy Conti was in charge of the Italian Class, and Sister Clara Gentile gave a summary of what the participants had discussed. The Italian Sisters related experiences that they had received and talked of their earlier days in The Church. They stated that they had enjoyed the evening very much.

The second section consisted of grandmothers

and others, with Sister Mary Vitto as the group leader. Sister Antoinette Ciaravino gave the findings of this unit. Love, patience, understanding, and a God-fearing home were analyzed. Ways to establish a feeling of love in the home were presented and examples of how good and wholesome values may be instilled were explained. It was emphasized that small children should be taught the necessity of respect, prayer, Church attendance, unselfishness, and fear of God as early as possible in life. Setting a pattern of firmness, fairness, and family togetherness for early teen-agers was also presented, as were principles of family worship with special influences being extended to children and grandchildren. Showing a good example under all conditions was pointed out as being basic if children are to develop the proper behavioral patterns.

The third class included young mothers, with Sister Rose Milantoni as group leader. Sister Sandra Capone gave the summary for this section, which concluded that service to God should be first, followed by service to the home and the community. Teaching children to respect authority, to obey the laws of the land, and appreciate the freedoms in our land were essential elements presented. Mothers should also care for and be willing to give their time on the problems of their family. It was also mentioned that, when a teen-ager is baptized into The Church, it must be remembered that he still needs guidance so he may continue to grow both spiritually and naturally. In offering this assistance, prayer, love of God, trust in God, and faith were enumerated as being mandatory.

The fourth unit was made up of young ladies, with Sister Dolores Thomas as the group leader. Sister Barbara Chambers gave the conclusions of this group. The considerations were "Duties to God" and "Our Duty" in the home. To have peace of mind, it was advocated that God and Church should come first in the home. It was felt that a home without faith in God cannot be completely happy. Trying to be as active as possible in community activities without neglecting Church duty was also concluded as being appropriate. People are influenced by our actions, so displaying a pleasing personality, which exhibits our love of God, should be part of our make-up. Applying the same considerations sometimes reserved for people outside the home to our families as well was pointed as helping to develop consistent and proper virtues in individuals.

The Sisters enjoyed the seminar groups immensely. Some of them said they felt the discussions were very edifying for them. They enjoyed the opportunity to express their views freely, and the exchange of ideas was thought-provoking as well.

NEXT MEETING

The next quarterly meeting will be held at Detroit Branch No. 3 on July 14, and plans for this gathering include a continuation of the seminar classes. The subject for the evening will be, "First Impressions are Lasting Impressions." Some of the considerations will be "What Are Your Responsibilities?", "Attitudes in Church," and "Unity in Thought."



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"... I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God." John 20: 17.

Dear Girls and Boys,

Did you find last month how many times Jesus appeared to His followers during the forty days after His resurrection? Yes, there were eleven times.

I promised to tell you about the great event that followed our last story. It is called The Ascension.

Jesus knew he soon would leave His disciples, and He was depending upon them to preach The Gospel. "All power is given unto me in heaven and on earth," Jesus said. "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; . . ." He told them of many signs that would follow the believers. They were told to teach **all things** as He had commanded and He would be with them, even unto the end of the world.

Jesus tried to prepare His disciples for His departure. They had been with Him during most of His earthly ministry, and now it was hard to realize He would leave them. He had said, "I will not leave you comfortless; . . ." and " . . . if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; . . ." Another time, He told them to stay in the city of Jerusalem and wait for power from on high.

One day, Jesus led His disciples out through the city of Jerusalem to the Mount Olivet. What a beautiful place and many precious memories were all about them! Not far away, was the little village of Bethany, where Jesus' dear friends, Mary, Martha and Lazarus, lived. Do you remember the wonderful miracle Jesus performed there, the raising of Lazarus from the dead?

On the west was the great city of Jerusalem where the great temple was built. The disciples remembered Jesus had told them that the time would come when not one stone would be left upon another. How hard it was to understand this! Here in this city, Jesus had healed the sick and given sight to the blind.

The Hill Golgotha could also be seen from here. The sad event that had so recently taken place here, when Jesus was nailed to the cross, now was forgotten in the joy of the Resurrection. Jesus was alive! He was here with them!

Jesus and His disciples stopped at the top of Olivet. He said that they were His witnesses. Then He lifted up His hands and blessed them. As He spoke, a cloud hid Him from their sight and He was taken up into heaven. Higher and higher He went until they could no longer see Him. As the disciples stood looking up, they saw two men in shining garments. These men asked,

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THE CHILDREN'S CORNER

(Continued from Page 5)

"... why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as you have seen him go into heaven." Now they understood. They praised God! With great joy, they returned to Jerusalem. They were found continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Jesus depended upon them to carry on His work. They were to tell all nations about the love of God and about this Jesus who had died on the cross for the sins of the world. Now they must tarry, as Jesus said, to receive greater strength and knowledge for the work that was before them.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

How does the story in Acts add to those in Luke 24 and Matthew 28: 16-20?

Sincerely,
Sister Mabel

Man In God's Creation

(continued)

by James Heaps

Scientists tell us that there are millions of stars and that our sun is one star of our galaxy. The Bible bears testimony to the fact that the stars are countless. God in His blessing of Abraham said: "... tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: ... so shall thy seed be." (Gen. 15:5) Despite their number, David said that God can call them by name. How great is our God!

Paul tells us: "There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory." (I Cor. 15:41). The word glory means splendor, magnificence, distinction and honor. It means, in the end, divine perfection or presence. We wonder about what honor, glory, or distinction we shall have in the resurrection. We ask, "What have we done here that we should receive any honor?"

Jesus said, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (St. Matthew 5:16). It is not for us to claim any glory, honor or distinction for ourselves; but we are to give God all the honor and glory for good works for it belongs to Him.

When the sick are anointed, it is not the Brother who does the anointing that performs the healings, but it is God who removes the affliction. James tells us that, through the prayers of faith, The Lord shall raise them up. We cannot heal anyone. We must, therefore, never fail to give God the praise and glory for His many blessings.

Long ago, man discovered the sun is 93 million miles from the earth and some stars are so far away astronomers cannot measure them. They also discovered that the speed of light travels faster than the speed of sound, and light is estimated as traveling at 186,000 miles per second. It is believed that a rushing comet would

take many, many years to cross the chasm between the nearest star and us. The light from our sun takes approximately 8½ minutes to reach the earth. Light requires 25 years from some stars to the earth.

Astronauts may soon land on the moon and ascend even to greater heights, but the first three astronauts who approached it clearly indicated, by reading from the Bible, that God indeed was the master builder. Man, in God's creation, was reminded that he should remember that Our Heavenly Father created him from the dust and owes his very existence to the Creator.

Someday, God will gather all His creation—sun, moon, stars, planets, and as the Bible says, "Worlds without end," and all shall pass away. The Apostle John foretold that the heavens and the earth shall pass away and there will be no more sea. "And I John saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband." (Rev. 21:2). This city has no need of the sun or the moon, for the glory of God is its light and the Lamb the light thereof.

If man today is awed by God's earthly creation, think of the greatness of that holy city which dazzled John so profoundly that he fell down before the Angel when he beheld its glory. We have a hymn which indicates that there is a land of fadeless day where lies a city four square. This place will never pass away. What is further, there is no night there and God will wipe away all tears. There are no doubts, pain or fear, and time is not counted by years because there is no night there.

As man tries to relate to God's great and glorious creation, he should remember that God created all things for the good of mankind. He only requires man to love Him, serve Him, and keep His Commandments.

(Readers will be saddened to learn that the author of this most interesting and penetrating article, Brother James Heaps, passed away suddenly on May 6 at the San Carlos Indian Reservation while on Evangelistic service for The Church. Details of his life will be presented in next month's issue. — Editor's Note)

My Testimony

I am employed as a Railroad Freight Conductor. Last January 23 as I was descending from the caboose, I slipped. As I slipped, the train hit me and pushed me between the cars and the caboose. The man who was working with me was trying to stop the train, but the Engineer was not watching, nor did he realize that I was being dragged by the train.

I was helpless and unable to do anything for myself. It was in these moments of helplessness that I felt as though hands were picking me up, and I was lifted from under the wheels of the train. There were two men watching this and they said, "We don't understand how you were not cut in half by the wheels of the train." My reply was, "Don't you know that God lives?" I thank Him for giving me my life this day. I know

His hands lifted me from sure death.

Most of all, I thank God and His Son, Jesus Christ, for delivering me from the world of sin and giving me the privilege to belong to The Church of Jesus Christ. Please pray for me, Brothers and Sisters, that The Lord may continue to bless me and that I may always testify to His goodness.

Brother Sam Sgro
New Brunswick, N. J. Branch

General Church Officers

Following are the General Church Officers who were either reelected or newly-elected at the General Church Conference in Monongahela, Pennsylvania in April. All officials, with the exception of the member of the Board of Trustees who is elected for a five-year term, serve for one year. (* Denotes newly-elected.)

PRESIDENT: Gorie Ciaravino

FIRST COUNSELOR: Thurman S. Furnier

SECOND COUNSELOR: Joseph Bittinger

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ASSISTANT RECORDING SECRETARIES:

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SECRETARY, Dominic Thomas

QUORUM OF SEVENTY EVANGELISTS OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT, Clifford A. Burgess

V. PRESIDENT, Joseph Calabrese

SECRETARY, John Manes *

GROUND BROKEN FOR AUDITORIUM

(Continued from Page 1)

ed. He told how the Auditorium Committee had come to the site many times to pray before it finally recommended it for the structure. The assurance that was felt through the supplications offered eventually led to the selection. He also recalled how our late General Church President, Brother William H. Cadman, had had the desire for a building of our own where Brothers, Sisters, and friends could sing, pray and fellowship together.

The actual groundbreaking then took place. Two shovels, one furnished by The Church and one by the general contractor, the F. J. Busse Company, Incorporated of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, were used. They will be permanently retained by The Church. Brother Ciaravino turned the first shovelful, followed by many of the others assembled.

After the groundbreaking ceremonies were concluded and "Speak My Lord" was sung, Brother Rocco V. Biscotti offered the closing prayer.

Members and friends of the area then served refreshments. Special commendation should be given these individuals for their hospitality, both at the groundbreaking and over the weekend. A meeting was held by the Pennsylvania Area MBA that evening in McKees Rocks and many visitors stayed at nearby locations for Sunday services.

Now that the ground has been broken and the general contractor has begun actual work on the Auditorium, it is hoped that the building will be completed and ready for occupancy in approximately a year. Readers will be kept informed in the *Gospel News* through progress reports made available by the architects, Pellis & Lettich of Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Incidentally, payment to the General Contractor will be made each month according to the percentage completed, as approved by the architects and the General Church Board of Trustees. The only thing remaining is for each person to help financially so that 100 percent completion of the building will be matched by the receipt of funds to cover all obligations for the much-needed facility.

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

(Continued from Page 3)

It is his duty to not only help his children obtain good moral standards but to teach them the commandments of Christ. If these are properly learned and observed, father will probably have no regrets later in life. Also, taking children to Church services, scriptural classes, and Church gatherings, along with his wife will prove to them that he "practices what he preaches." Then he will feel like he has deserved the compliments of a job well done and will feel justified in accepting whatever appreciation from his children he will receive on days like "Father's Day" which will be celebrated on June 15.

General Conference Sabbath Service

Building a temple to God was the subject discussed at the Sunday service of the General Church Conference in the Monongahela, Pennsylvania Church building on April 20. Brother Richard Christman of Phoenix, Arizona introduced the subject taken from the 28th and 29th Chapters of II Chronicles.

Brother Christman spoke about the desire of David to build a temple unto The Lord. He explained that the temple, when completed, would give the Israelites a lasting identity unto all the world. He elaborated on the sacrifice which they had to make to complete this great edifice.

Brother Joseph Lovalvo from Modesto, California, was the next speaker. He compared the natural temple to the spiritual temple, The Church. He summarized that, as the temple was the identity for Israel, The Church of Jesus Christ can become the identification of salvation for all mankind.

The oldest living member of The Priesthood, Brother Alma Cadman, who is now 92 years old and is from Pennsylvania, followed. He reminded everyone that we are now living in the last days when many great events will take place.

Brother V. James Lovalvo, also of Modesto, was the last speaker. He spoke inspiringly of our individual house and how it must be swept and kept clean so that The Holy Ghost may dwell therein. He reminded everyone that their houses may be cleansed only by the Blood of the Lamb of God. He concluded by asking "Am I my Brother's keeper?" His answer was, "Only those washed in the Blood of The Lamb can embrace another in the Love of God and say, 'He is my Brother!'"

The wonderful lesson and the refreshing spirit throughout the service was edifying to all assembled.

Aliquippa Branch One Of The Hosts Conference Sunday

The Aliquippa, Pennsylvania Branch was one of the host locations for the last day of the General Conference on Sunday, April 20. Present were visitors from California, New Jersey, New York, and Ohio, in addition to members from the neighboring Fredonia, Imperial, and McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania congregations.

The busy and edifying day was begun when Brother Paul D'Amico from Lockport, New York spoke during Sunday School. He related many experiences he has received while serving God.

At the morning service, Brother Russell Cadman of Fredonia read Rev. 14:1-7, and he emphasized that these verses have informed the world that the true Gospel has been restored upon this land and that this everlasting Gospel is

for all people. Brother Mark Randy of Modesto, California spoke next, relating the different ways The Lord works with each individual and the change which comes upon everyone when they obey this everlasting Gospel.

Brothers Joseph and V. James Lovalvo, both also from Modesto, came to Aliquippa from Monongahela for the afternoon service. Brother Joseph gave his testimony and told many experiences The Lord had given him. Brother V. James sang two solos, "He Touched Me" and "Don't Spare Me."

The day was highly rewarding for all assembled and presented everyone with the chance to fellowship with many Brothers, Sisters, and friends from various parts of The Church.

Testimonies Given By Visiting Elders

Testimonies about how The Spirit directed them to The Church of Jesus Christ and recitation of how they have been blessed by The Lord were presented by guest speakers at the Greensburg, Pennsylvania Branch on Sunday, April 20th.

Visitors who spoke at the morning service were Brothers Allan Henderson from Windsor, Ontario, Canada; Clifford Burgess from Bell, California; and James Campbell from Monongahela. In the afternoon, Brothers Alvin Swanson from Miami, Florida and George Johnson from Roscoe, Pennsylvania addressed the congregation.

Brother Swanson, who was formerly a Presiding Elder in the Greensburg Branch before moving to Florida, also told about how delighted he was about the increase in that fold's number since his last time there. He like all the other speakers, iterated that his hopes were that The Lord would continue to bless the Greensburg location, as well as all others throughout The Church.

Visitors At Niles Talk About Prayer

Brothers Norman Campitelle, Spencer Everett, and Michael LaSala from Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 were visitors at Niles, Ohio on Sunday, April 20. They stopped on their way home from the General Church Conference.

The service was opened by Brother Campitelle, who spoke on prayer. He elaborated on how "prayer rests the weary" and how "prayer can change the night to day."

Brother Everett followed, stating that prayer was also the topic he had had in mind that morning. He sang, "How Long Has It Been?", read I Nephi 18:21, and asked the penetrating question, "From where does our help come?"

Both speakers told several experiences illustrating the need for, power of, and results from sincere prayer.

Brother LaSala closed the service, which was another enjoyable meeting in Niles, in prayer.

Five Ordained At Monongahela

Brother Meredith Griffith was elevated to an Evangelist and Brothers Herbert Hemmings and John R. Griffith were ordained into The Priesthood on Sunday, April 27, at Monongahela, Pennsylvania. On March 23, Brother Glenn Collins was ordained a Teacher and Brother David Majoros was ordained a Deacon at the same Branch.

Brother John Manes washed Brother Meredith Griffith's feet, and Brother Sam Kirschner ordained him an Evangelist. Brother James Grazan washed Brother Hemmings' feet, and Brother Isaac Smith ordained him an Elder. Brother Melvin Mountain washed Brother John Griffith's feet and Brother James Curry ordained him an Elder.

Speakers during the day were Brother Jacob Christman, Smith, Grazan, John Olexa and Kirschner. They talked about hope, humility, and ministerial duties.

Brother Collins' and Brother Majoros' ordinations were performed during the Branch's regular feet-washing service. Brother Collins' feet were washed by Brother Walter Anderson, and he was ordained a Teacher by Brother James Grazan. Brother John Olexa washed Brother Majoros' feet, and Brother John Bickerton ordained him a Deacon.

Lake Worth, Fla. Has A New Elder

The Lake Worth, Florida Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ has a new Elder. Brother Michael Radd was ordained into The Ministry there on Sunday, May 4.

At the service, Brother James Sheffler washed Brother Radd's feet. He was ordained into The Priesthood by Brother Alvin Swanson.

Brother Swanson also spoke at the meeting. He talked about the high calling of The Priesthood as typified by the duties and responsibilities assigned to the sons of Aaron in their service to God. He elaborated on the dedication required in the work of laboring for The Gospel and the benefits which may be derived by those who serve.

Bitner Ordination On Sunday, May 4

Brother John R. Thomas was ordained into The Priesthood at the Bitner, Pennsylvania Mission on Sunday, May 4. The new Elder was ordained by his grandfather, Brother Oran Thomas, after Brother John's feet had been washed by Brother James Grazan of Monongahela.

The speakers at the inspiring service were Brothers Joseph Calabrese from Lorain, Ohio and Isaac Smith from Monongahela. The subject

covered God's callings and ordinations. Brother Smith also spoke in the gift of tongues during the highly edifying meeting.

Other visiting Ministers present to welcome Brother Thomas into The Ministry included Brothers Joseph Bittinger, President of the Pennsylvania District from Vanderbilt, and Fred Olexa of Monongahela.

Two Ordinations At Detroit No. 1

Two ordinations were performed at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 recently. Brother Michael LaSala was ordained into The Ministry on April 27 and Sister Angela Scolaro was ordained a Deaconess on April 13.

The new Elder's feet were washed by Brother Louis Vitto, and he was ordained by Brother Dominic Moraco. A vision, which showed a crown being held over Brother La Sala's head as his feet were being washed and being placed on his head after his feet were washed, was observed by Sister Frances Palposi. Speakers at the service were Brothers Moraco and Gorie Ciaravino, who described the duties of a Minister.

Sister Mary Johnson washed Sister Scolaro's feet before Brother Concetto Alessandro ordained her a Deaconess. Brother John Galante from Brooklyn, New York had been the guest speaker at the morning service on this Sunday. He talked about his conversion into The Church of Jesus Christ and the many blessings he had received over the years.

Visiting Ministers At Youngstown, Ohio Ordination, April 27

Many visiting Ministers were present at Youngstown, Ohio for the ordination of Brother Richard Santilli into The Priesthood on Sunday, April 27. Some of these guests spoke during the day.

Brother Elmer Santilli of Perry, Ohio introduced the morning service, using as his text the passage of scripture from Isaiah 29:13-24. His main point was that man has had little peace since the fall of Adam, even though he has been trying to attain this tranquility. He stated, however, that man can have individual peace within himself if he first makes his peace with God. Brother Mario Milano of Cleveland, Ohio followed on the same subject.

In the afternoon, Brother Joseph Gennaro from Niles, Ohio opened the service. Other visitors of The Ministry included Brothers Russ Mar torano and Joseph Manes of Niles and Fred Musolino of Perry.

Brother Richard Santilli was ordained in the afternoon also. His brother, Elder Elmer Santilli, washed his feet, and Brother A. A. Corrado ordained him.

Two Ordained At Detroit No. 2

On Sunday, May 4, Brother Alex Gentile was ordained into The Ministry at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 2. At the ordination, Brother Paul Francione washed Brother Gentile's feet, and Brother Dominic Thomas ordained him an Elder.

While Brother Thomas was ordaining Brother Gentile, Brother Fred Straccia saw a vision of Christ's carrying a huge cross. His vision recalled the words of Christ to His disciples, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." Brother Straccia also sang in the gift of tongues.

Speakers at the service had been Brothers Gorie Ciaravino and Dominic Moraco. They talked about the duties, responsibilities, and high calling of The Priesthood. Other visiting Ministers were Brothers Anthony R. Lovalvo and Tullio LaCivita, along with some members also from neighboring Detroit No. 4.

Sister Rose Milantoni was ordained a Deaconess at the Branch No. 2 feet - washing service on Sunday, April 13. Sister Anna Carlini washed her feet, and Brother Straccia ordained her a Deaconess.

Pennsylvania Area Holds Meeting

The Pennsylvania Missionary Benevolent Association Area held a gathering at McKees Rocks on Saturday evening, May 3. Many visitors who were present for the General Church Auditorium groundbreaking in the afternoon stayed for the service.

Speakers were Brothers Spencer G. Everett, who spoke on the Michigan-Ontario District missionary work; Rocco V. Biscotti, who talked about how all the nations will flow into the mountain of The Lord's house; John Bickerton and Isaac Smith, who related their desires and plans for working with the seed of Joseph at the White River Indian Reservation in Arizona; and Joseph Calabrese, who enlarged on Brother Biscotti's depicting of the mountain and how The Church of Jesus Christ stands ready to welcome all peoples who repentantly want to enter the fold.

The meeting proved a fitting ending to the busy day's schedule.

Determination Cited At McKees Rocks, Pa.

The determination of the friends of the man sick with palsy and who was healed by Christ formed the basis of the talk given by Brother Spencer G. Everett of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 at McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania on Sunday, May 4.

How the aids of the afflicted man had sought to reach Jesus through the crowd and finally suc-

ceeded by lowering him through the hole in the roof was compared to the necessity for seeking to overcome obstacles and continue to serve God today. The reward, like the healing of this man, of heavenly eternal life can then be achieved. Brother John Manes, Presiding Elder of McKees Rocks, followed Brother Everett on the same subject.

Testimonies were given during the customary Sunday School period by Brothers Gerald Benyola, Joseph Castelli, and Dennis Everett, who had accompanied Brother Everett from Detroit No. 1.

Dedication To God Subject At Windsor

Two Brothers from Detroit and one from California were the guest speakers at the Windsor, Ontario, Canada service on Sunday, March 30. Brothers Tullio LaCivita and Dominic Thomas from across the river and Clifford Burgess from the west coast talked in that order.

The requirements for serving God, the sacrifices which must be made for The Gospel, and the rewards from God were outlined. The rich man in the Bible who could not give up his great possessions to follow Christ and Zaccheus, also a sinner but who repented and sought to make up for all the evil he had done, were the opposite examples used as the basis for the talks. How God provides for the sincere desires of His people was also presented.

At the end of the service, Brother Frank Vito, Windsor Presiding Elder, fittingly expressed the thanks for all assembled for the changes in their lives and for The Gospel of Christ.

Travel To Indiana, Illinois Area; Hold Service

Brothers Joseph Calabrese and Spencer G. Everett visited with the Brothers, Sisters, and friends of The Church of Jesus Christ in South Bend, Gary, and Hammond, Indiana and Evanston, Illinois on Saturday, April 26. The next day, they conducted services in Hammond.

On Sunday morning, Brother Calabrese opened the meeting by reading **St. Luke 4:16-21**. His talk was centered on the words, "... 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 sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised. To preach the acceptable year of the Lord." Brother Everett followed with words of encouragement to those assembled.

Testimonies were also given at the service.

"Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." **I Thess. 5:21.**

Brief News of Interest

GOSPEL NEWS ASSISTANCE

Assistance has been given the Gospel News staff. Brother Dominic Moraco has been elected the Assistant Gospel News Editor-in-Chief, as reported on page 7, by the April General Church Conference.

Brother Moraco, Evangelist who has worked diligently for The Church of Jesus Christ over the years in many capacities, has also offered many literary contributions in the past. His vast experience and knowledge undoubtedly will prove of great benefit to our paper.

FORMS OF INQUIRY

Forms of inquiry have been sent to all Branches and Missions to determine the financial picture for the General Church Auditorium. Individuals and families were asked to indicate what amounts they are planning to donate or lend (interest-free) so the total obligation can be properly discharged by the time the building is completed.

It was announced at the General Conference in April that approximately \$100,000 had been collected, leaving a balance of about \$170,000 to \$200,000 to be accumulated during the coming year. The survey forms were authorized to allow the financial officers to determine the manner in which payment will be made.

Although it was too early to report on the results of the survey at the time of publication for this month, it was learned that many individuals and groups have responded enthusiastically to the call. Individual donations of \$1,000 and other sums have already been received. One Brother from New York has sent a donation for \$1,000 and has identified himself as "Anonymous." His contribution, as well as all the others which have been or will be received, is greatly appreciated.

MISSIONARY TOUR

Brothers Joseph Bittinger, General Church Second Counselor, and Joseph Calabrese, Vice-President of the Quorum of Seventy Evangelists, have departed on a missionary tour for the General Church. They will be visiting the St. John, Kansas Mission first. Later, they will travel to the Wakpala, South Dakota Indian Mission and spend some time there. The April General Conference authorized the tour at the recommendation of the General Board of Missions.

Incidentally, a notice has been received that all correspondence directed or addressed to the Wakpala Mission should be sent to the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Board of Missions, Brother Harry Robinson. His address is 202 Mitchell Avenue, Clairton, Pennsylvania 15025. It has also been learned that a new Sister, Theresa Buckley, was baptized into The Church at Wakpala.

50TH ANNIVERSARIES

Three couples recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversaries. Dr. and Mrs. R. E. Lynch of Williamsburg, New Mexico; Brother Luigi and

Sister Filomena DeLuca of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania; and Mr. Raffael and Sister Ottimia DiPaolo of Detroit, Michigan were the parties who reached this milestone.

The Lynchs marked their golden anniversary on February 25, having been married in St. John, Kansas a half-century ago. They were the guests at a dinner in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico on the anniversary date. Two days later, they were honored at an open house in their Williamsburg home where they have resided since Dr. Lynch retired from his practice at Coshocton, Ohio. Dr. Lynch is a member of the Monongahela, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother and Sister DeLuca celebrated their 50th anniversary on April 5. A reception was held in their honor at the Hotel Barr in Aliquippa by their children and 150 guests attended. Brother DeLuca addressed those assembled, stating that he was thankful to God for having brought him and his wife to America and for having blessed them with seven children, 13 grandchildren, and many relatives. Most of all, however, he said that he and his wife were thankful to God for leading them to The Gospel, which they obeyed approximately 44 years ago.

April 12 was the day the DiPaolos reached their golden anniversary. Married in Fossia Cessia, Italy in 1919, they have one son, one daughter, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Friends and members of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 2 gathered to honor the couple at the home of their nephew and niece, Mr. Paul and Sister Philomena DiRado. Sister Ottimia was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ in 1940 and has been a wonderful example to everyone at her home Detroit No. 2 Branch, as well as to her family and friends.

Congratulations and best wishes are extended on behalf of all readers to these three beloved couples. May The Lord continue to bless them.

CHANGE ADVOCATED

There has been increased interest recently in the abolition of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and replacing it with a structure which would allow American Indians to have more say in the decisions affecting them. These matters include those dealing with their education and livelihood.

Statements have been made by both Indian and government officials that the Bureau has not been able to adequately fill the needs of the people. The distance between the administrators and the individuals being served has been depicted as being too far from each other to allow for practical and proper administration. As a result, it has been advocated that Indian matters be placed with another agency, possibly the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Cutting down the bureaucratic layers has been described as permitting more direct attention to and contact with the people.

More personal involvement by Indians themselves and closer coordination by the government are said to be appropriate methods to further the plight of the American Indians. Better educational institutions which would be more

(Continued on Page 12)

NUPTIALS

HEMMINGS—FIRCAK

Brother David Herbert Hemmings and Miss Charlotte Theresa Fircak were joined in holy wedlock at the Monongahela Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ on Saturday, May 3. Brother James Grazan conducted the marriage ceremony. Brother David Majoros was the vocal soloist.

The newlyweds now live in the Monongahela vicinity.

TOLLEY—WILT

Mr. Hayward D. Tolley, Jr. and Miss Barbara Lee Wilt were married on Saturday, March 28, at West Leisenring, Pennsylvania. Brother Joseph Bittinger performed the ceremony.

The couple now resides in Wellsville, Ohio.

SUMMERFIELD—MOSS

Mr. Delma A. Summerfield and Miss Linda R. Moss were united in holy matrimony on Saturday, March 14, at Englishtown, New Jersey. Brother Matthew Rogolino conducted the marriage ceremony.

The Summerfields now live in Englishtown.

OBITUARY

MAUDE STALLWORTH

Sister Maude Stallworth, a faithful member of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3 of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed on to her eternal reward on May 1. Born on May 14, 1892, she was baptized into The Church on September 11, 1949.

Brother Peter H. Capone conducted the funeral services. He was assisted by Brother Silverio Crisculo.

Sister Stallworth will be greatly missed by everyone, particularly those who have been accustomed to her many acts of thoughtfulness and her pleasant disposition. Her enthusiasm for The Gospel was also a great source of inspiration to all.

Brief News of Interest

(Continued from Page 11)

accessible to students and improvements in the standard-of-living are the objectives of any changes that would be made. Future developments will be followed with interest.

NEW ARRIVALS

Congratulations are in order to the parents for the indicated new members of their families. New arrivals have been Sheila Renee to the Nello Colecchis of Niles, Ohio; Colleen Kelly to the Vincent Gibsons of Cleveland, Ohio Branch No. 1; Elena Marie to the Richard Wilsons of San Diego, California; Tony Ray to the Ernest Patellos of Glassport, Pennsylvania; Patricia Jane to the William McTagues of Monongahela, Pennsylvania; and Tiffany to the Gary Shorts and Angela Marie to the James Buraks of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3.

1969 CHURCH CALENDAR

Following is a list of 1969 Church events of general and regional interest.

JUNE

- 21 — Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference at Lorain, Ohio.
- 30 — General Missionary Benevolent Association Field Trip to California through July 6.

JULY

Annual Missionary Benevolent Association Area Conferences:

- 18 — Michigan - Ontario Area at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3.
- 19 — Atlantic Area at Hopelawn, New Jersey.
- 19 — California Area at San Fernando Valley, California.
- 19 — Florida Area at Fort Pierce, Florida.
- 19 — Ohio Area at Cleveland, Ohio Branch No. 1.
- 19 — Pennsylvania Area (place to be announced).
- 20 — Michigan-Ontario Area at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4.

AUGUST

- 28 — Pennsylvania MBA Area Campout through September 1.

SEPTEMBER

Semi - Annual General Church District Conferences:

- 10 - 11 - 12 — Michigan-Ontario at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 2.
- 12 - 13 - 14 — Atlantic Coast at Metuchen, New Jersey.
- 12 - 13 - 14 — California at San Diego, California.
- 13 — Florida at Lake Worth, Florida.
- 13 — Ohio at Lockport, New York
- Pennsylvania at Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania (date to be announced).
- 20 — Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference at New Brunswick, New Jersey.

OCTOBER

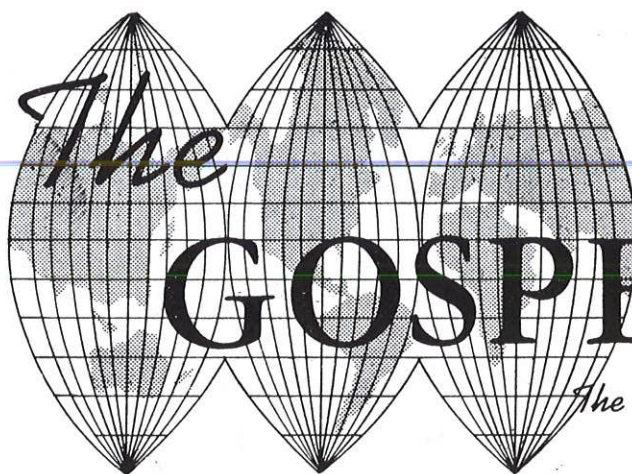
- 17 - 18 - 19 — Semi - Annual General Church Conference in New Jersey.
- Tentative month for dedication of new Warren, Ohio church building (date to be announced).

NOVEMBER

- 8 — Semi - Annual General Missionary Benevolent Association Conference in Pennsylvania.

DECEMBER

- 13 — Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference at Monongahela, Pennsylvania.



The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

July 1969

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Hope For The Future

By Carl J. Frammolin

This July 4, the same as has been observed on that date ever since the Declaration of Independence was signed almost two centuries ago, America will stop to reflect on the heritage and blessings of this land. Orators in practically every community in this nation, whether large or small, will point out the courage, perseverance, and dedication exhibited by our forefathers as they obtained the liberty taken so much for granted today. As we individually and collectively reflect on the accomplishments of the past and on the many sacrifices made for our freedom, each of us must ask ourselves some searching questions about the future. "Is America going to continue to be blessed as she has been before? Are the unrest and internal conflicts being experienced going to increase, or will they diminish in the months to come? Can we as a nation mature in direct relationship to the rapidly improving standard-of-living and the highly accelerated advances being made in all fields of endeavor so that we can cope with the changes these factors produce?"

Examination of these kinds of questions discloses that there are no clear-cut answers readily available. The proliferation of knowledge has still not allowed man to completely identify and program man's behavior so that reactions to particular situations can be predicted without any chance for error. Even the so-called infallible computers cannot tell in advance whether the clashes between individuals and ideals can be resolved without severe repercussions.

It is plain that, while destruction from outside nations has never seriously periled the liberties of America, internal disorders have become the main concern of this land. Recent differences in legal, social, and political philosophies have caused many disagreements. Also, changes in viewpoints from previously rooted stances have left many people incapable of understanding what road to follow or what standards to uphold. As a result, ideals and principles formerly usually accepted are challenged without any solutions evident. Accumulation of the many unresolved situations today makes it al-

(Continued on Page 6)

Auditorium Progress

The masonry work for the General Church Auditorium near Imperial, Pennsylvania should be begun some time this month. Plans had called for all the excavation and footings to be completed by the end of June, with the masonry work to follow shortly thereafter. Further developments on the building of the structure will be presented in future issues.

All materials for the facility have been ordered and the architects have reviewed the shop drawings submitted by the General Contractor. The architects are Pellis and Lettrich of Greensburg, Pennsylvania, and the General Contractor is the F. J. Busse Company Incorporated of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Weekly meetings are being conducted by the architects to evaluate the progress being made and to make certain the schedule is being fulfilled. These meetings are being attended by the General Contractor, Church representative Brother Melvin Mountain, and other parties involved in the construction. Reports of these meetings are being submitted to the General Church Board of Trustees, which is responsible for officially following the project. The architects and the Board will determine the percentage of construction completed at the end of each month so that payment can then be made accordingly.

As reported previously, approximately one-third of the funds for the Auditorium had been received by the last April Conference. This left a balance of about \$170,000 to \$200,000 to be collected within the year's construction period to discharge the total obligation. More finances have been received since the groundbreaking on May 3, but there is still a long way to go. (See "Brief News of Interest" on Page 10.)

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(Following is the first in a series of three articles by Brother Alvin Swanson about the trip he took to Yucatan along with his wife, Sister Viola. The account of the ruins toured is not only informative but is enjoyable and interesting as well. — Editor's Note).

YUCATAN

By Alvin Swanson

Recently, my wife and I traveled to the Yucatan peninsula to see the Mayan ruins. From Miami, Florida to Merida, the Capitol, it is 683 air miles. At 28,000 feet, one passes over Cape Sable (southernmost land mass in America) to Key West and the dry Tortugas. As the plane maintains 80 miles distance parallel to Cuba, it is not difficult to see the Cuban mainland, beaches and harbors. This stretch of ocean is referred to as the Spanish Main.

There are 700 main islands surrounding Florida, into the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic, part of which is the Caribbean Sea. It is estimated that every quarter mile of water has a sunken vessel. These were mostly Spanish ships carrying gold to Spain from the new world or "New Spain," as Yucatan was then known. Piracy, hurricanes, battles and reefs sent many of them to a watery grave. Recently, one ship alone gave up 30 million in gold. There is just time to leisurely eat lunch and then touch down at Merida. The airline maintains custom officials for the convenience of its passengers; and, in a matter of minutes, you are cleared and may go to your hotel.

ARCHITECTURE BEAUTIFUL

Yucatan is a different world as compared to the United States. There is the ancient Maya, the Spanish Colonial and now a mixture of the modern. The architecture is as beautiful as you will see anywhere in the world. The people are especially warm and hospitable, and they are also very proud of their heritage. They tell you that you are a guest, not a tourist. Mayan embellishments are woven into everything you see. To see Spain, you need only to come here. The meals are superb and the hotels are luxurious in ancient tropic settings. Merida was named after Merida, Spain which was considered quite an honor. It has a population of 200,000 people.

The Institute of Anthropology was very interesting. It houses many things from the ruins, especially steles covered with hieroglyphs. Merida is still sometimes called by its original name of Tao, meaning "five" in the Mayan language, for in order for the conquistadors to build the present city, five pyramids had to be destroyed. There are twelve thousand pyramids in Yucatan.

We prearranged to have a guide, one Javier Espinosa - M, who met us and furnished a car. He was trained in college for his work, and he surely was competent in archaeology and the history of the ancient people of his country (Indians).

BUILT IN 17TH CENTURY

The group of ruins we chose to visit lies 80 miles north, and we went there by car. Along

this route through the jungle are the great castles built in the 17th century by the Spanish Lords. Nothing has changed since then. Plantations are run by a wealthy family and many poorer people live around them and work for them. Each group has its own church, very ancient and beautiful, in Spanish design and built by the Indians. Each whole complex makes a small town along the highway.

We arrived at Chichen Itza (cha-chenitz-ah) and stayed at one of the 17th century castles now called Hacienda Chichen. The people are very tiny and petite (about five-feet tall) with straight black hair, olive complexions, and red cheekbones. They move so fast and rarely speak, yet they are very warm. They are mostly of Indian extraction instead of Spanish. These people are proficient guitarists and singers. I do not think any other group of people play guitar music quite like they do. In preparation for this trip, I went to school for a year to take up the Spanish language. It made me feel good to ask them what they were playing and to converse with them.

The next morning, which was bright and sunny, we went to the ruins. For over 30 years, I had ardently studied the Book of Mormon and dreamed that one day I might be able to come here. Three years prior to this trip I exhausted everything the secular writers had to say about it. Suddenly to our view, there it was, and I was not prepared for the fantastic panorama we looked upon: the pyramids, temples, palaces, astronomical observatory and many other buildings.

TOURED PYRAMID

EL Castillo Del Kukulcan, or the Castle of The Lord, was the name of the pyramid we went into first. It had four great staircases up each inclined face. Each staircase had 91 steps, and when we added up the total there were 364 steps (4 x 91). The whole top of the pyramid was the last step, or 365 steps, one for each day in the year.

Upon this last top step, which made up a plateau, stood the temple. It had two friezes running around its four sides. One slanted at an angle upward, denoting spiritual, or heavenly things. The lower frieze slanted down toward the ground, representing natural things. Flanking each great staircase were two groups of 26 panels, making 52 in all, another cycle on their calendar, just like ours.

As the sun shone on the treads of the steps, shaded angles resulted on the risers, graduating and showing that part of mathematics dealing with angles. Each staircase faced a cardinal point (north, south, east and west). I wondered why the temple was constructed on the very top of the structure until I learned that all buildings erected to The Lord had to be elevated above ground level, since that which is heavenly is above that which is earthly.

(To Be Continued)

(Next month, Brother Swanson will describe more about the architecture, adornment, and practices found among the ruins).

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Editorial Viewpoint

By George A. Neill

In our portrait of Christ we see Him as the stone chosen of God but rejected by the builders. He is a stone of stumbling to some, to others a rock upon which to build.

Luke 19:3, 4 tells of a little man who "sought to see Jesus" and he climbed a sycamore tree in order to do so. In John 12: 20 - 22, we read of a number of Greeks who came up to the feast to worship saying to Philip, "... we would see Jesus." We, too, would see Jesus, would we not? Let us then step back and view the portrait of Jesus with our mind's eye.

Here is a man, if we dare call Him a man (for He was more than this; He was the son of God), who has been talked about, thought about, written about, loved, and even hated more than any other person. To know Jesus is to love Him; and those who see Him as He is become obedient disciples who experience the height, depth, and breadth of fellowship which bring joy and happiness to life. When we really see Jesus, we are never again the same. The more we look at Him, the more we see ourselves; and we are made to cry out like Peter, "Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord."

Once we become acquainted with Christ we see that He meets us at every turn in our path of life. If we are bereaved, He sends comfort. If we stumble, He reaches forth a helping hand. If we sin and then repent, pardon flashes on the screen. If we have joy, He rejoices with us. If we are ashamed of Him, however, He weeps. If we search the way to heaven, He says, "I am the way . . ." If we search for truth, He tells us, "I am . . . the truth." If we fear death and the grave, He says, "I am the resurrection, and because I live ye shall also live." When we come to die, we look forward, as Paul says, "... so shall we ever be with the Lord." At the last day, when every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess and give an account of our stewardship, it shall be before the judgment seat of Christ. So in life, in death, and even in eternity, we look to Him to be our companion.

A further look at the portrait of the Stranger of Galilee reveals He is different from any other man. This difference is that He was conceived of The Holy Ghost; He was born of a virgin indeed; He was the Son of God. When about thirty years of age, He was introduced to the peoples of that day by John the Baptist on the banks of the river Jordan as "... the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sins of the world." Three years later, "He was taken from prison and from judgment: and . . . cut off out of the land of the living . . ." From the day of His introduction, He embarked upon His life's work of preaching, teaching, ministering to the needs of man, and healing the infirmities of the sick. At one time during His ministry, He said, "For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many." These words sum up His dedication.

As we gaze deeper into this portrait, we see Him as the gift of God's love in human form. Those who were privileged to look upon His person were made to exclaim, "Never man spake like this man." No man ever did the mighty works which He did either. He was seen to open the eyes of the blind, unstop the ears of the deaf, make the lame to leap with joy, and even raise the dead to life. He was seen to calm the storm at sea, and He surely calmed the storms in many individuals' hearts. He taught them that the highest duty of man is to love the Father, and his second highest duty is to love his neighbor as himself. They saw Him as the wonder worker of His day. They heard Him make claims no other man had ever made: "I and my Father are one."; "... he that hath seen me hath seen the Father . . ." In Him, men see what God is like. His portrait reveals Him to be as the poet in the hymn says, "the Lord's anointed." Anointed with the Holy Ghost, He had power to deal with all manner of sin. He could say

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M.B.A. Highlights

Auditorium Help, Missionary Plans Conference Actions

By James D. Gibson, GMBA Editor

Authorization to turn over almost the entire current amount in the GMBA Land Purchasing and Auditorium Fund to the General Church and establishment of a lay missionary program were among the highlights at the General Missionary Benevolent Association Conference held at the Pine Grove Manor High School in New Brunswick, New Jersey on Saturday, May 17. Other continuing Association programs were also reviewed during the busy day.

The action to transfer the funds for the future Auditorium followed the disclosure that the concluded \$3,000 six-month MBA-wide fund-raising quota for the structure had been surpassed by about \$800. This accumulation, along with a donation from this conference, brought the total GMBA amount for this cause to approximately \$21,000 and a motion was passed to send \$20,000 to the General Church Auditorium Fund, leaving about \$1,000 on hand. It was also understood that, even though no new goal was set for the ensuing semi-annual period, MBA units would continue to raise funds for the project. Hopefully, the total received would equal and perhaps even better the amount realized during the recent six months. The Association has been most interested in the erection of the building, and all efforts will be continued to aid in this matter. In the past, MBA units have worked diligently to mount the receipts through various fund-raising projects and collections.

LAY MISSIONARY PROGRAM

The Conference voted to accept a recommendation by the General Church Board of Missions that the GMBA service the lay-missionary work under the direction of the General Board. A motion was also passed that the General MBA Activities Committee establish a sub-committee to be responsible for administration of the program. This sub-group was asked to advertise the lay-missionary efforts throughout the Association; to accept, schedule, and process applications of the volunteer workers; and to submit the names of the persons selected and the scheduled use of the trailer at the San Carlos Indian Reservation in Arizona to the General Church Board of Missions. Participants in this program would serve brief tours at the reservation, during which time they would assist in the physical work there.

The lay-missionary program at San Carlos had been started by the young people's class of the Monongahela, Pennsylvania Sunday School. Last year, young volunteers participated in the program, and they lived in a trailer pur-

chased by this class. The help was much - welcomed on the reservation.

Reports from the General MBA Activities Committee included information about the annual Association Field Trip, progress on the MBA-wide lesson plans, and Area activities. The 1969 trip is currently underway in California. This event, scheduled for June 28 through July 5 as described in "MBA Highlights" in June, will be reported in the near future.

There are presently some lessons from the "Book of Mosiah" in the **Book of Mormon** which are ready for printing. This leaves about three books still to be prepared in lesson form. Plans have been made for their completion, and they will be made available to the member units for class study as soon as possible. Folders for the lessons will also be made available to all Locals. The price for these binders will be determined later and Sister Rose Mary Furitano will inform the Locals about all the particulars. Any units interested in knowing more about the folders may write to her at 12952 Durham, Warren, Michigan 48093. The binders will permit all the lessons received to date and all future material to be consolidated in a more permanent manner.

REPORTS GIVEN

The Area reports disclosed that MBA regions have offered various activities during the last six months. These projects have included gatherings, seminars, fund-raising drives, and missionary assistance. In addition, campouts have either been held or are scheduled for the near future in some Areas.

Other official Conference reports were also accepted. These included accounts from the Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, Auditors, Organizers, Editor and Delegates. Notable among the information presented was the disclosure that a printing machine had been procured to publish the **MBA Bulletin**, the Association's monthly publication. This purchase had been sanctioned at the last November GMBA Conference. Organization of both the Florida MBA Area and of some units in Africa was also reported. Four centrally located centers as established Locals to serve surrounding locations in Nigeria have been formed. All Church Branches were advised to send their people to the respective centers so they can join the MBA. Association By - Laws have also been sent to Nigeria.

Donations were made to the General Church Missionary Fund, the Trailer Fund, the **Gospel News**, the **MBA Bulletin**, and the aforementioned disbursement to the GMBA Land Purchasing and Auditorium Fund by the gathering. In addition, thanks was officially extended to the host Atlantic Coast MBA Area for its superlative hospitality at the Conference.

Guest speakers during the day included Brothers Steve Saffron of Scottsdale, Arizona and Moses Akpan of Nigeria, Africa. Brother Saffron, just recently returned from Viet Nam, gave his testimony. He also expressed his feelings and desires that some day this Gospel could be preached to that war-torn country. Brother Akpan, now a Professor at Southern University in Louisiana, asked that correspondence and inter-

est be stimulated with those in far off Africa.

Mention was also made during the proceedings of the move of Brothers Isaac Smith and John Bickerton, along with their families from Monongahela, Pennsylvania, to the White River Indian Reservation in Arizona. The assignment of these missionaries was authorized by the General Church Conference in April, and their departure was scheduled for about June 1. Brother Smith had served as the GMBA President until last November, and Brother Bickerton is the current GMBA Chaplain.

In the evening, the Atlantic Coast MBA Area presented a program. The title was "Preparation in the Plan of God." Appropriate hymns in keeping with the theme were sung and corresponding narrations were given on the subject. The well-planned and excellently presented program added immensely to the day's enjoyment.



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"... tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." Luke 24:49.

Dear Girls and Boys,

Would you like to hear what happened to the disciples after Jesus' Ascension? You remember Jesus had told them that they were His witnesses and to tarry in Jerusalem. They were no longer in doubt or afraid, but happy, knowing Jesus had gone to heaven. They, too, had the great promise of joining Him. He said, "I go to prepare a place for you . . . that where I am, there ye may be also." Now with joy, they returned to Jerusalem to wait for the Holy Spirit as Jesus had promised that He would always be with them. They remembered His saying, ". . . lo, I am with you always . . ." He would be with them wherever they went.

From Mount Olivet to Jerusalem was a very short distance. The disciples went to an upper room. It was used for their meeting place. The following disciples were there: Peter, James, John, Philip, Andrew, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James. Many women, including Jesus' mother were there also, making altogether about 120 persons. They had met there for worship and prayer.

Peter, who was the leader of the group, stood up and addressed them. Since Judas Iscariot had betrayed Jesus and was now dead, another disciple was to be chosen to replace him. Judas was one of the original twelve Apostles. Two men were nominated to fill the vacancy, Barsabas and Matthias. The entire group prayed to God for guidance in choosing the right man. They cast lots, or voted, and Matthias was chosen.

Ten days had passed since the Ascension, the time known as Pentecost. It was a Jewish harvest festival and occurred fifty days after Pass-

over. All the disciples were assembled in the upper room when suddenly there came a sound from heaven like that of a mighty rushing wind; and it filled the house. Then tongues that looked like fire settled on each of the Apostles. They were all filled with The Holy Ghost and began to speak in other tongues.

Many people were in Jerusalem from countries of the Roman Empire, and they heard the disciples speak in different languages. Each listener heard the message in the language of his own country. They were amazed and asked each other, "What meaneth this?" Some said, "These men are full of new wine." Then Peter, standing up with the eleven disciples, said, that these men were not drunken for it was only nine in the morning. He told them that this was the prophesy the prophet Joel had spoken about. Now was Peter's opportunity to tell all about Jesus of Nazareth, how He had come showing signs, miracles and wonders among them, and how they had crucified Him by their wicked hands. Peter preached a powerful sermon. The people were pricked to the heart and asked, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" Peter replied, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Many gladly accepted Peter's invitation and were baptized so that about 3,000 people were added to The Church. They met together often. This was a model Church. They had the bonds of love and faith. They considered their possessions as everyone's property to share as the need arose. They had all things in common. Some even sold their possessions and divided them with those who were in need. They were found daily in the temple, praising God. "And the Lord added to the Church daily such as should be saved." You may read about The Church in **Acts, Chapters 1, 2 and 3.**

Next month I shall tell you a **Book of Mormon** story in connection with the resurrection of Jesus.

Sincerely,
Sister Mabel

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

(Continued from Page 3)

to the sick, "Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house." or "Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity." or "Young man, I say unto thee, arise"; and His word stood. He could say to the sinner, "Man, thy sins are forgiven thee."; and His word stood.

In our portrait of Christ we see Him as the stone chosen of God but rejected by the builders. He is a stone of stumbling to some, to others a rock upon which to build. How shall we react to Him today? Do we see Him as the Masterpiece and ourselves on trial? Shall we accept Him as the complete, the perfect and sinless One whom we should be somewhat like, or shall we snub Him — pretend He is not? Shall we wash our hands of Him like Pilate or sell Him for thirty pieces of silver like Judas? If we turn down His mercy, love, and grace — if we refuse to abide by His teachings, we shall be as guilty as those who dragged Him up Golgotha.

Tribute To James Heaps

By Dominic Moraco

As reported last month in the *Gospel News*, Brother James Heaps of Anaheim, California passed away on May 6. It is difficult to become accustomed to the fact that a man with such wisdom, spirit and animation as Brother Heaps possessed in person and which he also shared with our readers in his many articles is now gone.

An Evangelist and an outstanding preacher, Brother Heaps had memorized many passages from the Word of God. He recited them with great wisdom and was most perceptive in applying them appropriately in keeping with the topic he was presenting; and his enthusiasm and warmth made him an inspiration to all who heard him. His favorite passage was, "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." (Isa. 40:31).

In addition to speaking, Brother Heaps was also well-known for his love of singing hymns of praise. He was often called a "singing Evangelist" because of his ability to sing solos and with others spontaneously as the occasion presented itself.

Brother Heaps was born on July 5, 1893 in Yorkshire, England. He was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ in 1911, and he was ordained an Elder the next year. He traveled extensively for The Church and even returned to his native England several years ago to bring the Gospel Message back home. Wherever he went, his exuberance and straight-forward manner were always prominent.

It seems rather appropriate that he passed away while on missionary work at the San Carlos Indian Reservation in Arizona. He had been a frequent visitor there and was extremely well-received by everyone at the location. The Lord called him home suddenly that morning as he was conversing about the scriptures. The night previous, he had preached his last sermon in which he typically offered his praises to God and exhorted those assembled concerning the promise of heavenly eternal life that await individuals who obey all the commandments of our Creator.

Our departed Brother had been the Presiding Elder of various locations of The Church. He had also served for three years as President of the California District. Prior to his move to California in the 1940's, he and his family had resided in Pennsylvania and Detroit, Michigan.

All members and friends of The Church of Jesus Christ will greatly miss Brother Heaps' presence and join in extending our sincerest condolences to his family. It is certain that the memory of his many exceptional sermons and writings, his faithfulness to God and His Church, and his cheery smile will be a constant source of comfort, encouragement, and inspiration to his family and to everyone else who knew and loved him.

Hope For The Future

(Continued from Page 1)

most impossible for man to clearly find his way through this life without experiencing many anxieties.

AVENUES AND ANSWERS

Almost unbelievably to many individuals who have suddenly been faced with the confusing conditions of a complex world, the Word of God presents the avenues and the answers to the unsettled questions. The inner peace which cannot be gained from another individual becomes a constant companion to the repentant sinner who adheres to the scriptures and dedicates his life to God. All at once, the guidance of the Holy Spirit takes over and other influences become secondary. The troubles and seemingly unsolvable situations are minimized and hope for the future becomes a permanent part of the individual. As this hope remains within the new convert, he learns to cultivate deeper faith and trust in God. It is noteworthy to recall that these same two qualities were present in the lives of many of our founding fathers.

As is true individually, a collective return to the same simple faith and trust in God found in our predecessors can be the answer to the problems which face this land today. In reverting to them, the practices of upholding the dignity of man, of trying to understand each individual in order to help him, of displaying tolerance and love for our fellowman, and of seeking to make certain the needs of all people are properly satisfied will be regained. At the same time, the return to a more rational analysis of man's relation to God will occur. How this life serves as preparation for the life to come will then be the most significant and uppermost thought in the minds of men. When this happens, every person will know that conflicts should be peaceably resolved and differences, while present, should be tolerated with dignity. Mutual adherence to these principles cannot then produce anything but peace.

To some, the foregoing may appear to be too idealistic to be practical in application. The Church of Jesus Christ, however, professes that this kind of condition will eventually prevail and will culminate in what has been termed "The Peaceful Reign." During this period, differences will be appreciably lessened and the peace so desired will be prevalent. It will be a time when no war will be waged and when arms will not be the preoccupation of society.

GOD'S HAND NEEDED

The condition described may be preceded by some troubled times. There may be some turmoil even more perilous than has been experienced in the past. The precise moment for the desired change to take place may not be pinpointed, but it is evident that the hand of God will be needed for it to transpire. Man's heart must be changed, and history has proven that only He can accomplish this.

In analyzing the necessity for God's help as

we look forward to the future, however, the much - deserved accolades for our forefathers must not be overlooked. Many of them placed their faith and trust in our Creator and He never failed them. Their dependency on Him was more than proportionately rewarded.

Man's customs, traditions, and institutions may vary, but His Word remains constant. He has never defaulted in His assurance through His Son, Jesus Christ, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you . . ." The nation and the world can be encouraged during these troubled times if these never - changing words are heeded. They form the basis for our survival. In fact they hold the hope for mankind, the same as was true in the days of our founding fathers almost 200 years ago and for all others who have sincerely relied upon Him.

Ordain Evangelist At Detroit No. 4

Brother Anthony Gerace was elevated to the Quorum of Seventy Evangelists at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4 on Sunday, May 11. Brother Allan Henderson of the Windsor, Ontario Canada Branch, where Brother Gerace was baptized on May 16, 1948, washed his feet; Brother Gorie Ciaravino ordained him an Evangelist.

A diligent and dedicated worker for The Church of Jesus Christ, Brother Gerace has devoted many years to missionary work at the Muncey Indian Reservation in Ontario, Canada. He possesses great love for the Indian people, and he alternates with Brother Joseph Milantoni in traveling there to conduct services on Sundays and to attend to the needs of the residents. They, along with other Church volunteers, have almost become like fixtures at the reservation.

Two Ordained At San Carlos

Two Apache Brothers were ordained at the San Carlos Indian Reservation in Arizona during the edifying Sunday service on May 18. One of them, Brother Claude Kayson, was the first member of the seed of Joseph to be ordained into The Ministry at the mission of The Church of Jesus Christ there, while the other, Brother Christopher Phillips, was ordained into the office of a Deacon.

Both Brothers were ordained by Brother Joseph Lovalvo, President of the California District. Brother Kayson's feet were washed by Brother George Neill, and Brother Phillips' feet were washed by Brother Richard Christman.

The service was opened by Brother Lovalvo. He used portions of Isaiah II as his text, and he elaborated on the "Peaceful Reign." His remarks on this subject created a longing in each heart present for the peaceful condition to come soon.

The ordinations were conducted after the

inspiring sermon. As the ordinations had just been concluded, Brother Dan Piccuito, in charge of the mission, spoke in tongues when he greeted Brother Kayson. Brother Phillips then arose and spoke these words in English, "Come unto Me; I am The Lord, Thy God," and he also spoke in tongues.

Testimonies were then given. A wonderful spirit, as was prevalent throughout the meeting, was felt during this period which included the citing of experiences and thankfulness to God by members on the reservation. Their testimonies brought the lengthy but fast-fleeting service to an end, as they welcomed two of their highly - respected workers into their new offices.

Visiting Ministers Speak At Phoenix

Visiting Church Ministers from California spoke to the Phoenix, Arizona Branch during the month of May. Their talks were most welcomed and presented many important points about The Gospel of Christ.

The first visitor was Brother James Heaps from Anaheim, who addressed the congregation on May 4 two days before he passed away at the nearby San Carlos Indian Reservation. He spoke about the goodness of God and The Church of Jesus Christ. He exhorted the Brothers and Sisters to remain faithful to The Gospel, and he offered many words of encouragement. His presence became even more significant when his passing became a reality and it was realized that the words he said that day were to be remembered as the last he would utter in his life to those assembled, many of whom had known him for many years. The testimonies of the members which followed his talk reflected the hope of heavenly eternal life which he so enthusiastically portrayed.

The next speaker was Brother Mark Randy from Modesto. He talked at Evangelistic services held the early part of the week of May 12. The meetings were most edifying and visitors from another faith also came to hear our Ministry discuss the Doctrine of Christ. Brother Robert Watson also came from California to take part in the Wednesday night service.

The last guest to talk at Phoenix in the two-week period was Brother Joseph Lovalvo, also from Modesto. He stayed over after the ordinations at San Carlos reported above to speak to the Phoenix congregation on Monday evening, May 19. His address was based on *Ezekiel 37:15-19* concerning the joining of the stick of Judah and the stick of Ephraim into one stick. His key word was "write," and he showed how men of old wrote as inspired by The Spirit of God. He pointed out that we should be thankful God saw to it His Written Word was preserved for us to read in our day.

All the subjects presented were most beneficial and left the Phoenix Branch with much to reflect upon.

Atlantic Coast Guest Speakers

There were many visiting Ministers at The Church's Atlantic Coast District during the week of the General Missionary Benevolent Association Conference on May 17. Some of them talked on the morning after the Conference, while two others, General Church President Gorie Ciaravino and Church Evangelist Dan Casasanta, stayed over for Sunday and Wednesday night meetings in the District.

At the Sunday morning service in New Brunswick, four Brothers from Pennsylvania, in addition to Brother Ciaravino, spoke. They were Isaac Smith and John Bickerton from Monongahela; Paul Palmieri from Aliquippa; and Harry Robinson from West Elizabeth. They elaborated on the theme verse presented in the previous night's program titled, "Preparation in the Plan of God." The verse, III Nephi 11:41, specifies, "Therefore, go forth unto this people, and declare the words which I have spoken, unto the ends of the earth." How individuals can examine themselves and ask, "What is my task in The Gospel?" and "Where is my place in The Church?" were pointed out.

That same evening, Brothers Ciaravino and Casasanta participated in a question and answer session at the regular New Jersey Local MBA meeting at New Brunswick. They were asked various questions about The Church and her missionary endeavors by those in attendance. These inquiries covered beliefs, practices, and present missionary conditions.

The following Wednesday evening, May 21, the same two Brothers were guest speakers at the Brooklyn, New York Branch. They discussed how Jacob spoke, as recorded in the Book of Mormon, concerning the things which must be done to make a person right before God. Many visitors from the New Jersey locations also attended the meeting at Brooklyn.

Brother Ciaravino, a former resident of the New York City vicinity where he was baptized into The Church 37 years ago, now lives in the Detroit, Michigan metropolitan area. Brother Casasanta hails from McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania.

Visit At Roscoe On Sunday, May 4

There were many visitors at the Roscoe, Pennsylvania Branch on Sunday, May 4. Among the guests were Brothers Rocco V. Biscotti from Cleveland, Ohio and James Moore and Robert Buffington from Imperial, Pennsylvania who took an active part in the day's worship.

Brother Biscotti, visiting Roscoe for the first time, opened the service. He used Isaiah 60:1 as his text, exhorting the Brothers and Sisters to remain faithful to The Gospel so that The Lord would continue to abide with them. He warned

the congregation that we are living in the 11th hour, and he also spoke about the coming of the Peaceful Reign and the significance of this period.

The second speaker was Brother Moore. He presented some additional inspiring comments about the importance of service to God and the promises that await those who remain steadfast.

Brother Buffington was the guest Sunday School teacher. He also sang a duet with Sister Eva Moore, who accompanied her husband as did Sister Buffington.

Elder Ordained At West Elizabeth

A new Elder was ordained into The Priesthood of The Church of Jesus Christ at the West Elizabeth, Pennsylvania Branch on Sunday, April 20. The new Minister is Brother English Webb Jr.

Brother Webb's feet were washed by Brother Harry Robinson, and he was ordained into The Ministry by Brother Samuel Kirschner. Both Brothers Robinson and Kirschner also spoke during the meeting.

There were many in attendance at the service, including relatives and friends of Brother Webb who had come to witness the ordination. The meeting was edifying and undoubtedly memorable for all assembled, as it marked the entry of Brother Webb into his calling.

More Services Held In Hammond

More services have been held in Hammond, Indiana recently, as Ministers from Detroit, Michigan have been traveling there to conduct them. Brothers Spencer G. Everett and Peter H. Capone have been holding the meetings assisted by others periodically.

Both Elders went there on Sunday, May 18, and Brother Capone opened the service. He talked about the passage in Mosiah 3:19-21 which describes how the natural man is an enmity to God and how it is necessary to combat this obstinence by becoming weak and humble and as little children. Brother Everett followed on the same subject.

Brother Everett addressed those assembled in Hammond on Sunday, June 1, on II Chronicles 29 and 30. He described how King Hezekiah restored the temple and the worship of God and how he prayed for those not sanctified. He compared this example to the genuine concern and prayers for those of today who have not obeyed The Gospel.

The night before, Brother Everett conducted a prayer service in Evanston, Illinois. The purpose was to pray for The Lord's work in the Illinois - Indiana area and for the sick of that sector as well.

Elder Ordained, Couple Baptized At Glassport

A new Elder was ordained and a young couple was baptized at the Glassport, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ on Sunday, May 4. Brother John Ali was ordained and David and Eileen Nolfi obeyed The Gospel at the afternoon service.

There were many visitors from nearby Pennsylvania locations in attendance during the day. Among the guests were Ministers Sam Kirschner from West Elizabeth, Dan Casasanta and Chester Nolfi of Aliquippa, and James Campbell of Monongahela who were also accompanied by members of their families.

Brother Kirschner introduced the morning meeting. He spoke on the birth of man and the birth of Christ. He was followed by Brother Nolfi.

The afternoon service was opened by Brother Campbell, after which the ordination of Brother Ali was performed. His feet were washed by Brother Alma Nolfi, and he was ordained into The Priesthood by Brother Kirschner.

While sacrament was being dispensed, the two new members asked for their baptisms. They were immersed by their brother and brother-in-law, Elder Alma Nolfi. Sister Eileen was then confirmed by Brother Campbell and Brother David was confirmed by Brother Ali.

The eventful day filled with many blessings is one which will be most memorable for all who were present.

Four Baptized On Mother's Day

Four young people were baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ at the Lake Worth, Florida Branch on Sunday, May 11. The conversions on the day designated as "Mother's Day" offered appropriate gifts not only for their mothers, fathers and the Brothers and Sisters but primarily presented the most precious gifts in this life to the new members themselves as well.

The new converts are Mark Jonathon Hatch, Richard Kenneth Aldous, and Susan Jane and Patricia Ann Jasmin. Brother Michael Radd, ordained into The Ministry the Sunday before, baptized and confirmed Brother Hatch. Brother Frank Sirangelo baptized the other three new members, and he confirmed both the new Sisters, who are his great-grandchildren and the first two of their generation whom he has baptized into The Church. Brother August D'Orazio Sr. confirmed Brother Aldous.

The entry of the quartet into the Lake Worth group provided many blessings and answered the prayers of many which have been offered for the conversion of young people into The Church. Understandably, this Florida congregation has been greatly uplifted by these additions.

Mother, Daughter Baptized At M-O Area Field Trip

Theresa and Joanne Smith, mother and daughter respectively, entered The Church of Jesus Christ at the Michigan-Ontario Missionary Benevolent Association Area Field Trip at Camp Nahelu near Ortonville, Michigan the holiday weekend of May 30 through June 1. Their baptisms and confirmations were performed early Saturday afternoon.

Sister Theresa was taken into the waters by Brother Frank Morle and confirmed by Brother Dominic Moraco. Sister Joanne was baptized by Brother Alex Gentile and confirmed by Brother Morle. They had made their intentions known about an hour after the Chapel period which had been conducted earlier that morning. Both of the new converts are from Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 2.

Other highlights of the three-day weekend included talks by visitors during the Sunday service. Brothers Isaac Smith, Joseph Bittinger, and Joseph Calabrese, on their way west, stopped off and addressed the assembly. They discussed the invitation to the supper extended by The Saviour. They explained the opportunities for all who are desirous of participating in this feast. Brothers Gorie Ciaravino and Dominic Thomas also spoke briefly at the meeting.

Brother Smith and his family were headed for the White River Indian Reservation in Arizona where he has been appointed a fulltime missionary. Brothers Bittinger and Calabrese were departing for the second part of an assignment from the General Church Board of Missions, as approved by the last April General Conference, to visit the St. John, Kansas Mission and the Wakpala, South Dakota Indian Missions for temporary terms of duty.

The balance of Friday and Saturday was spent in fellowship, rest, and recreation. Members of the Area took part in a Singspiration Service on the Saturday evening. On Friday night, Brother Paul Francione showed slides he had taken in South America during his recent trip there with his family. He showed scenes of Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil, in addition to pictures of the Brothers and Sisters who live in Argentina and Brazil whom they visited.

The M-O Field Trip was the first in that Area of the MBA. Others had been held previously by the California Area, as well as by the General MBA. The period of time spent together was well-enjoyed, as has been true at all other such gatherings, and it proved edifying and worthwhile.

"Take therefore no thought for the morrow; for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." Matt. 6:34.

Two Enter Church At Muncey Mission

Another couple, Ray and Stella Skene, entered The Church of Jesus Christ at the Muncey Indian Reservation Mission in Ontario, Canada on Sunday, May 11. They were both baptized and confirmed by Brother Joseph Milantoni.

The new members are residents of Sarnia, Ontario, and they have been traveling with Brother Arthur and Sister Elvira Maness to attend services at the Muncey Reservation. They learned about The Church through Sister Maness' testimony, given to the new Sister, whereupon they stated they wanted to come to the meetings.

Upon attending, Brother and Sister Skene were certain that they had found the true Church of Jesus Christ, for which they had been searching many years. They subsequently rendered obedience to The Gospel by going into the waters for baptism.

Another Member Added At Windsor

Another member was added to the Windsor, Ontario, Canada fold when Clara Cuerrier obeyed The Gospel on Sunday, May 25. She was baptized by Brother Allan Henderson and confirmed by Brother Donald Collison.

Brother Vito Buffa, recently returned from Modesto, California and now back at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 (see "Brief News of Interest," next column) had introduced the service. He spoke about Philip's baptizing of the Ethiopian eunuch, the necessities for baptism, and the teachings of Christ. His son, Brother John Buffa, also of Detroit No. 1 followed, discussing the authority of Christ. Brother Frank Vitto, Windsor Presiding Elder, then further discussed Christ's admonitions to His disciples.

Sister Cuerrier asked for her baptism when sacrament had been passed shortly thereafter. Her repentant request was then honored, thus adding another soul to the mounting Windsor congregation and affording further blessings to this location.

Brief News Of Interest

PRESIDENT RETIRES

Congratulations are in order to our General Church President, Brother Gorie Ciaravino, whose application for early retirement from his employer of 33½ years has been accepted. His early special retirement will allow him to devote his entire attention to the overall operation of The Church of Jesus Christ.

It is certain that everyone will want to extend their best wishes and prayers on Brother Ciaravino's behalf in his efforts to further direct

the spreading of The Gospel of Christ. He has labored for many years on behalf of The Church, and The Lord has always been his company as he worked in the various capacities he has filled.

GRATITUDE EXPRESSED

Sister Margaret Heaps and her family wish to express their deep appreciation and thanks for the many beautiful floral arrangements, cards and telegrams expressing sincere sympathy and concern for them during the time of their recent sorrow in their loss of our late Brother James Heaps.

They stated by letter that "It would take a long time to answer all the lovely cards and letters personally, so we would like to use the **Gospel News** to let you know that we shall long remember all of your thoughtfulness, your kind words of encouragement, and your prayers.

"We shall miss him more than we can tell, for he was a faithful servant in The Gospel, a loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. We place these in the order indicated because The Church always came first with him. He not only preached that this should be the way in all our lives, but he lived it every day in his own life; and we loved him for it. Many times, he admonished us, his family, to follow the teachings in **Matt. 6:33, 34.**

"Please continue to remember us in your prayers. Our great loss is his gain, and our sorrow is for the emptiness his passing leaves in our lives. We know he is in the Paradise of God, and some day, if we are faithful, we shall meet him and all the other Saints again never more to part. What a blessed hope this is ours in Christ Jesus, Our Lord! We, like all of you, are looking forward to this future meeting."

MOVE BACK

Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 has welcomed the return of Brother Vito and Sister Josephine Buffa from the Modesto, California Branch after an absence of about 12 years. They were formerly members of Detroit No. 1 for over 20 years before their departure to the west. Brother Buffa has been retired for some time. Everyone in the Detroit No. 1 group was most happy to welcome them "home."

While the Buffas have returned to Detroit, the John Capones have moved back to California. Former residents of the west coast, they had moved to Detroit No. 1 about three years ago. Before leaving for the west, they were the guests of honor at a social at which Detroit No. 1 expressed its sadness at losing them but wishing them well as they returned "home."

NEED CONTINUED SUPPORT

Funds, pledges for future funds, and voluntary interest-free loans have been received for the General Church Auditorium, but continued support must be extended if all the obligations are to be met by the time the structure is completed. Many contributions have been made by individuals who were awaiting groundbreaking for the meeting - place to send their sums, and many others are anticipating giving within the very near future.

(Continued on Page 12)

Addresses Of United States Branches and Missions

ARIZONA

Daniel Picciuto
Box 65
San Carlos Reservation
San Carlos, Arizona
Established - Oct. 1961

Phoenix Branch
2502 N. 28th Place
Phoenix, Arizona - 85017
Organized - Oct. 1966

CALIFORNIA

Bell Branch
4796 Filmore St.
Bell, California - 90201
Organized - Jan. 1948

Modesto Branch
329 Briggsmore
Modesto, California - 95350
Organized - April 1955

San Diego Branch
3830 39th St.
San Diego, California - 92105
Organized - Jan. 1948

San Fernando Valley Branch
15157 Roscoe Blvd.
Van Nuys, California - 91402
Organized - April 1955

Anaheim Branch
2446 Orange Ave.
Anaheim, California - 92804
Organized - Nov. 1959

Yucaipa Mission
13626 Second St.
Calimesa, California

FLORIDA

Fort Pierce Branch
Rt. 2 - Box 173
Fort Pierce, Florida
Organized - Oct. 13, 1960

Lake Worth Branch
4262 W. 10th Ave.
Lake Worth, Florida
Organized - Oct. 3, 1959

Miami Mission
c/o Alvin Swanson
10275 S. W. 60th St.
Miami, Florida - 33143

KANSAS

St. John Mission
5th & Exchange
St. John, Kansas - 67576
Established - Nov. 25, 1877

Wichita Mission
Route 5
Wichita, Kansas - 67207

MICHIGAN

Detroit Branch No. 1
16241 Harper Ave.
Detroit, Michigan - 48224
Organized - July 16, 1927

Detroit Branch No. 2
14722 Morris Ave.
Allen Park, Michigan - 48101
Organized - Sept. 1933

Detroit Branch No. 3
13420 E. Seven Mile Road
Detroit, Michigan - 48205
Organized, July 13, 1935

Detroit Branch No. 4
15041 W. Chicago Blvd.
Detroit, Michigan - 48227
Organized - July 9, 1938

NEW JERSEY

Edison Branch
Knapp Ave.
Edison, New Jersey - 08817
Organized - Nov. 5, 1952

Hopelawn Branch
393 Florida Grove Rd.
Hopelawn, New Jersey - 08816
Organized - Jan. 9, 1948

Metuchen Branch
Amboy & Hampton Pl.
Metuchen, New Jersey
Organized - April 4, 1957

New Brunswick Branch
21 Charles St.
New Brunswick, New Jersey
Organized - July 20, 1935

Freehold Mission
4 Factory St.
Freehold, New Jersey 07728

NEW YORK

Bronx Branch
751 E. 217th St.
Bronx 67, New York
Organized - Aug. 10, 1940

Brooklyn Branch
2650 Bath Ave.
Brooklyn, New York
Organized - March 18, 1964

Lockport Branch
339 Ontario St.
Lockport, New York
Organized - July, 1948

Rochester Branch
1529 N. Winton Rd.
Rochester, New York - 14609
Organized - Nov. 6, 1931

OHIO

Cleveland Branch No. 1
471 E. 200th St.
Euclid, Ohio - 44119
Organized - July, 1921

Cleveland Mission
10781 Fairlawn
Parma, Ohio
Organized - Nov. 16, 1957

Kinsman Mission
Route No. 1 State Rd.
Kinsman, Ohio - 44428
Established - April 21, 1956

Lorain Branch
2655 Broadway
Lorain, Ohio - 44055
Organized - May 1922

Lorain Mission
2932 Pearl
Lorain, Ohio - 44055

Niles Branch
814 Warren Ave.
Niles, Ohio - 44446
Organized - April 15, 1947

Perry Mission
2643 South Ridge Rd.
Perry, Ohio
Organized - Nov. 10, 1954

Warren Branch
681 Fourth St. S. W.
Warren, Ohio
Organized - Jan. 18, 1946

Kent Mission
Lions Bldg.
Streetsboro, Ohio

Youngstown Branch
2750 Gibson St.
Youngstown, Ohio
Organized - July 16, 1921

PENNSYLVANIA

Aliquippa Branch
Ross Drive Terrace
Aliquippa, Pennsylvania
Organized - Jan. 10, 1944

Bitner Mission
Ruel Route
Bitner, Pennsylvania
Organized - Oct. 4, 1958

Erie Mission
3126 State St.
Erie, Pennsylvania
Organized - Oct. 2, 1948

Fredonia Branch
R. D. No. 2
Fredonia, Pennsylvania - 16124
Organized - April 15, 1959

Glassport Branch
Michigan Ave.
Glassport, Pennsylvania
Organized - Oct. 1915

Greensburg Branch
1204 Broad St.
S. Greensburg, Pennsylvania
Organized - April 2, 1954

Imperial Branch
RD No. 1 Cliff Mine Rd.
Coraopolis, Pennsylvania - 15108
Organized - April 4, 1957

McKees Rocks Branch
1498 Park Ave.
Pittock, Pennsylvania - 15141
Organized - July 6, 1929

Monongahela Branch
Sixth & Lincoln St.
Monongahela, Pa. - 15063
Organized - Nov. 1, 1902

Roscoe Branch
Roscoe, Pennsylvania
Organized - April 1, 1933

Vanderbilt Branch
Route 201
Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania
Organized - Oct. 1, 1949

West Elizabeth Branch
State St. & Madison Ave.
Jefferson Boro.
West Elizabeth, Pa. - 15088
Organized - Oct. 1882

Eldora Mission
c/o Walter Anderson
RD No. 1 Box 460
Monongahela, Pa. - 15063

Homewood Chapel Mission
c/o Henry Border
RD No. 1 Box 774
Homewood Edition
Cumberland, Maryland - 21502

Fairless Hills Mission
Hugh Carcella Hall
Trenton Road
Fairless Hills, Pennsylvania

SOUTH DAKOTA

Wakpala S. Dakota Mission
Box 28
Wakpala S. Dakota - 57658
Established - Sept. 1963

Address Correspondence To:
Harry Robinson
202 Mitchell Avenue
Clairton, Pa. - 15025

WASHINGTON D. C.

Washington D. C. Mission
1742 - G Street N. W.
Washington, D. C. - 20006
Established - Sept. 26, 1962

BRIEF NEWS OF INTEREST

(Continued from Page 10)

Those who are presently in a position to forward the funds are asked to do so as soon as possible. Those who will be doing so within a short time are being requested to fill out a form available in Branches and Missions, indicating their plans and then forwarding them through either their Presiding Elders or directly to Brother Meredith R. Griffith, R.D. No. 1, Box 117, Bentleyville, Pennsylvania 15314. If no form is available, a brief note to Brother Griffith, outlining your intentions, may be sent. When these are received, he will be in a better position to evaluate our financial position on this project. Needless to say, your help will be greatly appreciated by all concerned.

HOME MISSIONARY PROGRAM

The St. John, Kansas Mission has recently circulated door-to-door letters of invitation to homes in its community. The correspondence invited everyone to a series of Evangelistic services being held in its Church building and informed the recipients who would be speaking, told of how The Church of Jesus Christ was introduced to St. John, gave an analysis of where The Church has some locations, identified the General Church offices as being in Monongahela, Pennsylvania, and stated the interest of The Church in the American Indians of the United States, Canada, Mexico, and South America. In addition, the brief but concise communication specified that a Church Minister would visit the residents personally if they so preferred.

Fast and prayer were observed in order to ask God to help these endeavors. It is hoped that seeds thus planted will bear fruit in the near future!

An 18 - month old child, Michael Lewis Meyers, who has been ill was blessed in St. John on May 11. The youngster's father recently passed on, leaving his mother and him alone in Woodson, Kansas. While visiting with her sister in St. John, Michael's mother asked for his prayer for blessings.

NEW ARRIVALS

The proud parents for the indicated new members of their families are certainly to be congratulated for their welcomed additions. New arrivals have been Vincent Edwin to the Vincent Edwin Moores of Roscoe, Pennsylvania; Michael Henry to the Harold David Border Srs. of the Homewood Chapel Mission in Cumberland, Maryland; Jennifer Lynn to the Walter Jankowskis II of the Cleveland, Ohio Mission; Juleeann to the Joseph Santiagos of Niles, Ohio; Keith Marchel to the Jerry Dean Chambers of Detroit, Michigan No. 1; and Michelle Denise to the Richard Elzbys and Angeline Celeste to the Alfred Joseph Cuerriers of Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

1969 CHURCH CALENDAR

Following is a list of July Church events of general and regional interest.

JULY**Annual Missionary Benevolent Association Area Conferences:**

- 18 — Michigan - Ontario Area at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3.
- 19 — Atlantic Area at Hopelawn, New Jersey.
- 19 — California Area at San Fernando Valley, California.
- 19 — Florida Area at Fort Pierce, Florida.
- 19 — Ohio Area at Cleveland, Ohio Branch No. 1.
- 19 — Pennsylvania Area at Elizabeth, Pennsylvania.
- 20 — Michigan-Ontario Area at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4.

OBITUARIES**DOMINIC SCALA**

Brother Dominic Scala, the first person to hear The Gospel preached in Metuchen, New Jersey and one of the pioneers of that city's Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, departed from this life on June 4. Born on June 21, 1878, he was baptized into The Church on April 27, 1930.

Two sons, seven daughters, 32 grandchildren, and 15 great - grandchildren are left to mourn his loss.

Brother Joseph Perri officiated at the funeral services.

Church meetings were held in Brother Scala's home until the present building was completed in Metuchen. Staunch and fervent in The Gospel, he will be greatly missed by all the Brothers, Sisters, and friends who knew and loved him.

FRANCISCO RIVERA

Brother Francisco Rivera, a faithful member of the Lorain, Ohio Spanish Mission of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed away to his eternal reward on May 22. Born on October 4, 1911, he was baptized into The Church on August 10, 1950.

He is survived by his wife, one son, three daughters, and four grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Joseph Calabrese, assisted by Brother Juan Gonzales.

Brother Rivera, an ordained Teacher, was the first Puerto Rican baptized into The Church. His testimony to many of his people was of great value in bringing them to The Gospel.

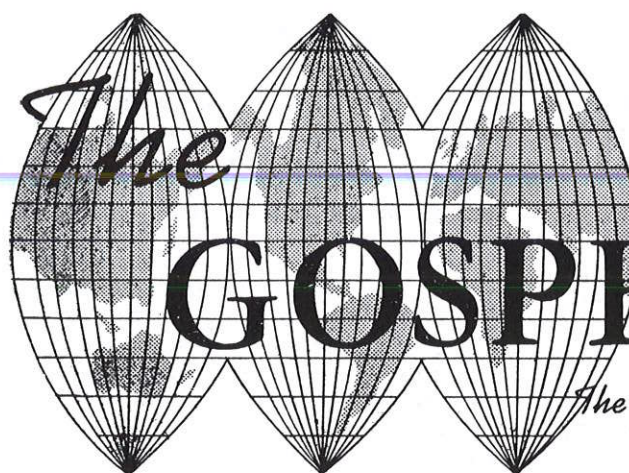
JAMES HEAPS

Brother James Heaps, Evangelist from the Anaheim, California Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, died while at the San Carlos Indian Reservation on May 6. (See "Tribute to James Heaps" on page 6). Born on July 5, 1893, he was baptized into The Church in 1911.

Left to mourn his loss are his wife, two sons, four daughters, 18 grandchildren, and 11 great - grandchildren.

Brother V. James Lovalvo officiated at the funeral services. He was assisted by Brothers Ben Ciccati and Joseph Lovalvo.

The many Brothers, Sisters, and friends who have been accustomed to Brother Heaps' presence will miss him greatly. The memory of his enthusiasm for and devotion to The Gospel of Christ will never be forgotten and will serve to inspire everyone who knew him even though he has departed.



The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

August 1969

Vol. 25 No. 8

Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.

Auditorium Progress

The President of the United States, Richard M. Nixon, last month selected the Greater Pittsburgh Airport as one of the few airports in the nation for landing the inter-continental airliners now being built to carry as many as 500 passengers a trip. He authorized the Greater Pittsburgh Airport Authority to purchase 6,000 acres of land to the south and southwest of the present airfield under a multi-billion dollar airport expansion program. The announcement of this selection was scheduled to be made public on or about July 31.

The Architects for the General Church Auditorium (Pellis and Lettrich) were called into a meeting with airport officials on July 2 and were notified of the action of the President. They immediately notified the Auditorium Committee, the General Church Board of Trustees, and the General Church President, Gorie Ciaravino.

The present Auditorium site, together with surrounding properties, will be purchased by the Airport Authority with Federal funds. As a result, construction of the new General Church Auditorium has been temporarily suspended pending the acquisition of a new site.

The Auditorium Committee, the General Church Board of Trustees, and General Church officers met with the Architects in Warren, Ohio on July 19 to investigate the possibility of relocation and to evaluate other alternatives regarding contractual obligations. A meeting of The General Priesthood was also appointed for Monongahela, Pennsylvania on July 26.

It is understood that The Church of Jesus Christ will be reimbursed for whatever costs and expenses have been or may be incurred by the delay in construction, including relocation costs, building adjustment costs, and any other expenses which may be involved. The General Contractor (the F. J. Busse Company, Incorporated) is prepared to move to the new site and continue with the project. Completion will still be the spring or early summer of 1970.

All donations should continue to be channeled through your Branch and Mission Financial Secretary or be mailed to the General Church Financial Secretary-Treasurer, Meredith R. Giffith, R. D. #1, Box 117, Bentleyville, Pennsylvania 15314.

18 Baptisms July 4 Bring GMBA Trip To Edifying Ending

By Paul Liberto

The entry of 18 people into The Church of Jesus Christ on July 4 successfully brought the fifth annual General Missionary Benevolent Association Field Trip to an edifying and climactic ending. The baptisms, performed at beautiful Camp Radford near Yucaipa, California where this year's event was held June 28 through July 5, left all assembled with memories of vivid blessings and eager anticipation of the next time when they can once again gather.

As was noted at the camp, the new converts were taken into the waters to become independent from their sins on the 193rd anniversary of our country's having declared her independence from foreign rule. The new Brothers and Sisters thus entered into a new life of hope the same as our nation did almost two centuries ago on July 4.

Six of the new members had indicated their desires to enter the fold the day prior. They were Joseph Cotellesse of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 2 who is in the service and who had come from Hawaii for the campout; Deborah Epifanio of Detroit Branch No. 3; Deborah Liberto of San Diego, California; Kurt Lovell of Cumberland, Maryland; and Ed and Wayne Donkin of Glassport, Pennsylvania.

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(Following is second of three installments by Brother Alvin Swanson who traveled to Yucatan with his wife to observe the archaeological findings there. — Editor's Note).

YUCATAN

By Alvin Swanson

Another wonderful building to visit in Yucatan is the astronomical observatory. By great stone staircases, one gains an elevation of several plateaus. Situated on the top of the last plateau is a circular building with a domed roof. Inside we gained access to a circular passage going to the observatory room by means of a ladder.

The Mayans were small people, so they built the passage to accommodate themselves. It wound around clockwise and was so small that we had to crawl on our hands and knees to climb up the stairs. As there was not any light, it was like a stygian tomb. At the top, we stood and gazed through a part of the roof which had collapsed. The rest of the room was in a good state of preservation. There, we peered through apertures which scanned positions of the planets and stars just over the vanishing point of the land and upwards.

Their computations about the stars and planets are as exact as those of today. The Mayan calendar derived from calculations made from such observations was more accurate than the one we use today.

Another structure was the temple of the warriors which forms part of the group of the Thousand Columns. The bodies of the pyramid are decorated with panels of sculptured dieties and animals. A gallery with sculptured pillars representing warriors gave access to the temple. In front of the altar was a small stone pyramid which served as a human sacrificial stone. This practice was begun when the Toltecs conquered the Mayans around the 10th century.

ANOTHER TEMPLE BENEATH

Under this temple is another temple, and entry is made by a stairway. There are beautiful murals showing the everyday life of the Mayan on its walls. They were copied and reproduced, and copies can be obtained today. The originals have begun to disappear completely, as they have been exposed to the air. It seemed to me they were painted to represent the past as well, because there were men (Nephites) paddling canoes, while other men (Lamanites), were seated and were doing no work. The rowers were white; those seated were dark. Could it mean one race captive to the other? Many columns (thousands) surround this temple. They probably held up a great roof, under which the weapons and provisions of war were housed. Also, these were for the training of the troops. It is easy to believe that this temple was dedicated to the cult of war and to military orders, as the whole environment suggests.

Adjacent to this is a ball court. It is 150 yards long and lies between two parallel walls. The walls are all sculptured in low relief. It is so large one feels dwarfed standing on the field. Halfway along the length of the walls are stone rings, about twenty feet up the face of the wall.

A solid rubber ball was used in the game which was played, and the object was to get the ball through the rings. This was quite difficult to accomplish because use of the hands was not allowed. Only the heads, hips, and feet were utilized. Also, the ball fit the opening in the rings quite closely.

Usually there were seven players on each side, and there was a captain for each team. Our guide told us they would sometimes play for days, and possibly longer, to decide the winning side. Only the High Priest and very few dignitaries were allowed to witness this religious game. In addition, the acoustics had to be nearly perfect, as the High Priest would want to hear what each player was saying and sometimes the combatants were 150 yards away. I stood on the center of the field and clapped my hands, and, much to my surprise, the clapping reverberated and multiplied around the perimeter of the field until it set up staccato sounds. It was easy to observe the Priest could easily hear every word that was said in the game.

The religious part followed after the game was decided. I do not know whether the captain who won, or the captain who lost was accorded the honor of being offered as a human sacrifice. Anyway, one captain would decapitate the other captain. There is a description of the way the game was played in the Sacred Book of the Mayan Quiches, the Popul Vuh. The sculptured walls in the court are done in stone murals describing the game. The stairways in the temple of the bearded man at the other end of the field are adorned in stone motifs further telling about the game.

HOUSED THREE KINGS

There were three rooms in another temple we entered. They supposedly housed three kings. The rooms were oblong, about 30 feet by 15 feet. A cove was constructed where the walls met the ceiling, not curved but corbelled in stone like the rest of the room. Over all of this was a fine plaster, upon which were hieroglyphics in what seemed to me to be of cuneiform character. They were not all complex upon a small space as they are on the stela stones, but they were stately, running in unhurried and leisurely fashion around the four coved sides of the ceiling. They affected me as much as anything I had seen while there. I wondered whether they were in reformed Egyptian, the same as the writings on the plates translated by Joseph Smith.

When building temples, the Mayans had a practice of applying red dye to their hands and pressing them upon the stone ceilings in different places. Next, they plastered over the prints which hid them from sight. This was a representation of the unseen hand of God, which is always present I discovered this red hand print in one temple where the plaster had fallen, exposing it to view. Meditating on the achievements and ruins of this place, I must conclude Isaiah 5:25 describes the situation.

It took me about two days of studying the murals in stone before I could read them. One very interesting mural was of a central figure

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THE GOSPEL NEWS

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Editorial Viewpoint

By George A. Neill

Vital Christianity is that brand of living which Jesus considers to be vital for Christians today.

"Vital Christianity" is a term often used today. Just what is Vital Christianity? For centuries man has been attempting to interpret Christianity. When we look at Christianity as a whole we see a variety of interpretations, but let it suffice us to say that it is "believing in or belonging to the religion of Jesus Christ." This is indeed a very simple definition of the word "Christianity," but the meaning of vital is not so simple when related to the religion of Jesus Christ.

The dictionary denotes vital as pertaining to life, "being the seat or source of life"; therefore, we can best understand it, as we use it in relation to physical life, in terms as to what is vital for health. We take note that what is lacking in diet can sometimes cause loss of life, and we conclude that this dietary item is vital. There are organs of the body that perform important functions and, should they fail, life would be lost. We consider them to be vital organs; however, not all organs are vital for some have been removed and health has improved.

I understand there are minerals that must be taken into the body or the body will perish. We know these minerals are vital to human life. Just so it is spiritually speaking; there is that which must come into our lives from Christ in order that spiritual life may be obtained and maintained. The Holy Spirit is as vital to our lives and Christianity as any of the many minerals that are vital to the human body.

Christ and His way of life are vital to the individual and to society. Therefore, Vital Christianity possesses that which is good for the person and, in turn, good for society. It will heal sin-sick souls, it will warm a heart, and it will alert the mind. "It cares for the sick and the sorrowful, heals hurt souls, comforts old age; it knows no division of culture or class; it reaches as low as the humblest human being, as far as the love of God, as high as the ideals of Jesus."

Vital Christianity teems with vitality; it will always produce a vital, crusading, energetic people. Its vitality emanates from a living Christ. It attracts by power and also by purity. It is not only attractive but is magnetic as well. It has a tendency to draw people to it. It overcomes evil with good, defeats hate with love. Vital Christianity, like the Good Samaritan, stops to bind up wounds; it produces faith, hope and charity; it is, as Hinduism puts it, "This is the sum of duty; do naught to others which, if done to thee, would cause thee pain." Vital Christianity is that brand of living which Jesus considers to be vital for Christians today. The vital things about Christianity are those things Jesus taught and demonstrated in His life and has passed on to us as our work.

A word that I think is closely related to vital is fundamental. Vital Christianity deals with the fundamentals across the world. There are millions of God's creatures who are dying spiritually for lack of Vital Christianity. They want and need the brand of Christianity which ministers to their souls, and at the same time makes sense to the mind. They sense the need for a "high calling of God in Christ Jesus."



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"... behold, I am the light and the life of the world..."
III Nephi 11:11.

Dear Girls and Boys,

In America there were three days of darkness and terror at the time of the death of Jesus. The sun, moon, and stars gave no light. There were earthquakes, cities were buried deep in the earth, and mountains were flattened at this time. The world was now a strange and changed place. The Prophet, Samuel the Lamanite, had warned the people all this would take place but they would not listen nor repent of their evil ways.

Many good people who lived in the land Bountiful were spared during this destruction. When light returned, they went to where their temple stood, and, while they were gazing about at the changes that had taken place, they heard a voice. It seemed as though it were coming from heaven. It was not a loud voice, but was a soft piercing one. They received a blessing as they heard it. Again they heard it! The third time the voice was heard they understood the words. It was God saying, "Behold my Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased, in whom I have glorified my name — hear ye him."

As the people looked into the sky, they saw a Man dressed in a white robe descending from heaven. He came down and stood in their midst. Everyone looked at Him but none dared speak for they thought it was an angel. The Man reached out his hand and began to speak. Then they knew Him! He said, "Behold, I am Jesus Christ, whom the prophets testified shall come into the world... I am the light and the life of the world..." Jesus continued speaking words that caused the people to remember that the prophets had told them that Jesus would show Himself unto them after His ascension into heaven.

As Jesus told them who He was, the whole multitude fell to the earth and worshipped Him. Jesus told them to arise and thrust their hands into His side and feel the prints of the nails in His hands and feet so they would know He was the God of Israel and the God of the whole earth and was slain for the sins of the world. The people did as Jesus commanded. One by one they came until they all saw with their own eyes and felt with their hands that this was Jesus whom the Prophets had written about. They praised God saying, "Hosanna! Blessed be the name of the Most High God!" Then they fell down at His feet and worshipped Him.

What a wonderful event in the history of America when the people of Nephi saw and touched Jesus, the Resurrected Saviour! You can read this beautiful story in the **Book of Mormon**, III Nephi Chapter 11.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

1. In verses 18-19 of this chapter, find the name of the one in the multitude who kissed the feet of Jesus.
2. What power was he given?
3. Does our Church follow the plan of baptism as in verses 23 through 28?

One of our readers in Detroit Michigan wants me to tell you stories about Joseph, so watch for the September issue.

Sincerely
Sister Mabel



UR WOMEN TODAY

Ladies' Circles Meet In Lorain

By Mary Tamburrino

The Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference was held in the Lorain, Ohio Church building on Saturday, June 21. Sisters were in attendance from various parts of Canada, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Florida.

The day's schedule was begun with the devotional period conducted by the Lorain Circle. The theme was "Harvestime," and the cycle from the spiritual sowing of the seed through the harvest season was traced in scripture and song. Sister Mabel Bickerton, General Circle President, then elaborated further on the theme, discussing the missionary work of The Church and how the Sisters of the Circle have a part in the blessings when these labors culminate in the "harvestime." Many edifying testimonies and hymns of praise by those present followed.

THREE-MONTH REPORTS

Official Conference reports, communications, and actions were next on the agenda. Among these accounts were reports from the Circle units in Branches and Missions which reflected their activities and financial condition during the concluded three-month segment. Also, letters from the General Church Board of Missions regarding the Home Mission work performed by members of The Ministry and from Brother John Ross, thanking the Circles for helping The Church's African missions, were read. The home missionary program is supported by the General Circles Home Mission Fund, and it is available for The Priesthood to visit Branches and Missions as authorized through the General Church Board of Missions. In sending aid to the Brothers and Sisters in Africa, clothing and funds are forwarded through Brother Ross, who resides at 100 Cleveland and Division Streets, Aliquippa, Pennsylvania 15001. The project is handled through the African Relief Fund, with Brother Ross in charge.

A communication was also received from Sister Evelyn Perdue, informing the circle of the conditions in Tijuana, Mexico and of the needs

there. (See "Missionary Field" next column). Sister Perdue, residing with her husband, Brother Edward, who is a full-time missionary at The Church's two Indian Missions in Tijuana, has been keeping the Circles updated, at their request, so they may help in supporting the efforts being expended there.

All officers, with the exception of the Historian, were reelected. Sister Josephine D'Amico of Detroit, Michigan was elected to fill this office. Plans were also discussed for the Circles' 50th Anniversary which will be celebrated next year. A motion was passed to place the Michigan-Ontario District's Sisters in charge of the anniversary plans with Sister D'Amico as the Chairman.

DONATIONS MADE

Disbursements were authorized from the General Circle Indian Mission Fund to the General Church Indian Missionary Fund and to the San Diego, California Circle unit for infant clothes in Mexico. Donations were also sanctioned from the Circle General Fund for the trailer at the San Carlos Indian Reservation in Arizona, for Church Missions, for the Auditorium Fund, and the Home Missions Fund. Additionally, an amount was disbursed from the Cook Book Fund to the General Church Indian Mission Fund.

The question from the last General Circle Meeting was found in I Nephi 12:17 in the Book of Mormon. Two new questions were given out. Sister Muriel Miller of Detroit, Michigan then told about her recent trip to Hawaii.

Brother Thurman S. Furnier, General Church First Counselor, was present during the afternoon service. He spoke concerning the missionary work of The Church of Jesus Christ, thus continuing the theme of the morning service's presentation about the "latter-day harvest." Following this, Sister Ruth Akerman requested prayer on behalf of those involved in Church missionary work.

A standing vote of thanks was given the Lorain Circle for its wonderful hospitality for the Conference. The next Quarterly General Circle meetings will be held at the New Brunswick, New Jersey Church building on September 20.

YUCATAN

(Continued from Page 2)

speaking to many people. The listeners were in all phases of repose, looking to the one central figure who was said to be The Lord speaking to Nephites. At this time, The Lord may have told them about the future (white skinned Gods shall come from the east and dispossess you of your lands). This, of course, was Cortez in 1519. They knew the exact day Cortez would land, as they carried it on their calendars for many centuries. The prophecies are carried in high school Spanish books in Miami, Florida schools where my attention was first drawn to them.

Another mural was their conception of the creation. It shows God making our creation. The tears from His eyes form the oceans. There are seven different parts in the scene. Another stone mural records a trip to South America. There are seven making the trip. Only one, probably the High Priest, is riding; the rest are walking. The animal is a llama (pronounced yumma), probably sent up from South America for the trip, as the Mayans had no beast of burden.

(In the third and last article in his series on Yucatan next month, Brother Swanson will describe more of the ruins toured. He will also present his overall impressions of Yucatan — Editor's Note)

The Missionary Field

By Edward and Evelyn Perdue

It is our pleasure to inform you with the progress being made here in the two Tijuana, Mexico Indian Missions. Like others who have gone into Church mission fields, we have found God's help and guidance wonderful in allowing us to work for The Gospel. There is nothing more satisfying in this life than to see a soul converted. To date, 113 persons have been baptized in Mexico. Several have passed away, and we are thankful that the Lord sent us their way before they departed from this life.

At Tijuana Mission No. 2, the people have really learned to sing out, to pray, and to testify. About six months ago, the baptisms started to come forth, and we are all thankful that this mission is bearing fruit.

The Lord has also been blessing us with encouraging experiences and healings. We shall cite two of them. One man had been bedridden for over two years with arthritis. After prayers, he was able to get out of bed and has walked about four miles to our Mission No. 1 and also attends Mission No. 2. A Sister had lost four children in succession shortly after birth. She prayed to The Lord, after she met The Church, to save her baby which had just been born. The doctors told her it would be impossible for this child to live. The child is now two years old and is healthy; and she thanks God for this miracle.

Oftentimes people from as far away as 2500 miles who come to Tijuana looking for The Church tell us that someone told them that, if they find The Church, the people will treat them with kindness. We received a letter one day from a man who was in prison in Mexico City, which is about 2500 miles away. He wrote that he had heard about us and asked if we would be kind enough to pray for him.

We have been asked many times to go to different parts of Mexico to start missions for The Church. Homes have been offered to us, but, of course, this expansion is impossible for us to pursue at the present time. Some of the places to which we have been invited have been Mexico City, Oaxaca (2500 miles away), Guadalajara, Ensenada, Tecate, and others. Perhaps some day The Church might reach out that far, if not through us then perhaps through other missionaries. At least, that is our hope. We know that with God all things are possible, and we look forward to the day when The Gospel will be made available to all those who are sincerely searching for it.

In conclusion, let us say that God has been answering our prayers here, as well as those of you Brothers, Sisters, and friends who have been petitioning Him on our behalf in Tijuana and for all other workers in the mission fields. Please continue to remember us, as we further attempt to perform our duties.

18 Baptisms July 4 Bring GMBA Trip To Edifying Ending

(Continued from Page 1)

Eleven others made their decisions after the first six were confirmed in the morning. These candidates were Joyce D'Amico of Detroit No. 3; Donald Henderson of Windsor, Ontario, Canada; Candace Calabrese of Lorain, Ohio; Gary Damore of Phoenix, Arizona; Karen Scalise and Patricia Henderson of Bell, California; Ron Nichols of Modesto, California; Mary and Cindy Curry of San Fernando Valley, California; and Francine Saczko and Orletta Liberto of San Diego. The last new member, Sabra Williams of San Fernando Valley, obeyed The Gospel that night.

This gathering marked the third consecutive year that the Association Trip has been held for a one-week period, and on each occasion many converts have come into The Church. In 1967, the event took place in Arlington, Kansas, and 11 persons came into the fold. Last year, the trip was scheduled for Nauvoo, Illinois, and 17 individuals were baptized. The first two such outings were taken to the Muncey and Six Nations Indian Reservations in Ontario, Canada in 1965 and 1966, respectively, for weekend periods.

SUNDAY SERVICES

The week had begun with three Church services on Sunday, June 29. Speakers at the morning meeting were Brothers Isaac Smith of the White River Indian Reservation in Arizona; Gorie Ciaravino, General Church President, of Detroit, Michigan; Alex Robinson of St. John, Kansas; and Jerry Giovannone of Warren, Ohio. The text was taken from III Nephi of the Book of Mormon, and it was adapted to the building of a Model City which would be comparable to that Model City in heaven. The necessity of living righteously before God was emphasized.

The afternoon service was introduced by Brother August D'Orazio, GMBA President from Edison, New Jersey. He spoke on I Nephi 2 and the importance of serving God, particularly in the days of one's youth. Brother Joseph Perri of Metuchen, New Jersey followed, presenting the examples of many leaders who had worked for The Lord while they were young.

Brother Joseph Milantoni, GMBA Vice-President from Detroit, Michigan was the Sunday night keynote speaker. He described the many values of the campouts which have been held recently. He reviewed the blessings which have been received at these gatherings and the many precious memories which have been repeatedly relived by all who have participated. Brother Smith, who is the recent past President of the General MBA, then told of other significant results of the campouts as he recalled other highlights.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Throughout the week, the daily schedule

was divided into periods for morning Chapel, seminars, recreation, and evening worship and fellowship. The seminars and recreational segments were broken down by age groups, allowing all individuals to spend these times with people of their own set. The discussions and activities were enlightening and enjoyable. The seminars covered subjects of religious, social, and parental concern, and they were particularly noteworthy. The Tuesday night panel discussion which bridged the generation gap was perhaps the most beneficial.

On Monday night, Brothers Milantoni, D'Orazio, and Perri spoke to the group; and on Wednesday night, Brother Robert Ciarrochi of San Fernando Valley was the main speaker, followed by Brother Robert Watson Jr. also of San Fernando, who is in charge of the Yucaipa Mission. There was a "Singspiration" on Thursday night and a "Talent Night" on Friday.

Many officials and volunteers of the California MBA Area planned and coordinated the week's activities for the General Association. The Area President is Brother Anthony Picciuto of San Fernando; the Area Vice-President, who was Camp Chairman, is Brother Leonard Joseph Loyalvo of Modesto; and the Area Chaplain is Brother Richard Christman of Phoenix, Arizona.

The memorable occasion at the 6,000 feet elevated region amid pine trees and snow-capped, high-peaked mountains was attended by representatives from all parts of The Church. The testimonies of all present to their home congregations upon their return undoubtedly reflected the wonderful results of another inspiring get-together with Brothers, Sisters, and friends with whom they ordinarily do not have the opportunity to visit and fellowship. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the exchanges of many experiences, and the disclosures of how The Lord works continuously with His people were most evident at this joyous event, the same as they have been for those which preceded it. For 18 of those assembled, it meant a spiritual rebirth and a declaration of independence from their previous sins.

Weeknight Guests At New Brunswick

Two guest speakers addressed the New Brunswick, New Jersey congregation of The Church of Jesus Christ the last week in June. Brother Patsy Rogolino of Fort Pierce, Florida talked on Wednesday evening, June 25, and Brother V. James Loyalvo of Modesto, California spoke two nights later.

Their words were encouraging and inspiring for those assembled. Visitors from nearby Branches and Missions also came to hear the visiting speakers and to spend time with the local group, further adding to the enjoyment received.

Brother Rogolino formerly lived in New Jersey and served as the Presiding Elder at the Stelton Branch, now known as the Edison Branch. Brother Loyalvo, Church Apostle, is spending some time with the Atlantic Coast Branches and Missions.

Quorum Of Twelve, Ohio Elders Meet

The Quorum of Twelve Apostles, as designated by the last April General Church Conference, met with the Elders of the Ohio District of The Church of Jesus Christ on Saturday afternoon, June 14, in Lorain, Ohio.

The purpose of the meeting was to explore how members of The Priesthood can further assist in the growth and development of The Church in their localities. Such seminars will also be held in other Districts in the future to discuss these matters and additional methods to more effectively preach The Gospel and to encourage better attendance at services.

Results of this first such meeting indicated that the discussions were informative, interesting, and well-received. Participants stated an interest in gathering for these kinds of sessions periodically.

In the evening, the General Church Special Affairs Committee met to make final arrangements for the assignment of Brother V. James Lovalvo, General Church Designee, to visit the Branches and Missions of the Atlantic Coast District. The program under which Brother Lovalvo is functioning was authorized by the General Priesthood at the April 1968 General Church Conference.

Church, Apostle Presidents Speak At Lorain, Ohio

Brothers Gorie Ciaravino, General Church President, and Alma B. Cadman, President of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles, were the guest speakers at the Lorain, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ on Sunday, June 15. They had stayed over, along with Apostle Russell Cadman who offered the closing remarks at the service, after meeting with other Church officials the day before as reported above.

Brother Ciaravino introduced the service, using **III Nephi 11:1-11** in the **Book of Mormon** as the text. This passage, which describes the appearance of Jesus Christ in this land after His ascension, deals with the enlightenment presented by The Saviour. His proclamations were reviewed and further evidences of the **Book of Mormon** were also cited. How archaeologists have used the information furnished in this record to find ruins of the early inhabitants here was also illustrated by Brother Ciaravino.

In his delivery, Brother Alma Cadman spoke inspiringly about The Church and the hope of eternal salvation. The oldest member of The Priesthood, who is now 90 years old, recited the last five verses in the **Book of Mormon** from memory. The authority and enthusiasm with which he presented these closing words of the Prophet Moroni were touching and served as a fitting

reminder to all assembled about the eventual necessity to meet "... before the pleasing bar of the great Jehovah, the Eternal Judge of both quick and dead. Amen."

VISITORS WELCOMED AT ROSCOE, PENNA.

The Roscoe, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ has had the pleasure of visits from neighboring locations recently. Their fellowship, talks, and testimonies were highly welcomed, inspiring and uplifting.

On Wednesday evening, May 21, Brother Meredith R. Griffith, along with his Sunday School class from Monongahela, traveled to Roscoe. They presented picture slides and tapes of songs and testimonies collected at the San Carlos, Arizona and Tijuana, Mexico Indian Missions. In addition, they also gave their own personal testimonies pertaining to what they had experienced while visiting these missions. Their accounts were enlightening and stimulating.

The next Sunday evening, May 25, the Greensburg Branch came to Roscoe to fellowship and offer hymns of praise to God. A male quartet from Greensburg sang many appropriate selections, and many edifying testimonies were given. During the same day, Brothers Louis Cecchi from Greensburg and Samuel Kirschner from West Elizabeth were the guest speakers in the morning and afternoon services.

Brother Harry Robinson from West Elizabeth spent Sunday, June 8, at the Roscoe Branch. His words of encouragement were beneficial to the Brothers, Sisters, and friends. His presence climaxed the series of visits at Roscoe and left all there looking forward to the next time when they can fellowship with members from other locations of The Church.

Guest Speakers At San Diego

Two guest speakers from Detroit, Michigan addressed the San Diego, California congregation on Tuesday evening, June 24. They were Brothers Joseph Milantoni and Gorie Ciaravino, who spoke in that order.

Brother Milantoni used **Alma 26:11, 12** from the **Book of Mormon** as his text. Besides explaining this passage, he talked about the wonderful opportunities he had had to stop off on the way west at both the White River and San Carlos Indian Reservations in Arizona and to spend some time among the seed of Joseph who are being served by full-time Church missionaries there.

In his remarks, Brother Ciaravino also dwelled on the subject scripture and on the missionary work of The Church of Jesus Christ. His statements reflected the dedication with which all laborers are seeking to further advance The Gospel wherever possible, particularly those who are involved in missionary efforts.

Rochester - Lockport Gathering June 8

The semi-annual Rochester-Lockport, New York gathering was held in Rochester on Sunday, June 8. Local and out-of-state visitors assembled with the two congregations for the enjoyable and rewarding event which witnessed the outpouring of God's blessings.

Brothers Rocco V. Biscotti from Cleveland, Ohio; Anthony A. Corrado from Youngstown, Ohio; and Paul D'Amico from Lockport spoke during the services. The first two are the President and First Counselor, respectively, of the Ohio District to which both Rochester and Lockport belong. All three are Church Apostles.

In introducing the service, Brother Biscotti used Acts 4 as his text. He discussed the healing of the lame man in the temple by Peter and Paul, and he emphasized that it was only through the name and power of Jesus Christ that this healing was possible.

Brother Corrado spoke next on the same subject. He instructed and urged everyone on the necessity for building their treasure in heaven and to prove faithful to The Gospel until the end of their days on earth.

Speaking in the Italian language for the benefit of those present of that extraction, Brother D'Amico confirmed the importance of the theme presented by the first two Brothers. He depicted the glorious life to come for those who prove faithful, describing the Paradise of God where heavenly eternal life is available.

The Rochester Presiding Elder, Brother Ansel D'Amico, summarized the sermons. He reiterated the sentiments expressed to love God and to keep His commandments.

A vision experienced during the service was related by Brother Vincent Gallucci. He said he saw a man dressed completely in white standing beside the Brothers while they spoke.

Large Attendance For Dedication At Yucaipa

Overflow attendance greeted the dedication of the new Yucaipa, California Church building of The Church of Jesus Christ on Sunday, May 18. Visitors came from various parts of the west coast to join the local group for the special and memorable occasion on the warm and sunshiny day.

The singing of hymns by soloists and choirs from the different locations started the services, after which the Dedictory Prayer was offered by Brother Anthony Brutz of San Fernando. Brother Mark Randy of Modesto then read Solomon's prayer on dedicating the temple. Next, Brother V. James Loyalvo, also of Modesto, spoke on the blessings in America and how fortunate we all

are to be able to give thanks and glory to God. He noted that some people in some other countries do not have these liberties.

Many others spoke throughout the day, including Brothers George Heaps of Anaheim and Joseph Capone of Bell. All the words delivered were enjoyable and added immeasurably to the day's proceedings.

The Church in Yucaipa is located in a community of about 27,000 people, many of whom are "senior citizens." Noteworthy is the fact that Brothers and Sisters in their 60's and 70's physically participated in the construction of the building. Brother Robert Watson Jr., Presiding Elder, read a poem titled, "The Bridge Builder," by Will Allen Dromgoole during this dedication service. This composition tells of an elderly man who came to a deep and wide chasm through which flowed a sullen tide and over which he built a bridge. A young pilgrim, observing his labors, asked why he did this. The old man replied that he had built the bridge for the youth whose feet would pass that way and who would encounter the pitfalls that might be there. The thoughts of this older worker represented the same desires of all those who worked on the Yucaipa building, which is a model of simplicity and beauty.

The next Sunday, May 25, Brothers Dennis Calabrese of San Fernando and Daniel Ciccati of San Diego visited at Yucaipa, and they offered their testimonies and thanks to God. Their enthusiastic and inspirational willingness to tell about the blessings which The Lord has bestowed upon them was encouraging to the older "Bridge Builders" present. They, like many of their counterparts, have been responsible for paving the way for many young people to The Gospel of Christ and are comparable to "The Bridge Builder" cited by Brother Watson the previous Sunday.

Experience Leads To A Conversion At West Elizabeth

A new member was added to the West Elizabeth, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ as Joseph Louis Austin obeyed The Gospel on Sunday, June 1. He was baptized by Brother English Webb, Jr. and confirmed by Brother Harry Robinson.

Brother Austin had attended for about a year. He listened, observed, and prayed to God, and he was rewarded with an experience. He dreamed that the world had come to an end and Jesus said to him, "Joe, you have waited too long." After being told this, it seemed that he wanted to follow Jesus around. Brother Austin knew, or felt, that it would be too late for him if he did not repent and be baptized.

Understandably, the West Elizabeth congregation was greatly blessed by the addition of Brother Austin. All members are thankful for his testimony and pray that it will be a constant source of inspiration for him, as well as for them, in the coming years.

Two Baptized, Apostle Speaks In M-O District

A young couple obeyed The Gospel and visiting Apostle V. James Lovalvo addressed two congregations in the Michigan-Ontario District on Sunday, June 15. The two new members, Robert and Ruth Ann Stanek, of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, asked for their baptisms at their home Church location in the morning and were confirmed at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 in the afternoon, as Brother Lovalvo spoke inspiringly at both places.

At Windsor, the message was based on Lehi's dream in the **Book of Mormon**. Brother Lovalvo discussed this dream and the significance of the tree of life which it concerned. The importance of remaining faithful to The Gospel was emphasized. Brother Dominic Moraco followed, elaborating on the theme.

Before the meeting was closed, Brother Donald Collison stated that it had been revealed to him on the way to Church that two persons would be baptized. Other Elders, including Samuel Cuomo, Frank Vitto, and Michael La Sala, said they also felt that there were two present who wanted to be baptized. At the close of the service, the new Brother and Sister requested their baptisms, thus fulfilling the experiences. They were baptized on the Windsor side of the Detroit River by Brother Anthony R. Lovalvo.

The afternoon service at Detroit No. 1 was introduced by Brother Moraco, who spoke briefly. Brother V. James Lovalvo then talked about the importance of being fully involved in the work of The Gospel. He cited the admonition of Joshua to become completely immersed in the work of The Lord. The sermon was highly edifying at the location where Brother Lovalvo had been baptized almost 36 years before and where he spent many years before moving to California.

Confirmations of the new members followed thereafter. Brother Stanek was confirmed by Brother Moraco, and Sister Stanek was confirmed by Brother Carl Frammolin.

The next Wednesday night, June 18, Brother Lovalvo spoke at Detroit Branch No. 2. The subject was based on **Matthew 6:21**, which deals with the acquiring and maintaining of proper treasures. He exhorted everyone, especially the young people to say "no" to the things of the world which are in conflict with the teachings and commandments of Christ. Brother Lovalvo told how compromises with these laws lead to "selling - out" of values and how these kinds of adjustments were those which led to The Apostasy. "Do not be ashamed to say 'no' to your friends when they try to lead you astray," he said. "If The Gospel is your treasure, your heart will be in it, and you will become a faithful and dedicated worker committed to Christ and His Church." Brother Gorie Ciaravino concluded the service with a few closing remarks.

During the following Sunday, June 22, Brother Lovalvo talked again at Detroit No. 1 in the morning and at Detroit No. 3 in the afternoon. He discussed the "Parable of the Prodigal Son" at No. 1, realistically portraying the necessity for those not in The Gospel to return to The Lord. Brothers Frank and Paul Vitto followed on the same subject. At Detroit No. 3, Brother Lovalvo spoke about the blessings of America and what they mean to The Church of Jesus Christ and to each person living in this country. He also touched on the "Peaceful Reign" and other events which will transpire in the future.

Brother Lovalvo, noted soloist, sang appropriate hymns at all of the services where he talked. These renditions added immensely to the enjoyment of these meetings.

Three Baptized In Cumberland Sunday, July 6

Three more individuals were baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ at the Homewood Chapel Mission in Cumberland, Maryland on Sunday, July 6. The newest members are Marsha Fadley and Leo and Florence Lowery.

Brother Idras Martin immersed all three, and he confirmed the two new Sisters. Brother Henry Border confirmed Brother Lowery.

A fourth new convert of Cumberland, Brother Kurt Lovell, was baptized at the General Missionary Benevolent Association Field Trip in California on July 4, as reported earlier in this issue.

The additions are greatly welcomed and have added immensely to the many blessings received at the Mission in Cumberland, which is under the Monongahela, Pennsylvania Branch. Brother Border is in charge of the congregation, and Brother Martin of Monongahela travels to services there as frequently as possible.

Enters Church After Moving To Miami, Fla.

Eileen Ritz Katsaras was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on Sunday, June 15, in Miami, Florida. She was taken into the waters by Brother Alvin Swanson, and she was confirmed by Brother James Sheffler.

Sister Katsaras had been attending Church services at Miami since moving there from Youngstown, Ohio last October. The Sunday she was baptized, her brother-in-law and sister, Brother William and Sister Betty Gennaro and their family from Youngstown were visitors. Also present were Brother John and Sister Rosemarie Ali, along with their family, from Glassport, Pennsylvania.

Baptism, Guests At Perry, Ohio

Another new member came into the fold at Perry, Ohio on Sunday, June 29, when Wendy Kay Luxeuil went into the waters for baptism. She was baptized by Brother Fred Musolino and confirmed by Brother Rocco V. Biscotti.

Brother Vincent Gibson of Cleveland, Ohio No. 1 was a guest speaker during this memorable day which experienced many blessings. He spoke from Proverbs about how the fear of The Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

Other visitors at Perry recently were Brothers Spencer G. Everett and Gorie Ciaravino, General Church President, both of Detroit, Michigan who spoke in that order on Sunday, May 25. The text used was taken from Ezekiel 2 and 3.

Brother Everett stated that we must have our hearts and souls with Jesus Christ and His Church, as the love of God prevails among His people. He pointed out that we must be filled with the Spirit of God, thrive and exist on the Word of God, and seek to be an instrument of God. These statements were reminiscent of God's commands to Ezekiel that he should feast on His Word and that he should be obedient to The Spirit.

In his remarks, Brother Ciaravino instructed those assembled to be faithful to God and to The Church. He said it was essential for everyone to find their talents and capacities in The Church so that we unitedly can more adequately help the Kingdom of God and tell others of Jesus and The Gospel.

The Perry group has been most edified by the addition of Sister Luxeuil and by the informative, interesting, and encouraging words which they have been privileged to hear.

Detroit No. 3 Summer Classes Held July 7-17

The fourth annual Vacation Bible School classes were hosted by Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3, July 7 through 17. "Miracles" were the subject lessons which were studied.

The many volunteers who taught the classes and assisted in many ways to help the youngsters to learn as much as possible were responsible for the success of the school. In addition to teaching children of the Branch, these helpers instructed the many students from the community who attended the sessions. Besides the lessons, memory verses, songs, and quizzes related to the subjects which were utilized, various crafts were taught.

A program was held on the evening of the 17th, at which the children reviewed what they had learned during the two-week span. A social period followed, and all assembled fellowshiped together and observed the craft items which the children had completed.

Obeys Gospel While At Home For The Summer

A young man home from college during the summer obeyed The Gospel at the Youngstown, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ on Sunday, June 22. He is Anthony Costarella who has been attending Church services in Hammond, Indiana while studying at medical school in Chicago, Illinois.

The new Brother was baptized by Brother Anthony A. Corrado. He was confirmed by Brother Rocco Berardino.

Brother Costarella hails from Girard, Ohio.

Bible School At Aliquippa

The Aliquippa, Pennsylvania Branch conducted its fifth annual Vacation Bible School June 16 through 27. This year's theme was on the "Parables of Jesus Christ."

The chairmen for the project were Brother Daniel and Sister Mary Tamburrino and Brother James and Sister Joan Gibson. The teachers for the sections were Sisters Mary Ross and Sabina D'Antonio for the Nursery Class; Sara Palmieri and Victoria D'Antonio for the Kindergarten Class; Josephine Ross and Diana Gula for the Primary Class; and Joan Gibson, Patricia Giannetti, Philomena DeLuca, and Eleanor Palmieri for the Intermediate Class.

A program to culminate the school's activities was presented on the last day. Refreshments were also served to the children at this final meeting.

The free-will offerings collected on the missionary days were donated to the children of the Tijuana, Mexico Indian Missions.

First School At Detroit No. 2

The first Vacation Bible School held at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 2 was presented the week of June 23 through 27. The studies for the week covered the topic, "Jesus, My Friend."

Sister Virginia Carlini was in charge of the school, and she also taught the pre-school children. Other teachers were Sisters Dolores Thomas, Primary Class; Nancy Harvey, Elementary Class; and Isabella Bologna, Intermediate Class. Sister Catherine Gentile was the musical instructor, Sister Lydia Francione was the Registrar, and Sister Laverne Siddall was the refreshment coordinator.

On Sunday evening, June 29, the Vacation Bible School students sang the songs they had learned during the week at a Branch Community Singing service.

Vacation School At Monongahela

"Saul of Tarsus" was the theme of the eleventh annual Monongahela, Pennsylvania Vacation Bible School which was held from June 9th through the 20th. Six classes, ranging from the nursery age group to the junior - senior high school class, studied one lesson each day of the ten - day session.

The life of Paul was examined extensively. The children learned of his early life, his conversion, and his missionary work for the early Church. The handicraft projects made by the members of each class were related to the lessons studied.

The highlight of the Bible School was a program during which the children presented songs, memory verses, and reviews of each day's lessons. The nervous parents who watched their children recite their memory verses and then smiled proudly as the recitations were completed were very rewarded by the efforts of all concerned.

Two missionary projects expressed the concern and enthusiasm of even the youngest students for the work of The Church of Jesus Christ in spreading The Gospel. The first contributions included donations of clothing and funds for our missions in Africa. For their second project, the children presented a check to Brother Meredith R. Griffith for the Trailer Fund, a vital necessity for our missionary workers in Arizona.

A quilt was presented to Brother Idras Martin as a token of appreciation and remembrance for his missionary work. He established a mission near Cumberland, Maryland nine years ago, and Brother and Sister Martin travel there every Sunday they possibly can. Brother Idras expressed his desire to continue the work there as long as God gives him the health and strength. The quilt pictured a large sailing vessel, the kind that Paul probably traveled on as he visited the Churches of his day. Sister Margaret Mellinger designed the quilt, and the members of the junior-senior high school class handpainted it. Several Sisters and friends of the Monongahela Branch did the needle work.

The entire program, including all the lessons and songs, was written by Sister Mabel Bickerton who gave God the credit for inspiring her in this work. It is most gratifying to know that our children are being schooled in missionary work and that they are gaining appreciation for the labors being expended for The Gospel of Christ.

Brief News of Interest

WONDERFUL REMEMBRANCE

In death as in life, Brother Dominic Scala presented a wonderful testimony for The Church of Jesus Christ. He demonstrated concern for others consistently while alive, and he exemplified this same kind of thoughtfulness by requesting

before he departed from this life that no flowers be purchased for him upon his death. Instead, he asked that the amounts which would have been spent for the floral displays in his honor be donated to The Church's missionary work. This act typified his unselfishness and the genuine interest he possessed for leading individuals to The Truth.

Brother Scala, who passed away on June 4 as reported last month, was the first person to hear The Gospel of Christ preached in Metuchen, New Jersey and was a pioneer in efforts to establish The Church there. Services were conducted in his home until the present Branch building was completed in that city. In addition, his testimony and example were instrumental in bringing many souls to The Gospel. His sincerity and faithfulness were ever-present. Appropriately, the passage from Psalms I, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly . . ." was read by Brother Joseph Perri at Brother Scala's funeral, at which there was overflow attendance.

Perhaps the most satisfying and penetrating remarks made about Brother Scala were offered by his friends who are not members of The Church. In paying their respects, they made many sincere statements about the exemplary life he had led and how much their lives had been greatly enriched by knowing him.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Readers will be sorry to hear that Brother John Salerno of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3 is afflicted from a heart attack he suffered recently. He is presently recuperating, thanks to God's care and mercies, and is interested in prayers on his behalf. In addition to praying for his continued recovery, well-wishers may send cards and notes of encouragement to him at 15801 Eastburn, Detroit, Michigan 48205. Just baptized a short time ago, Brother Salerno was pictured, along with his daughter, Sister Diane, on page 8 of the April issue of the *Gospel News* as they were taken into the waters for their baptisms.

LORAIN HIGHLIGHTS

The Lorain, Ohio Ladies Circle honored one of the oldest members of that Branch, Sister Carmella Alessio, recently. A faithful and charter member at that location, Sister Alessio celebrated her 80th birthday last February 5. She has been a Deaconess for many years and a wonderful example to everyone.

The Lorain Ladies Circle has also held two successful fund-raising drives for the new General Church Auditorium. They were a spaghetti dinner and a candy sale.

Last Memorial Day, the Branch's Missionary Benevolent Association Local gave a social hour for Brother Isaac and Sister Bonnie Smith and their family and for Brother Joseph and Sister Edna Bittinger and Brother Joseph Calabrese. The Smiths, of Monongahela, Pennsylvania, were departing to take up residence on the White River Indian Reservation where Brother Smith was appointed a Church missionary. Incidentally Sister Smith is a native of Lorain. The Bittings, also of Monongahela, and Brother Calabrese, of Lorain, were leaving for a missionary tour at The

(Continued on Page 12)

NUPTIALS

FOSTER-LOMBARDO

Mr. Gerald Alfred Foster and Miss Lydia Jean Lombardo were married at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4 of The Church of Jesus Christ on Saturday, July 19. Brother Dominic Moraco performed the ceremony. Sister Donna Taormina was the vocal soloist.

The Fosters are now residents of Utica, Michigan.

SCOLARO-PIETRANGELO

Brother Peter Anthony Scolaro and Sister Marilyn Pietrangelo were joined in holy wedlock at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 of The Church of Jesus Christ on Saturday, July 12. Brother Anthony Scolaro, father of the groom, conducted the marriage ceremony, assisted by Brother Nicholas Pietrangelo, uncle of the bride.

The newlyweds now live in Detroit.

SMITH-SHANNON

Brother Joseph Ashton Smith and Miss Sharon Grace Shannon were united in marriage in San Diego, California on Saturday, June 21. Brother Thomas Liberto performed the ceremony. Sister Diane Surdock was the vocal soloist.

The Smiths are residing in San Diego.

LANDREY-HEMMINGS

Brother Arthur Cadman Landrey and Sister Bonny Gay Hemmings were joined in holy matrimony at the Monongahela, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ on Saturday, June 14. Brother Meredith R. Griffith conducted the marriage ceremony. Brother David Majoros was the vocal soloist.

The Landreys will be moving to the Scottsdale, Arizona area where the groom will be teaching.

CRALL-VANCIK

Mr. Robert Scott Crall and Miss Catherine Irene Vancik were married in Winchester, Virginia on Tuesday, June 10.

The couple hails from Monongahela, Pennsylvania and will reside there until the groom leaves for the service.

AHLBORN-HORN

Brother Thomas J. Ahlborn and Miss Patricia L. Horn were sealed in marriage on Saturday, June 7, in West Chester, Pennsylvania.

The newlyweds now live in Newark, Delaware. The groom, from Monongahela, Pennsylvania, is an Associate Professor at West Chester State College.

CATHERINA-NATERELI

Mr. Corrado Michael Catherina and Miss Elaine Frances Natereli were joined in holy matrimony at the New Brunswick, New Jersey Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ on Saturday, May 31. Brother Benjamin Ciccati conducted the marriage ceremony.

The Catherinas now live in Milltown, New Jersey.

SGRO-PAROLISE

Brother Vincent Sgro and Clara Parolise were married at New Brunswick, New Jersey on Saturday, May 3. Brother Carmen Sgro, brother of the groom, united the couple.

The newlyweds now reside in South Bound Brook, New Jersey.

SEIGHMAN-BAKEWELL

Mr. Herbert Rayne Seighman and Miss Bettie Ann Bakewell were joined in marriage on Monday, January 27, in Cumberland, Maryland.

Formerly residents of Monongahela, Pennsylvania, the Seighmans now live in New Eagle, Pennsylvania.

OBITUARIES

ROSARIA BENENATI

Sister Rosaria Benenati, a long-time faithful member of the San Diego, California Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed on to her eternal reward on June 14. Born on September 12, 1887, she was baptized into The Church on January 19, 1930.

Brother Louis Ciccati conducted the funeral services. He was assisted by Brother William DeFranco.

Although she was partially paralyzed, Sister Benenati attended all Church services. She will be greatly missed by all the Brothers, Sisters, and friends who had become accustomed to her cheerfulness and her constant praise of God and His greatness.

CARMELLA SCARSELLA

Sister Carmella Scarsella, a devoted member of the Youngstown, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, departed from this life on May 31. Born on July 3, 1889, she was baptized into The Church on July 3, 1932.

Left to mourn her loss are her husband, two sons, three daughters, 14 grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Brother Anthony A. Corrado conducted the funeral services. He was assisted by Brother Raymond Cosetti.

Sister Scarsella's departure will leave a large void in the lives of everyone who knew her and who were favorably influenced by her faithful and humble service to The Lord.

BRIEF NEWS OF INTEREST

(Continued from Page 11)

Church's Wakpala, South Dakota Indian Missions.

In May, the Lorain Branch also acknowledged and dedicated a new pulpit and communion table for use in God's work. These items were donated by the family of our deceased Brother Ralph Calabrese, who passed away one year ago in July.

CHORAL CONCERT

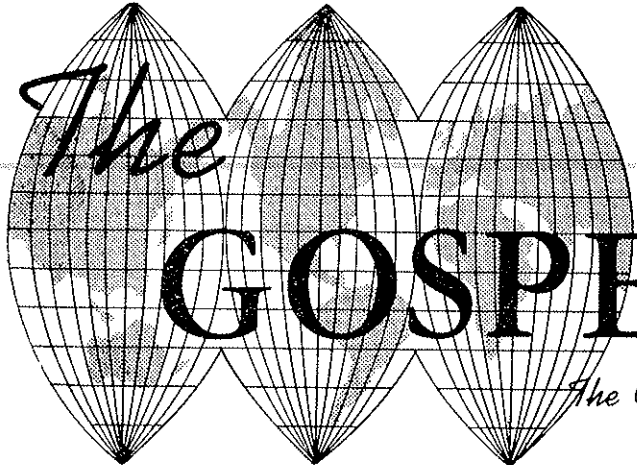
A Choral Concert was presented by Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 on Sunday evening, June 29. Hymns were offered by the Branch Choir, by a male quartet, by a young ladies trio, and by Brother Bart DiPronio, soloist. Also heard were three piano-organ duets.

The entire program was under the direction of Brother Frank Conti, Musical Director. Accompanists were Brother Eugene Amormino, pianist, and Sister Kathleen Scolaro, organist.

WELL-EARNED SCHOLARSHIP

Brother Dennis M. Damore of the Phoenix, Arizona Branch has been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from the newspaper company for whom he worked as a newsboy for six years. Any newsboy still delivering papers in his senior year was eligible to apply for a scholarship, and these awards were granted on the basis of scholastic, community, and church achievements.

Brother Damore has made application to Arizona State University for the fall semester. Congratulations are in order to Dennis who has worked hard and is most deserving of this award.



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Selection Of New Auditorium Site Made At Special Meeting August 16

By Carl J. Frammolin

Selection of a new site for the General Church Auditorium was made at a special General Priesthood meeting in Youngstown, Ohio on Saturday, August 16. The new tract of land, also in Pennsylvania as was the original one chosen, is located near Greensburg and consists of approximately five acres.

(A more complete description of this tract will be presented next month, together with up-to-date construction plans and schedules which may be available at that time).

As reported last month, purchase by the United States government of the original land selected near Imperial has made it necessary to obtain another site. Construction had been begun at the first location and the footings had been started before work was suspended because of the impending Federal acquisition of the land as part of the Greater Pittsburgh Airport expansion program. Increased acreage to the south and southwest was required for accommodating intercontinental airplanes which will be carrying up to 500 passengers a trip.

ARCHITECTS CONTACTED

Information of the government need of the first site was received by the architects (Pellis & Lettrich) at the beginning of July. They were then called into a meeting with officials of the Greater Pittsburgh Airport Authority on July 2 to discuss the matter and to outline the future procedure which would be followed. Official word was released on July 31 after which negotiations for the Imperial land were started. All costs are being taken into consideration, and an equitable and appropriate settlement is expected from the government.

After the architects received initial notification of the government's planned acquisition, they contacted the General Church Auditorium Committee, the General Board of Trustees, and the General Church President. A meeting of these officials, along with the architects, was arranged for July 19 in Warren, Ohio to analyze

the alternatives available. A special General Priesthood meeting, to which all Elders were asked to attend by special letter approximately two weeks in advance, was also scheduled for July 26 in Monongahela, Pennsylvania.

At Monongahela, the General Ministry passed a motion to have the General Church President and his two Counselors, the Quorum of Twelve Apostles, the General Board of Trustees, the Auditorium Committee, and the General Church Secretary function as a committee to screen all locations submitted at this meeting. This committee reviewed each site for certain requirements needed for the building already designed and ready for construction by the General Contractor, the F. J. Busse Company, Incorporated of Pittsburgh.

FACTORS EVALUATED

Some of the most important factors evaluated were the size of the plot, cost, general topography, rough grading required, subsoil conditions, land drainage, transportation access, and the availability of necessary utilities. Also considered was the presence of a local Church congregation to act as caretaker for the building. Originally, the Imperial Branch was scheduled to maintain the structure, as well as occupy part of the building for its services.

The General Contractor is now prepared to move to the new site and begin construction again.

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Moon Landing

By Carl J. Frammolin
and Dominic Moraco

Last July 20, mankind focused its attention on the landing of the two American Astronauts on the moon. Undoubtedly, all observers were about as concerned as the moon pioneers were when they methodically and carefully descended from their spaceship to take their first lunar steps and to attain their places in history. Acknowledgement of this unprecedented and exciting accomplishment is anti-climatic at this time although it is appropriate. Reflection on this fantastic feat and on other spatial achievements cannot help but spotlight the recent successes of the United States Space Program and make everyone wonder about what is next in the priority of objectives which may be pursued.

Ever since man was created, he has looked up into the heavens and gazed with awe and wonderment at what he beheld. Questions about what the other parts of the universe might contain have challenged him. In more recent times, highly developed telescopes have told him, for example, that the moon is composed of only rocks and dust. Still, he was curious about whether there are any other elements on and under her surface.

The "moon walk" by our two Astronauts proved what scientists already suspected: that the moon contained no living creatures and seemingly no material wealth. Yet in her apparent state of void and waste, she has furnished the light on the darkest nights since the creation. Man has been guided by her illumination and has been comforted by her presence. By moonlight, man had been able to foretell weather, plant gardens, reap harvests, and sail oceans in ancient times.

In meditating on God and His infiniteness, it is obvious that, although our spacemen traveled approximately 240,000 miles into the heavens, they were for all practical purposes as far removed from God as they were when they left where they were created. They could not say they were anymore closer to Him than if they were sitting in their homes on earth.

A big factor in the conquest of space is the insatiable desire of man to explore the unknown. It was this same desire that brought Christopher Columbus to America in 1492, and it has been this identical venturesome approach which has brought about all the modern improvements in the life of man to date.

Despite making his outstanding conquests on earth and in space, however, man has not been able to conquer his own nature to permit him to live in peace on his own planet. Now that he has discovered that there is nothing to conquer on the moon, the logical objective would seem to be to turn to the earth and use the knowledge acquired to help mankind. Our prayers are that this perspective will soon be adopted, so that the tranquility and peace of mind predicted in the scriptures for the future and so badly sought today will be readily achieved.

YUCATAN

By Alvin Swanson

(Following is the last in a series of three articles by Brother Alvin Swanson of Miami, Florida who toured the Yucatan ruins along with his wife, Sister Viola. The Gospel News is indebted to Brother Swanson for his informative and interesting accounts. Editor's Note).

It has been said the Mayans did not know about the wheel or circle, but there are perfectly round columns everywhere on the temples. Also, many toys used by children have been found with round wheels. They had no use for wheels because they had no beasts of burden; the circle, however, was declared spiritual and children were permitted to play with them because of their innocence. It can be readily seen that they were equal to any civilization in mathematics since it would be impossible to arrive at any precision, such as they displayed, without its use. Their calendar was more precise than any yet devised. The absence of circular arches spanning openings is probably because the circle was declared spiritual.

It may be interesting to describe a pyramid or temple at this point. Pyramid means something usually square at the bottom, with four triangles that meet in a point at the top. Each of the four sides contains staircases to reach the top plateau, where the temple was usually erected. As time passed, this pyramid was usually declared too evil to worship God therein. It was then covered with earth, and a new stone pyramid was built over it. Sometimes there were as many as three pyramids: the one visible to the eye and two more inside. You can go by small passages to the inner temples where they have been opened. Some of the inner recesses have been used to bury important people, such as the Egyptians practiced. In fact, many things resemble the life of the Egyptians. Our Book of Mormon was originally written in Reformed Egyptian when Joseph Smith received it on the golden plates.

TEMPLES EVERYWHERE

There are temples everywhere. Most have names such as Akab Dzib (Temple of Obscure Writings) or (hieroglyphs), Temple of Hieroglyphic Jambes, Temple of Three Lintels, Temple of Four Lintels, Temple of Lintel, Temple of Turtle, and Temple of Bird Cornice.

To describe everything about the remains would be impossible. The design, use, and symbolism of the evidences of the earlier inhabitants can only be better appreciated when they are observed personally. The precise and specific methods by which these people built their structures and the rules by which their lives were guided can then be better understood.

We went to other ruins, some of which are at Uxmal (ooshmal) and are just as rich in murals, temples, and pyramids. There, one may study rhallic worship. It is our hope to write about them at some other time.

The last day of our stay, we found some ruins very near that dated back to 1000 B.C. They could only have been built by the Jaredites.

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Editorial Viewpoint

By George A. Neill

John played the role of a true prophet, calling attention to the Son of God, not himself, for he was to decrease while Christ was to increase.

One of the most striking figures we read about in the Bible is John the Baptist. We see him as a rough-hewn man of the wilderness standing as a beacon light in his day, pointing people to new hope; a man of superb courage and high integrity. I suppose we could refer to him as a nomadic person; therefore, he was unspoiled by the easy pleasures of a soft life. All Judea heard the ring of the "voice in the wilderness," and they went out to see him.

Jesus, speaking of John to the multitude on one occasion, asked them, "What went ye out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken with the wind? . . . A man clothed in soft raiment? behold, they that wear soft clothing are in kings' houses." (Matt. 11:7,8) John came, wearing a raiment of camel's hair and a leathern girdle about his loins; his food consisted of locusts and wild honey, and he drank from the brook. He was a fiery preacher of righteousness from the wilderness.

Jesus continued that John was a prophet ". . . and more than a prophet." and that ". . . Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John. . ." John the Baptist forcefully denounced all unrighteousness and evil. He told those who came out to see him that ". . . the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down. . ." History and the word of God tell us that this huge tree, the Jewish nation, fell.

When John saw some Pharisees and Sadducees among the crowd he leveled the gun of rebuke right at them saying, "O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father. . ." (Matt. 3:7 - 9) Herod, the king, was not beyond rebuke. John called men to repentance and baptized unto repentance for the remission of sins. He not only denounced wrong but also announced a better way. He stood as a signpost that the old era and order were passing away and that a new era and order were at hand. He truly occupied the center of the stage for a short time, yet he pointed beyond himself and introduced Christ who was to be preeminent for all time. John played the role of a true prophet, calling attention to the Son of God, not himself, for he was to decrease while Christ was to increase. He truly was a significant figure just because he was announcing that the Messiah had come. For himself he would claim no authority save as a forerunner of another.

When the people were musing in their hearts whether he was the Christ, Elias, or that prophet, he never for a moment hesitated to say he was none of these. He said he was the one spoken of by the prophet Esaias, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make His paths straight. (Matt: 3:3). He saw himself as fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy, "The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it." (Isaiah 40:3 - 5).

Prepare ye the way. Clear the way. In olden times, when a king was to make a tour of his dominion, he would send a messenger to tell the people to prepare the way; clear the roads, fill in the ditches, level off the humps and the bumps, remove the boulders, remove all obstructions from the way, and get ready for the coming of the king. In our day, when the President comes to a city, that locality undergoes a thorough house-cleaning. Streets are swept and repaired. Sometimes buildings are given

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M.B.A. Highlights

MBA Activities At Three Levels

By James D. Gibson,
GMBA Editor

The Missionary Benevolent Association has been going through its busiest season. The General, Area and Local levels have been carrying out activities for all the members, with special emphasis on providing useful and appropriate projects for the younger set.

The regular schedule of Local Association study classes has been supplemented by various activities during the summer season when travel, in particular, is easier and more practical. Also, vacation periods in some cases have allowed members to take advantage of the projects being presented. For occasions of brief duration, travel within the more specifically closer ranges has been more frequent and has permitted more interaction among MBA units and members.

The GMBA has completed its annual trip, this year in California, as reported last month. Those who attended this event, as well as the individuals who participated in the previous ones can attest to the desires of all age groups to gather and to take advantage of the activities which are available for all age groups. The many benefits derived from these outings have proven advantageous to both spiritual and natural development that are realized through the mutual experiences. It is certain that all participants possess many fond memories of these ventures. In the future, it is hoped that more opportunities will arise to meet on the National level so everyone can spend more time together with people from all around The Church.

AREA PROJECTS

The Area MBA organizations offer more chances to set up and sponsor various activities. The fact that the Locals within each region are closer than on the General level makes it more feasible to have more Area gatherings. Some MBA regions have already had outings, field trips, and meetings of Locals in their vicinity. Like on the General Level, much planning and labor are involved in assuring the eventual success of these endeavors. This is where the officers and interested individuals must necessarily play an important role in discharging the required duties. The help and cooperation of all involved persons in this sphere of activity are required and desired.

Most times the help of many alleviates the numerous duties which otherwise would fall upon a few, so all talents and abilities can be utilized. This is true whether they be expended for planning or conducting of seminars, recreational activities, or social activities. The needs of the various age groups can then be satisfied in these undertakings. In addition, through the Area Con-

ferences, which were held recently in all regions, the members have the chance to help plan the year's schedule. These Area Conferences, like the semi-annual GMBA Conferences and organization meetings of Locals, afford all members the opportunity to review their past progress and to offer suggestions and ideas as to what may be pursued in the future. Meeting the needs of the membership remains as the primary concern of the Association, and the feedback from all involved persons is essential to meet this objective of service.

FORM EARLY TIES

The greatest responsibility for the continued success of the MBA as a whole rests with the Local level. It is at this layer that our young people usually first become acquainted with the Association and begin to receive tutoring in their various classes. The ties being formed with other MBA members become stronger over the years, and interest in God and The Church of Jesus Christ are additionally cultivated. The dedication of the Local MBA officers and class teachers is essential to obtain these desirable results. The guiding hands and the encouraging attitudes displayed toward the young people are indispensable in helping them to shape their lives and in allowing them to be appreciative of the necessity and beauty of The Church.

In conclusion, let us continue to support all levels of the MBA so they might grow and be more beneficial to their members and also help in the overall efforts of The Church.

The Missionary Field

Tijuana Visit Unforgettable And Inspiring

By Gorie Ciaravino and
Joseph Milantoni

On Wednesday, June 25, we had the pleasure of visiting the two Tijuana, Mexico Indian Missions. The time spent there was both unforgettable and tremendously inspiring.

Besides being at both Mission Church buildings, we were privileged with the opportunity to go to many of the homes of the Brothers, Sisters, and friends of this locality. Brother Edward and Sister Evelyn Perdue escorted us to these residences where there were many afflicted and indigent persons. In addition, many others were unable to come to Church because of various conditions. There was need for prayer everywhere. It was impossible not to feel a deep compassion and love for these people.

The reception and warmth felt at the Church buildings are difficult to describe. The greetings of the members and their families are touching and heartfelt. In addition to those present from Tijuana at Mission No. 1 were parents and child-

ren from an Indian tribe in southern Mexico, called the Oxacan. It was enlightening to learn that all persons who were present came without any special solicitation to do so. Their sincerity and devotion to The Church of Jesus Christ, like those at Mission No. 2, are deeply genuine and reflect a keen interest in The Gospel.

It was soon necessary to leave Mission No. 1 for an afternoon meeting at Mission No. 2. The response there was as overwhelming as that we experienced at the first location. The building was completely filled to capacity, and people were standing all around the outside waiting for our arrival. It was an extremely satisfying and incomparably encouraging feeling to be so welcomed.

The singing of the congregation was enthusiastic and uplifting. Also, the Mission Choir and groups offered hymns of praise. All the songs, which were sung in Spanish, were so beautifully presented that they sounded truly glorious. The choir's rendition of "All Hail, Immanuel" was especially impressive.

Brother Perdue repeated our words in Spanish, as we spoke to the congregation in English. His interpretation of our talks was a novel experience for both of us. After the service, all present, from the youngest to the oldest, made it a special point to come up and greet us with wonderful expressions of love. Even though many of them could not speak English, they made their kindness and humility evident by their cheerful and pleasant acknowledgements and attitudes.

The sight of the many individuals who are either members or interested parties at the Tijuana Missions reminded us once again of the necessity of bringing The Gospel of Christ to all persons who are hungry and thirsty for righteousness. In viewing the thousands of homes upon the slopes and hills surrounding Tijuana, we could not help but think of Jesus' saying, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the labourers are few . . ." An indication of the many who are desirous of seeking The Way was revealed the day prior to our visit when three converts were baptized by Brother Vincent Arce, Spanish Elder in Tijuana. Two of them had been confirmed by Brother Perdue, with the other being confirmed by Brother Arce.

In reflecting on the work being done for The Lord across the border, we want to thank God and praise His name for having Brother and Sister Perdue as the laborers there. They have dedicated their lives to these Tijuana locations and they have been blessed accordingly. It is our prayer that these kinds of labors will continue to be expanded everywhere, so that all persons desiring to come to The Truth may have it readily available.

Our last thoughts as we were leaving Mexico were that, if we could not be there to help in the labors, we certainly could at least pray and help financially to carry on this work, the same as for all other Church missionary endeavors. We invite all readers to join in these aids, so that this glorious objective of bringing souls to The Gospel of Christ may continue and may grow in the future.



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"And they said one to another, Behold, this dreamer cometh." Genesis 37 : 19.

Dear Girls and Boys,

Many, many years ago lived a man named Jacob. Jacob was the twin son of Isaac and grandson of the great man, Abraham, who was called, "the friend of God." Jacob had twelve sons. The next to the youngest was his favorite. His name was Joseph. Joseph's mother was Rachel, a very beautiful young woman. Because Jacob loved Joseph so, his brothers were jealous and hated him. The Lord gave Joseph dreams. When he told his brothers about his dreams, they laughingly called him, "the dreamer".

In one of Joseph's dreams, he saw his brothers and himself binding sheaves of grain. The sheaves of his brothers bowed down to his sheaf. In another dream, he saw the sun, moon and eleven stars bow down to him. As he told these dreams, his father was not pleased and asked, "What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth?" Later, these dreams were fulfilled; they did bow down to Joseph.

When Joseph was about 17 years old, his father gave him a coat of many colors. It was a beautiful coat. This too made his brothers hate him more. One day Jacob asked Joseph to go find his brothers who were tending sheep and see whether all was well. Joseph wore his new coat and started off. He searched for quite some time before he saw his brothers. They too saw Joseph in the distance, and they said to each other, in effect, "Here comes the dreamer! Let us slay him and cast him into a pit; and leave him there. We can tell our father that some wild beast killed him. Then we shall see what will become of his dreams!" Joseph's brother Ruben, refused. He said, "Let us not kill him." He wanted to put him in a pit and leave him there. Ruben thought he could return later and rescue his brother. He knew how much his father loved Joseph.

When Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped off the coat of many colors and put him down into a pit. The pit was empty, and there was no water in it. Then the brothers sat down to eat. As they were eating, a caravan of Ishmeelite merchants passed by on their way to Egypt. When Joseph's oldest brother, Judah, saw them, it gave him an idea. He told his brothers that no good would be served in killing Joseph. He suggested that they sell him to the merchants. They all agreed except Ruben who was not with them at the time. Quickly, they took Joseph from the pit and sold him for twenty pieces of silver

(Continued on Page 6)

THE CHILDREN'S CORNER

(Continued from Page 5)

to the merchantmen.

Soon Ruben returned and went to the pit. It was empty; he was grieved and knew not what to do. He went to his brothers and called out that the child was not there, and he wanted to know where he should go. The brothers had planned to hide their evil deed. They killed a goat's kid, dipped Joseph's lovely coat in its blood, and took the coat home to their father. Poor Jacob! When he saw it he wept and said, "It is my son's coat; an evil beast hath devoured him. . . ." Jacob mourned many, many days. His sons and daughters tried to comfort him. He cried, "I will go down into the grave unto my son mourning."

Next month I will tell you what happened to Joseph.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

One of our readers in Florida sent these rhyming riddles. The answer is found in the Old Testament. Who is he?

This son, highly favored of his dad,
In Canaan he did dwell,
Did tend the flocks and feed the sheep
And all things he did well.
A coat he had, so famous now,
'Twas made with love for him,
This same coat was shown for proof
Of his death, so bloody and grim.
This same son did rise to power.
All nations he did feed,
How joyful his father, once again
When he beheld his seed.

Sincerely,
Sister Mabel

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

(Continued from Page 3)

a face-lifting, show windows are washed, and the residents are even asked to keep their pet animals off the streets. Banners and decorations are hung, and the community takes on a new look. All this is done in preparation for the coming of the President.

What would John the Baptist say to us if he came to announce the coming of The King in our day? John's key word was repent. ". . . for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand." I believe he would still use that key word today, for there are so many who need to repent and come unto the Kingdom of heaven. Repent! Clear the way! He might well say to others: "Make the crooked way straight and the rough places plain. Fill in the gulleys, smooth off the humps and the bumps; clear the way for The King." His message today would not improve our roads, but, if heeded by us, it would improve our lives.

Reminder!

All new subscriptions and renewals for the Gospel News should be sent to the paper's offices at Sixth and Lincoln Streets, Monongahela, Pennsylvania 15063. The amount for one year is \$3.00.

YUCATAN

(Continued from Page 2)

I felt now my stay was complete, since I had two desires to attain: first, to examine the hieroglyphs and, second, to see whether the Jaredites had left any traces of their civilization. There must be many more of their structures in the lowlands of Yucatan. The Jaredites traditionally landed at Quirco, Guatemala, which was originally a part of Yucatan, in the year (traditional) 2232 B.C., as they came from the Tower of Babel by way of the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean past Cuba to Yucatan.

As we journeyed home and reflected on our trip, we were awed and astonished at what we had seen. We would like to return again and search some more. In all of our free moments we are still wondering and musing about what we witnessed. How did such a great civilization come to an end? Simply by internal means. They dwindled in unbelief about God and suffered the consequences. Hernan Cortes, with 508 soldiers, 100 sailors, 16 horses and 14 cannons, landed near Vera Cruz on Good Friday, 1519. How he overcame millions of Indians is now history. Cortes and his priests methodically destroyed everything that did not conform with the Catholic Church at that time.

One of the most honest and precise writers with Cortes was Bernal Diaz Del Castillo. He wrote: "We marched on raised stone causeways eight paces wide. The cities were planned. They stored cereals, maize, beans, peppers and other food-stuffs. They had libraries with books made of material called amatl. They stored the weapons of war in great store houses with shields that rolled up when not in use, quilted cotton armor, a royal aviary, and lapidaries. Every craft was practiced in gold, silver, weaving, painting and sculpturing. . . ."

GREATEST CONTRIBUTION

They wrote beautiful poetry. Hundreds of the plants we eat were given to us by the American Indian. They came and went their way. After the third century A.D., their decline was steady, but they left us more than things like plants, temples, architecture, and cities. I believe the golden plates they kept in which they recorded their history from 600 B.C. to 421 A.D., along with a short history of another earlier race (Jaredites) 2232 B.C. to about 580 B.C., were their greatest contribution to man and the ages. They were translated by Joseph Smith and published in the year 1830 as the Book of Mormon. Think of the Indians as you read this wonderfully illuminating record. When you eat peanuts, potatoes, tomatoes, and corn; when you chew gum; and when a dentist uses cocaine to repair your teeth, think of the seed of Joseph.

They are not finished with their contributions, however. Out of their poverty and decadence God will remember the promises He made to their forefathers, and once again He will exalt great men among them. One will be the Choice Seer. He will bring forth some records with him. As yet, we do not know what they contain. Could it be they hold the plans for the New Jerusalem?

Presidential Letter Sent To Nigeria Before Conference

Following are the contents of a letter sent to the Nigerian Church Missions by Brother Gorie Ciaravino, General Church President, prior to the General Conference held there in August.

The Church of Jesus Christ
Ekot Okposen, Eket No. 1 District
Nigeria, Africa

Dear Brothers of the Ministry,

It is indeed an answer to our prayers that on the eve of your Conference communications between us have been restored and I am once again able to correspond with you on behalf of all the Brothers and Sisters of The Church of Jesus Christ. Our supplications have also been rewarded by the knowledge that almost all of you have been spared during the recent unrest and strife experienced there. All of us thank The Lord for your safety and our hopes are that He will keep you safe in the days to come.

In looking forward to your Conference, we pray that Our Heavenly Father will bless you as He has in the past whenever you have gathered. The success of your sessions will depend on His being present and taking active part in the proceedings. This participation by God will undoubtedly be forthcoming so long as He is given the respect and honor He commands.

Please convey our best regards and best wishes to all the Brothers, Sisters and families of The Church of Jesus Christ in Nigeria. Also, please ask them to pray for us as we pray for all of you, and we are looking forward to the next time when we hear from you through your General Church Representative, Brother John Ross.

Your Brother-in-Christ,
Gorie Ciaravino
General Church President

Rewarding Weekend In Evanston, Ill.- Hammond, Ind. Area

The weekend of July 12 - 13 was a rich and rewarding one for those of The Church of Jesus Christ in the Evanston, Illinois - Hammond, Indiana area. On Saturday, there were both a Sunday School outing during the afternoon and Book of Mormon study at night in Evanston, and the next day services were held in Hammond.

The picnic was given by Brother Bruce and Sister Darlene Large for their Sunday School class. They have been conducting classes in their home over the past two years, and there

are many children of their community who regularly attend. Brothers Peter H. Capone and Ralph Leet, both of Detroit, Michigan, came to the picnic, as did Sister Flossie Molinatto of Hammond.

Book of Mormon study and discussion were greatly enjoyed and were most beneficial for all who gathered on Saturday evening. The insights received during this period were both informative and stimulating.

On Sunday morning, Brother Leet introduced the meeting, and he inspired everyone with his personal testimony. He told how he became acquainted with The Church and how he became converted to The Gospel. Brother Capone followed, and he read from **III Nephi**. In addition, many wonderful things were disclosed about the Choice Seer and the "Peaceful Reign."

Brother Adam Costarella of Youngstown, Ohio attended with his son, Brother Anthony, who was recently baptized while at home. Brother Anthony is studying medicine in Chicago. The presence and testimonies of the Brothers from Ohio, along with those of all the others assembled, brought the service and weekend to an appropriate ending.

Two weeks later, Brothers Capone and Leet once again traveled to the Illinois - Indiana area, and they spoke in Hammond on Sunday, July 27. Brother Capone read **Rev. 6:9-11**, and he outlined the great hopes and expectations which await the people of God. Brother Leet, in following, elaborated further on these future events which are to occur.

Visiting Apostle Talks At Phoenix And San Carlos

Apostle Anthony A. Corrado from Youngstown, Ohio was a visitor in Arizona recently. He spoke at the Phoenix Branch on Wednesday, July 30, and at the San Carlos Indian Reservation Mission on Sunday, August 3.

St. John 14 provided the subject for his talk at Phoenix. He discussed the peace that Christ promised His people and the assurance that He gave that He would not leave His followers alone after His ascension but that He would send the Comforter. Brother Corrado also related some miraculous healing experiences received by individuals who exhibited faith in Christ. He concluded with some brief remarks in the Italian language for the benefit of visitors from that extraction who were present.

At San Carlos, Brother Corrado used **St. Matthew 11:28** for his text. This passage specifies: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." The visiting Apostle told about some early blessings in The Church, confirming this invitation by The Saviour. He summarized by referring to Christ's promise that He would be with His people always, "... even unto the end of the world. Amen."

Being Like "Him" Theme Of Talks At Greensburg

Being like "Him" was the theme of the talks given at the Greensburg, Pennsylvania Branch on Sunday, July 27. Brothers Dominic Thomas of Detroit, Michigan; Joseph Calabrese of Lorain, Ohio; Sam Dell of Fairless Hills, Pennsylvania; and V. James Lovalvo of Modesto, California were the guest speakers who discussed the life of Christ.

Brother Thomas, in introducing the service, spoke about Christ's life and how it stands as a ready reference to which all mankind should turn. Following the example that was set by The Saviour was explained as being the only hope for heavenly eternal life.

After the hymn, "Jesus Is Real To Me", was sung, Brother Calabrese told how Christ has been a vivid example and inspiration in his life. The many times He has aided him in his time of need were also presented.

Brother Dell explained how man cannot hide anything from "Him." The attempts of Ananias and Sapphira to defraud the Apostles were emphasized to show how all actions of individuals are known by "Him" and therefore cannot be kept in secret. Just punishments for these kinds of acts were pointed out.

The last speaker, Brother Lovalvo, elaborated on the love of Jesus and how He demonstrated compassion, tenderness, and patience under conditions requiring them. This same love, he summarized, must be shown by His people to identify them with "Him."

All the visitors stopped off after the special General Priesthood Meeting for the General Church Auditorium in Monongahela the previous day.

Meeting After Trip Adds To Blessings Received At Bell

The regular Sunday, July 6, meeting in Bell, California following the weeklong General Missionary Benevolent Association Field Trip to that state was filled with many blessings which overflowed from the event where 18 people were baptized into The Church. This service undoubtedly contained the same kind of joy and reflection which were experienced in all Branches and Missions from where members had come to participate in the annual excursion.

Some of the new members who had been baptized during the trip were in attendance, along with many visitors from Canadian, eastern and midwestern Church congregations. The spirit of unity felt at the campsite carried into the meeting, the same as it unquestionably manifested itself in the Branches and Missions of the California District which met in their respective locations on that day.

Brother Otto Henderson opened the Bell service, and he read from **St. Luke 2**. He spoke on the gift of The Holy Spirit and the happiness which it brings forth. Being in concert with The Spirit and heeding its call were explained as being the key to endurance in The Gospel.

The next speaker, Brother John Dulisse, related how he recalled the hymn, "It's Not An Easy Road", when he heard of the many baptisms at the campout. He further cautioned all present to obey The Spirit's voice, as it is the guide required along the road to heavenly eternal life. Brother Dulisse also spoke of the new converts as saplings needing care, tenderness, time, and patience to grow and properly develop in The Gospel so that they might some day bear fruit.

After Brother Dulisse had spoken of the aforementioned inspirational hymn, Brother James Scalise arose to confirm that he too had had that song come to him as he thought of the new converts who had been baptized two days before. Brother Rudy Meo and Sister Dorothy Henderson later sang the hymn as a duet, with the congregation joining in on the chorus. Testimonies which followed gave evidence of how God's mercies had been shown in the past and how He has continued to abide with His people as they travel on this earthly road.

The teachings, worship, and fellowship during the meeting were both edifying and strengthening. The many wonderful blessings received throughout the week and on the Sunday typically represented the "Joy of the Saints" which is present when souls enter The Gospel of Christ.

Evangelist Talks At Windsor And Detroit No. 1

Evangelist Leonard Joseph Lovalvo of Modesto, California addressed two locations of the Michigan - Ontario Church District during a short stay in July. On Sunday, July 6, he spoke to the Windsor, Ontario, Canada congregation, and the following Wednesday evening, July 9, he talked at Detroit Branch No. 1.

The text at Windsor was taken from **Jeremiah 16**, and Brother Lovalvo discussed how we should be fishers and hunters of men for Christ. He also cited the example of the brother of Jared, described in the **Book of Mormon**, and explained this man's faith and service to God. Brother Frank Vitto, Windsor Presiding Elder, was the next speaker, and he talked on the subject presented.

In his talk at Detroit No. 1, Brother Lovalvo elaborated on the passages from **St. Matthew 16: 24-29** and **11:28-30** in "taking up our crosses and following The Lord to our greatest capacities." He stated that only by seeking to be used as beneficially and as frequently as possible can we discharge our responsibilities to God. Brother Tullio LaCivita of Detroit No. 4 followed, giving his testimony and telling how The Lord had blessed him.

Bible School Held At Night In Vanderbilt

The Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania Branch held its Vacation Bible School recently. The interesting and somewhat different approach taken, however, was that it was conducted during the evenings of June 9 - 13. Having the sessions at night rather than during the day allowed individuals to take part who ordinarily could not be present.

The children (pictured below with their instructors) were very enthusiastic about the lessons and crafts they were taught. Church literature prepared by Sister Mabel Bickerton of Monongahela, Pennsylvania was used. The title was, "The King of Kings."

The Sunday evening after classes were completed, a program was presented for parents and friends of the children. Obviously, the proud mothers, fathers, other relatives, and acquaintances were most pleased with the results of the week's training their loved ones received.

Other activities which Vanderbilt has undertaken have been for its Missionary Benevolent Association Local and for the General Church Auditorium. The MBA unit is having visiting Elders speak, is using volunteer members to prepare topic lessons, and is conducting class discussions. Brother James Grazan from Monongahela, Pennsylvania talked on July 2 under this new Association program. To round out its schedule of projects, the Branch has had three fund-raising drives for the future Auditorium.

Apostle Visits Hopelawn, N. J.

Apostle V. James Lovalvo from Modesto, California addressed the Hopelawn, New Jersey congregation on Sunday, June 29. He is visiting the Branches and Missions of the Atlantic Coast District.

The text Brother Lovalvo used for his talk was taken from I Nephi 11 in the **Book of Mormon**. He elaborated on the subject in discussing John's living in the wilderness eating wild honey and locusts. He also talked of the healings recorded in the scriptures. The condition of the young people today was described and how God is the only answer to the many problems which they encounter was presented. Brother Lovalvo then related how he obeyed The Gospel in his early adult life and the many blessings he has received in the 36 years since then.

Brother Carmen Sgro of New Brunswick, New Jersey introduced the afternoon service. He gave his testimony, emphasizing the manifestations of God which he has experienced. He also told how he had been healed of rheumatic fever 36 years ago.

During the wonderful day, solos were sung, including two by Brother Lovalvo. Others were rendered by Sister Mary Feher and Louis Sgro.

In the current period which he is spending on the Atlantic Coast, Brother Lovalvo is visiting with Brothers, Sisters, and friends there in addition to speaking at meetings in the various Church locations during the weekend and on Sundays.



PICTURED ARE THE CHILDREN AND TEACHERS OF THE VANDERBILT, PENNSYLVANIA VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL HELD THE EVENINGS OF JUNE 9 - 13.

President Speaks On West Coast; Three Baptized

Brother Gorie Ciaravino, General Church President from Detroit, Michigan, visited Branches and Missions on the west coast during an extended stay which was twice interrupted by necessary trips east to attend to official matters pertaining to the General Church Auditorium. Among the western locations where he spoke prior to publication deadline were the two Tijuana, Mexico Indian Missions where he baptized two and confirmed the other of three new converts who came into The Gospel on Tuesday, August 5; the Yucaipa, California Mission; and the San Diego and San Fernando Valley, California Branches.

At Tijuana, Encarnacion Diaz and Maria Gomez deFlores were taken into the waters by Brother Ciaravino and were confirmed by Brother Louis Ciccatti of San Diego. Librada Chavez was baptized by Brother Edward Perdue, full-time Tijuana missionary, and was confirmed by Brother Ciaravino. The entry of the three new members into the fold was most edifying and added to the many blessings received. Both Brothers Ciaravino and Ciccatti spoke during the day.

Earlier, Brother Ciaravino had also been in Tijuana on Friday, July 11. The buildings were filled to capacity, the same as they were at a previous visit there which he made with Brother Joseph Milantoni, also of Detroit, as reported earlier in this issue in the "Missionary Field." He talked at Mission No. 1 in the morning and at Mission No. 2 in the afternoon, and his words of encouragement and inspiration were well-heeded. His talks, as are all others of English-speaking Brothers, were translated into Spanish by Brother Perdue. Brother Vincento Arce, Spanish Elder, was in charge of this July afternoon service. The customary enthusiastic singing and attentive interest by the congregations were present on these occasions.

On Sunday, July 13, Brother Ciaravino was a guest at Yucaipa where the beautiful new building constructed there by the group was recently dedicated. He discussed the passage of scripture in St. John 15:1-17, expounding on the importance of abiding with God and The Spirit and of bringing forth good fruit and works for The Gospel. The love which must be present among the people of God was additionally explained. Also visiting at Yucaipa were Brothers John Dulisse and Louis Biscotti from Bell, California.

The last General Church Conference Minutes were reviewed at the Tuesday, July 15, San Diego Branch meeting by Brother Benjamin Ciccatti, Presiding Elder. Brother Ciaravino was asked to elaborate on the measures passed and to give a status report on the General Church Auditorium, the site for which has been changed because of the acquisition by the Federal Government of the previously selected land. On a second visit to San Diego on Tuesday, July 29, Brother Ciaravino gave a further account of the Audi-

torium progress to that date. His comments on General Church matters at both meetings were most enlightening to the San Diego members.

Brother Ciaravino was privileged to attend the California Missionary Benevolent Association Area Annual Gathering in San Fernando Valley on Saturday, August 3. That evening, he was once again requested to give an account of the status of the Auditorium.

The next day, Brother Ciaravino was invited to introduce the California District service at the same location where there was overflow attendance. The scriptures presented were **Genesis 11:1 - 9** and **St. John 10:1 - 9**, and the theme was "There Are No Shortcuts to Heaven." The recent moon landing and other attempts to reach higher into the heavens were analyzed to emphasize the significance of Christ's words that He only is the way to heaven. The Tower of Babel and the consequences of the individuals who attempted to build this ladder to heaven were reviewed.

Other speakers who followed on the same subject were Brothers Samuel Kirschner from West Elizabeth, Pennsylvania; Joseph Lovalvo, California District President from Modesto; Robert Ciarrochi of San Fernando Valley; and John Dulisse. Church locations represented at this August 4 meeting included Hopelawn, New Jersey; Detroit Branches No. 3 and No. 4; West Elizabeth; and Windsor, Ontario, Canada, as well as other places of the California District.

Samaritan Woman Aliquippa Subject

Evangelist Dominic Moraco from Detroit, Michigan was the guest speaker at the Aliquippa Branch on Sunday, July 27. He discussed the Samaritan woman who met Jesus at Jacob's well, became a living witness, and told the people of her city that she had met the Messiah.

How other individuals of the community came to Jesus was described. They later exclaimed to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of thy saying; for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world." (St. John 4:42).

Three Address Youngstown Branch

Apostle Paul D'Amico of Lockport, New York; Evangelist Patsy Marinetti of Rochester, New York; and Evangelist Dominic Giovannone of Vero Beach, Florida addressed the Youngstown, Ohio congregation in that order on Sunday, July 27. Psalm 121 was the scripture presented.

The passage which deals with God's protection of His people begins, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth." Brother D'Amico, in addition to presenting and elaborating on the topic, related several experiences proving that The Lord has been his help in life.

Brother Marinetti spoke after the hymn, "My

God! Thou Seest Me", was sung. He commented on this wonderful song which our late Brother Charles Ashton had composed. He also told of the blessings God bestowed upon David and how He referred to him as a man after His own heart.

Brother Giovannone, formerly of nearby Warren, Ohio, gave his testimony to The Truth of The Gospel Restored.

Baptism Performed Sunday, August 3, At Six Nations

A resident of the Six Nations Indian Reservation in Ontario, Canada, Percy Green, was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ there on Sunday, August 3. He was taken into the waters by Brother Joseph Calabrese and confirmed by Brother Anthony R. Lovalvo.

Brother Green asked for his baptism when he came forward to the rostrum during the testimony segment of the service. Brother Calabrese, visiting Evangelist from Lorain, Ohio, had opened the meeting, speaking about the woman of Samaria who met Jesus at the well and found that He was The Saviour. Brother Lovalvo, Evangelist from Detroit, Michigan who, along with Brother Norman Campitelle also of Detroit, is in charge of the Six Nations Mission, followed on the same subject, issuing a call for repentance.

As an edifying added experience, Brother Lovalvo said that, during the previous week, he had dreamed that a man was being baptized.

Freehold Baptism Before Service Tuesday Evening

James Howard was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ at the Freehold, New Jersey Mission on Tuesday evening, July 15, before the service was begun there that night. Brother Howard, who had requested his baptism after the meetings in Bronx, New York the previous Sunday, was taken into the waters and confirmed by Apostle V. James Lovalvo.

Brother Nathan Petterkin introduced the edifying Tuesday service. He discussed the conversion of Zacchaeus and the determination he displayed in becoming a follower of Christ. Brother Lovalvo followed on the same subject and further elaborated on the necessity for adhering to the principles of Christ.

Sacrament was also served at the meeting, which added immensely to the spiritual enjoyment and in the welcoming of Brother Howard into the fold.

Couple Baptized At Cumberland

The blessings of God continued to be received at the Homewood Chapel Mission in Cumberland, Maryland as two more members were added to the fold on Sunday, July 13. Baptized on that date were Harold and Linda Border,

a couple from Waldorf, Maryland.

Both of the new converts were immersed by Brother Henry Border and confirmed by Brother Idras Martin, who was visiting from Monongahela, Pennsylvania. Brother Border is in charge of the Mission.

The baptisms were the fifth and sixth ones for the Cumberland flock within a span of nine days. Brother Kurt Lovell had been baptized on July 4 while attending the General Missionary Benevolent Association Field Trip in California, and Brother Leo and Sister Marsha Fadley and Sister Florence Lowery had been taken into the waters at Cumberland on July 6.

Brief News of Interest

GRATITUDE EXPRESSED

The St. John, Kansas congregation has sent a note of thanks to the General Church and all members for the financial help extended in the purchasing of its present building. As reported in the May issue, the structure which was built on land previously owned by The Church of Jesus Christ almost 100 years ago was dedicated last Easter Sunday.

CAMP DOCTOR

For the first time at any of the General Missionary Benevolent Association Field Trips, a medical doctor who is a member of The Church of Jesus Christ was the official camp physician at Camp Radford in California this year. He was Dr. Michael Randazzo of the Modesto, California Branch who presently has his practice in Sacramento.

Brother Randazzo donated his services and cared for any in need at the event in the mountains near Yucaipa where those not accustomed to the elevation were forced to take some precautionary measures. His availability also made things easier when minor illnesses and injuries occurred. All participants were thankful for his expert and cheerful aid and advice, in addition to having him there to enjoy the time together and in taking part in the activities.

Other valuable services were rendered by keepers of the camp store at the event. Proceeds raised were turned over to the California MBA Area. Also of great benefit were the sales of jewelry made from stones collected in South Dakota by the late Brother Gabriel Mazzeo and his wife, Sister Carmella, of Lake Worth, Florida. Sister Mazzeo donated the amounts received to the General Church Auditorium Fund.

In total, all efforts at the camp the first week in July which were voluntary were greatly appreciated, and all individuals whose labors undoubtedly contributed to the success of the undertaking should be especially commended for their endeavors.

ANNUAL AVAILABLE

While on the subject of the GMBA campout, it might be of interest for readers to know that a book, "California Camp '68," has been prepared by the California MBA Area and is now available for those desiring one. This annual is

(Continued on Page 12)

NUPTIALS

LILLY — CAIN

Mr. George Edward Lilly and Miss Linda Marie Cain were united in marriage at Traverse City, Michigan on Saturday, August 2. Brother Silverio Coppa, uncle of the bride, performed the ceremony.

The newlyweds are residing in Ann Arbor, Michigan where they are attending the University of Michigan.

BOURN — ROGOLINO

Mr. Thomas Lloyd Bourn and Sister Karen Rogolino were joined in holy matrimony at the Fort Pierce, Florida Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ on Saturday, July 26. Brother Alvin Swanson performed the ceremony. Sister Joyce Rogolino, aunt of the bride, was the soloist.

The Bourns now live in Fort Pierce.

OBITUARY

ADA BELLE LINT

Sister Ada Belle Lint, a faithful member of the Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed on to her eternal reward on May 5. She had been baptized into The Church on March 7, 1948.

Left to mourn her loss are four daughters, four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Brother Joseph Shazer officiated at the funeral services.

Sister Lint was a strong supporter for The Church and was always concerned and involved in helping people in need. She will be greatly missed by all who knew and dearly loved her.

BRIEF NEWS OF INTEREST

(Continued from Page 11)

complete with pictures and accounts of the west coast MBA region's outing, also held last year at Camp Radford. Many blessings were received at this gathering, and eight converts were baptized during the stay. These baptisms are prominently displayed in the annual.

Anyone wishing to purchase one of these well-planned and comprehensive booklets may do so by enclosing a \$3.50 remittance to the California MBA Area Corresponding Secretary, Sister Rose Lovalvo. The address is 905 Wycliffe Court, Modesto, California 95350.

RECEIVES DOCTORATE

Congratulations are in order to Brother Moses E. Akpan of Nigeria, West Africa who completed all the requirements for his Ph.D. in Education at Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on July 3. Brother Akpan arrived in the United States in September 1961 to attend Allen University in Columbia, South Carolina on a partial scholarship basis. He has since also studied at Capitol University in Columbus, Ohio; Ohio University in Athens, Ohio; Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois; Jackson State College in Jackson, Mississippi; and Southern University.

Presently, Brother Akpan is teaching at Southern University. His wife, Sister Martha, and their two children are residing with him at Baton Rouge.

In total, our Brother has achieved many accomplishments through personal sacrifice, hard work, and the help of God. Certainly, everyone wants to offer their congratulations and best wishes for the future to Dr. Akpan, Sister Martha, and their children; and their prayers are that they will be a great asset to The Church of Jesus Christ.

STUDYING IN KANSAS

Another Nigerian student who is a member of The Church of Jesus Christ is attending the College of Emporia, Emporia, Kansas, also on a partial scholarship basis. He is Brother Amos D. Udo who arrived in the United States in January 1967. Reportedly, he is doing quite well in his studies.

Brother Udo's wife, Sister Margaret, recently arrived in America and is now with him in Emporia.

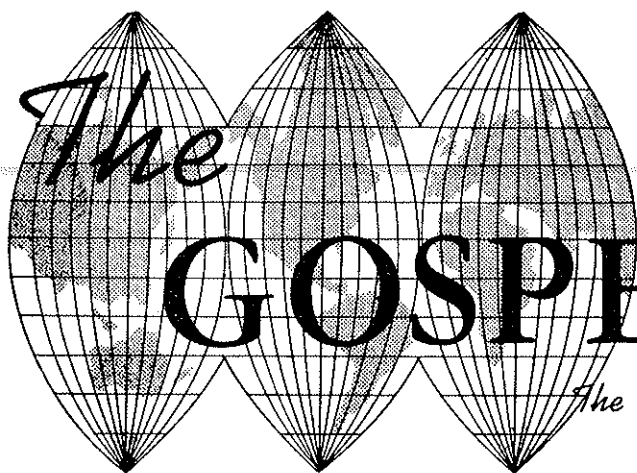
HAPPY REUNION

After about 12 years, Brother Allan and Sister Etta Henderson of Windsor, Ontario, Canada were reunited at the same time with their three sons, their daughters-in-law, and grandchildren in Bell, California recently. Gathered with their parents were Brother Otto and Sister Dorothy who moved from Windsor to Bell in 1963; Brother Lloyd and Sister Margaret who left Windsor in 1949 and who now reside in Anaheim; and Brother Doug and Sister Ethel who still live in Windsor. Also, all but two of the 10 grandchildren were present for the reunion. Needless to add, everyone, including members of the California congregation, was happy at having almost all the Hendersons together again even if it was for only a comparatively brief period.

Incidentally, also reported visiting at Bell lately were Sister Kay Vitto and her son, Perry, from the Windsor Branch; Mr. Walter and Sister Margaret Donkin and their two recently baptized sons, Brothers Ed and Wayne from Glassport, Pennsylvania; and Brother Fred D'Amico from Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3.

NEW ARRIVALS

Congratulations are extended to the parents for the indicated new members of their families. New arrivals have been Ronald Nicholas to the Nicholas Manes and Ronald David to the Ronald Berardinos of Youngstown, Ohio; Wendy Fernando Valley, California; Jeffrey Brian to the William Kukals of the Cleveland, Ohio West Side Mission; Raymond Ricky to the Raymond Benyolas of Metuchen, New Jersey; Anthony to the Rocco Paternosters and Sam to the Sam DiFalcos of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1; and Julie Ann to the David Ciccatis and Anissa Marie to the Daniel Leikers of San Diego, California.



The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

October 1969

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Auditorium Progress

Negotiations were being conducted for acquisition of the new site near Greensburg, Pennsylvania for the General Church Auditorium as of this month's publication deadline. The general contractor, the F. J. Busse Company, Inc. of Pittsburgh, was prepared to begin construction just as soon as the purchase was finalized.

It is hoped to have as much of the exterior work as possible completed prior to the arrival of the cold, wintry season so that much of the interior labor can be accomplished during the winter. The ability to comply with this kind of schedule will conceivably allow the structure to be finished sometime during mid-1970.

The site is nestled in the beautiful Pennsylvania mountains. It contains all the necessary features required for the building, originally designed by the architects (Pellis and Lettrich) for the Imperial, Pennsylvania location which is being purchased by the United States government. As reported in previous issues, the government program to expand the Greater Pittsburgh Airport made relocation of the auditorium mandatory.

The change in location has added tremendously to the workload of the Auditorium Committee and the General Board of Trustees. The members of these committees were required to reevaluate the entire building project, procure the new land selected at a special Priesthood meeting in Youngstown, Ohio on August 16, and begin negotiations with the government for a settlement on the old site. It is certain that everyone will want to extend those officials a vote of thanks for their labors thus far, realizing that they will have increased duties as the building progresses.

Also playing an important part in this endeavor will be the members of the Greensburg Branch, who, along with the help of other individuals of the Pennsylvania District, will be responsible for the maintenance of the building and the property. A chapel will be erected within the structure to permit the Greensburg congregation to hold its services. Formerly, this added wing was being planned for the Imperial Branch, which had likewise offered to maintain the premises.

(Continued on Page 7)

General Conference To Convene Oct. 17 In New Jersey

The semi-annual General Conference of The Church of Jesus Christ will convene at the Hopelawn, New Jersey Branch on Friday, October 17, at 9:30 a.m. (Eastern Daylight Time). The Saturday and Sunday meetings will be held in the Franklin High School, Hamilton Street and Franklin Boulevard, Somerset, New Jersey.

The Friday and Saturday sessions will be for The Priesthood only, while everyone is invited to attend the customary Sunday Worship Service which will begin at 10:00 a.m.

The first two days will be occupied with official reports, review of the concluded six-month period, and plans for the future. The reports will be presented by the Quorum of Twelve Apostles, the Quorum of Seventy Evangelists, the Board of Missions, the Financial Secretary-Treasurer, the Finance Committee, the Board of Trustees, the Historian, the District Reports Custodian, the Librarian, the Auditors, the Gospel News Editor-in-Chief, and the Districts.

The actions which will be taken will concern General Church missionary work, real estate under General Church jurisdiction, and additional factors pertaining to expansion of The Church wherever possible.

Dreams and other revelations presented from the Districts will be studied for their possible pertinence to the General Body. These kinds of experiences have great relevance and have always proven beneficial for The Church in directing courses of actions to follow.

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English Translation Of The Bible

By Donald Ross

The Bible is not a single book, but a collection of books. These books were composed over a period of many centuries in three languages: Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek. Their authors include the shepherd and the king, men of considerable learning, and men of very little. This article traces and records the events which influenced the translation of the Bible into English.

Despite the many English translations of the Bible undertaken during the Middle Ages, it was not until the 16th century that the history of the English Bible as we know it actually began. William Tyndale published his English translation of the "New Testament" in 1525 - 1526 and it was translated directly from the Greek rather than relying on the Vulgate (Latin) as his predecessors had done. Tyndale followed this with translations from the Hebrew "Old Testament," but he did not finish the entire Bible.

The translation of Miles Coverdale, published in 1535, although it included the entire Bible, was based upon other translations rather than the Hebrew and Greek texts. Circulation of these and other translations of the scriptures in the 16th century caused a demand for a version of the Bible that would have the sanction of the ecclesiastical authorities behind it. In response to this demand, an official commission prepared the so-called "Great Bible of 1539," which the leaders of the church and state sought to enforce as the only permissible version of the scriptures. The popularity of other versions continued, and some revisions of the "Great Bible" seemed desirable and necessary. These were incorporated into the "Bishop's Bible," published in 1568. Even the revisions did not go "far enough," and the "Bishop's Bible" did not succeed in establishing itself among the people or even in the churches. It was obvious that England needed a new translation which would incorporate the best features of earlier versions but recast them.

DISSATISFACTION CITED

Such a new translation was provided by the "Authorized King James version of 1611." At the Hampton Court in 1604, Doctor John Rainolds and the Bishop of London exchanged views concerning the translation of the Bible. King James quickly put both factions down. "I profess," he said, "I could never yet see a Bible well translated in English, but I think that of Geneva the worst." The Geneva Bible (1560) was comprised of the translation made at Geneva by scholars who fled from England during the persecution by Queen Mary. It was a revision of the "Great Bible" collated with other English translations. Although criticized, it was a very scholarly version, was handy in size, and was a very popular Bible in England for many years.

King James' few dissident words instituted the greatest writing project the world has ever witnessed and the greatest achievement of the reign of James I: the making of the English Bible

which has ever since borne his name. It has been reported that between 45 and 54 translators and scholars were invited to undertake the work at Oxford, Cambridge, and Westminster. The translators' principles and instructions were explicit: the "Bishop's Bible" was to be altered as little as possible, although earlier versions were to be consulted. The old "ecclesiastical words" (as "church" for "congregation" and "charity" for "love") were to be kept. All marginal comments were to be textual not theological.

The scholars worked with a few ancient language texts, the Complutensian Polygot of 1517, published at Complutus, now Alcala de Henares, Spain, and the Antwerp Polygot of 1569-72. Of course, they also used the Roman Vulgate. Rhythm was adapted to the Bible. In the days of King James, rhythm was important not solely as a source of pleasure to the ear but as an aid to the mind. The Bible was made to be listened to and remembered. Its rhythms were important as a prompting for memory. The translators learned to use the ears as they worked. The manuscript was purchased by the king's printer. The Bible appeared in 1611, dedicated to James I, in large folio volumes. It is fair to say that the "King James Bible" was a success from the start.

"KING JAMES VERSION"

It is difficult to exaggerate the influence of this translation, which came to be known as the Authorized Version because it was appointed to be read in the churches. In the United States, it is more commonly called the "King James Version." "The Authorized Version" has never lacked critics; however, its position is so embedded in the religious and literary history of the English-speaking peoples that its secure place has only been challenged by revision of it, not by replacements for it.

The Bible is more than a historical document. It is more than a classic of English literature to be admired. It is a record of God's dealing with men, of God's revelation of Himself and of His will. The Bible must stand forth in language that is direct and meaningful, and this is truly representative of the Authorized Version. It helps men in these momentous times to understand, to believe, and to obey His word.

(We are grateful to Brother Ross for his informative article on the Bible. Readers should be aware that The Church of Jesus Christ uses only the King James Version. It should be remembered that, while many individuals were instrumental in writing the Bible, their inspiration came from a single source — God. The Church of Jesus Christ also believes that the Book of Mormon is the inspired Word of God and that it is equal to the Bible.)

In Ezekiel 37: 16-17, the Prophet said, "Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions:

And join them one to another into one stick: and they shall become one in thine hand."

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Editorial Viewpoint

By George A. Neill

None but these four men knew how they reasoned — whether they should proceed in the face of such opposition; but, when Jesus saw their faith, the palsied man was healed, and they all went on their way rejoicing.

The words of St. Mark 2: 1-6 tell of an incident in which four men brought a palsied friend to Jesus to be healed. The house where Jesus visited was full, and there was no room to receive them. Jesus was preaching to the hungry souls who had gathered there, and these men, seeing the impossibility of getting their sick friend inside the door, decided to carry him to the roof of the house. When they got him there they broke a hole in the roof and let him down on his bed, undoubtedly right in front of Jesus. Mark says, "When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee." However, certain scribes who were present questioned the words of Jesus saying, "Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only." Jesus perceived their reasoning and asked them, "Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk?"

The words, "When Jesus saw their faith. . ." are indeed very complex. Can faith be seen? No, I do not think we can see faith anymore than we can see the wind. We often say, "See how the wind is blowing?" But who ever saw the wind blowing? We do not see the wind, but we can see the effects of its blowing. We see the tree limbs move and sway, and we can see objects flying in the path of the wind. So we see faith as we see the wind; we see faith as we see love. My oldest granddaughter often, as she approaches me, kisses me on the cheek and says, "How do you feel today, Grandpap?" I see love manifested each time she does this, and I also see concern when she asks, "How do you feel today?" Love and concern go together; you cannot have one without the other. We have often heard a person exclaim, "You can see concern written all over their faces." This is mostly the case when a loved one is seriously affected, not knowing if death may be present or not.

When Jesus looked into the faces of these four men as they peered down through the opening in the roof, He saw their faith, love, and concern. I believe there was a greater measure of faith manifested than met the eye. The determined effort these four men were making, despite great obstacles, to bring their palsied friend to Jesus must have shown on their faces. Thus love produces concern, and concern is a manifestation of faith. Could one exercise faith for a need if he is not concerned? What good would it do to pray for an individual if we are not concerned about him? Perhaps lack of concern is the reason many prayers go unanswered.

When Jesus looked up into the faces of these four men He also saw sincerity which was no doubt written all over their faces. Their great efforts to get their friend to Jesus by cutting a hole in the roof demonstrated their sincerity. Sincerity must be present wherever faith operates. There were many things Jesus saw, no doubt, as He looked up into their faces. Surely confidence was written there; otherwise, why would they have made such an effort to get their sick friend to Jesus if they were not confident He would heal him? Perhaps they had seen and heard enough to give them this assurance. Because they had concern, Jesus also must have seen persistence in the faces of these men. In spite of all the opposition (and I am sure there must have been some when they proceeded to cut a hole in someone's roof), they persisted in their cause.

None but these four men knew how they reasoned — whether they should proceed in the face of such opposition; but, when Jesus saw their

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M.B.A. Highlights

Baptism Brings Penna. Campout To Happy Close

By Janet Gibson

The baptism of Cindy D'Antonio of McKees Rocks on the last day brought the first Pennsylvania Missionary Benevolent Association Area Field Trip to a happy and fitting close on September 1. The new Sister had requested her baptism late the previous night after a wonderful evening service, inspiring another meeting on an impromptu basis which lasted until 2:30 A.M.

Brother Chester Nolfi, also of McKees Rocks, took Sister D'Antonio into the waters on the Monday morning, and Brother Sam Costarella of Youngstown, Ohio confirmed her. This climactic event prior to the noon close of the camp left all participants highly edified and looking forward to the next gathering which may be held.

The field trip at the picturesque Pine Spring Camp in Jennerstown, Pennsylvania had started the previous Thursday, August 28. The first day was devoted primarily to preparation for the weekend, and a bonfire singspiration was the major evening activity. The young people responded with enthusiastic singing of hymns.

The next day, the same as was the case Saturday morning, was begun with a devotional period. During this segment, hymns were sung and prayer was offered. It was also on Friday that many parties from the various MBA Locals of the Pennsylvania Area and from the neighboring Atlantic Coast, Ohio, and Michigan-Ontario MBA Areas arrived at camp. The additional numbers swelled the attendance and allowed the recreational and seminar projects to be properly undertaken.

FRIDAY, SATURDAY SCHEDULE

Seminars were conducted on both Friday and Saturday afternoons. Topics discussed by the various age groups included "Spiritual Guidance," "Parental Responsibility," and "Social Attitudes." In addition, arts and crafts were scheduled for the younger children.

Some Brothers of The Ministry spoke at meetings which were held both nights. Among the speakers were the Pennsylvania District President, Joseph Bittinger, from Monongahela; Apostles Russell Cadman from Fredonia and V. James Loyalvo from Modesto, California; and the GMBA President, August D'Orazio from Edison, New Jersey. A portion of the Saturday service was also devoted to testimonies by the young people.

On Saturday afternoon, the members of the Pennsylvania MBA Area met for their annual meeting. Review of the past year's activities, plans for the future, and election of officers were the major items on the agenda.

Elected for the next year were Brothers Paul Palmieri of Aliquippa, President; Chester Nolfi of McKees Rocks, Vice-President; Louis Cecchi of Greensburg, Chaplain; Joseph Ross of Aliquippa, Corresponding Secretary; Anthony Ross of Aliquippa, Financial Secretary-Treasurer; Mark Landrey of Monongahela, Editor; and Jack Rosmeier of Imperial, Auditor.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

The Sunday morning service was convened under the roof of a large open-air pavillion with a capacity crowd in attendance. Community singing and several special renditions by individuals and groups from the Area's MBA Locals preceded the introduction of the meeting by Brother John Griffith of Monongahela.

Brother Griffith read and elaborated on the "Parable of the Sower," as described in **St. Matthew 13**. Other speakers who followed included Brothers Dominic Moraco from Detroit, Michigan; John Bickerton from Monongahela; John Manes from McKees Rocks; and V. James Loyalvo.

Those assembled were exhorted to keep their hearts prepared to receive the seed — the Word of God — so that it can be properly absorbed. They were instructed that only by accepting and nurturing this seed would it grow and bring forth fruit in God's vineyard. To be able to do this, it was pointed out that hearts must be prepared to accept the Word of God and that each person should ask God to use him in doing His work.

The afternoon was left free so that participants could visit each other. The final evening service previously mentioned was scheduled for that night.

Numerous solos were sung during the event. They were offered principally by Brothers David Majoros of Monongahela and V. James Loyalvo and Sister Nina Dicensa of McKees Rocks.

Throughout the campout, thoughts were expressed about the wonderful benefits which our young people derive from being together and from exchanging their ideas in seminars on various subjects. Moreover, the opportunity of obtaining spiritual guidance by associating with older members was noted as being of special importance to these younger individuals. To at least one young person, the newly-baptized Sister, these observations proved to be especially meaningful.

Once again, a Church gathering was the setting for the entry of another soul into The Gospel. This in itself, without even considering the many other blessings received, made the entire weekend most beneficial and edifying.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE BIBLE

(Continued from Page 2)

Accordingly, the Bible is a record of the House of Israel and of the Jewish people in particular, while the Book of Mormon is a record of God's dealings with the House of Joseph, or the American Indian people.

Besides their being important historically, The Saviour pointed out the great significance of these records. He stated, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." **St. John 5:39.** — Editor's Note).



UR WOMEN TODAY

Ladies' Circles Near 50th Year

By Gorie Ciaravino,

General Church President

Next year, the Ladies' Circles of The Church of Jesus Christ mark their "Golden Anniversary." As the Sisters reflect on their contributions to The Church during their first 49 years of existence, they point to the words in **Job 32:7** which proclaim that "Days should speak and multitude of years should teach wisdom." This passage, quoted in the "General Circle History for 1968," illustrates the dedication with which the members of the distaff side view their responsibilities to The Church.

Including the Conference held last month in New Brunswick, New Jersey, which will be reported in November, the General Circle has held 197 quarterly meetings. These gatherings have been hosted by many of the Circles in the Branches and Missions. In addition to the General gatherings, the area Ladies' Circles have also conducted meetings in their regions. An example of these kinds of gatherings was presented in this column in June. At the basic part of the structure, weekly meetings are usually held by the local units for study of the scriptures.

Besides participating in the fellowship services at each of these levels, the Sisters have prayed for The Church's missionary work and have assisted it and many other worthy causes over the years. An analysis of last year's history and of their current projects shows how they have sought to be of help.

"FOOD FOR MISSIONS"

Among the projects undertaken has been the "Food for Missions" program. Through this drive, funds have been sent to the California District for the Indian missions at Tijuana, Mexico and San Carlos, Arizona. Provisions for children were also forwarded besides the cash disbursements. In addition, the Circles have sent donations for the "Trailer Project" at San Carlos. The trailer was purchased for the lay missionaries to serve short tours to assist in the work at the reservation.

Across the globe, the needs of the Nigerian missions have been considered. Since the communications to these locations have now been restored, the Sisters are also endeavoring to send clothing to the Aliquippa, Pennsylvania Branch which will distribute the articles to our people in Africa.

In fulfilling their long-standing policy to contribute to the General Church Indian Mission Fund, the members have turned over proceeds from their Circle Cook Book sales to this cause. These books, which have been received with

great delight throughout The Church, are composed of recipes from Sisters who offered many of their perfected favorites. There are just a few of these books left, and their sale will further increase the substantial amount already turned over to the Indian work from this project. Incidentally, additional cash donations besides the funds from the sales have also been disbursed to the Indian Fund.

The Circles have also been accumulating funds for the new General Church Auditorium near Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Their efforts, as well as those of others on this matter, are being expanded so that they, like the General Church and the Missionary Benevolent Association, will have a place for future General Conferences. The labors on this behalf are most noteworthy, and the Sisters have redoubled their efforts on this important project.

Attention of the Circles was also turned to the **Gospel News**. Recently, as in the past, they have extended donations to help defray the cost for our monthly publication. As has been noted in previous issues, additional donations have been necessary to subsidize the **Gospel News** because of the comparatively small receipts obtained from subscriptions as compared to the costs for printing, publishing, and mailing.

CONTINUING PROGRAM

A "Home Missions" program which the Sisters have established is also a worthy cause being sponsored on a continuing basis. Funds from this project are made available to members of The Ministry to visit Branches and Missions throughout The Church. Brothers have drawn on this account as the need has arisen and much good from their endeavors has certainly been received.

As the accomplishments of the past are analyzed, the Circles can indeed look toward their 50th year with renewed desire to help. They have served as able and needed arms of The Church, as the review presented above indicates. Without their help, many worthy causes could not have been aided, and we are indeed proud of their efforts. Rather than resting on their laurels, however, the Sisters are seeking to be of even greater help in the future. Statements from the 1968 history offer the insights into this dedication. After noting that 1970 will be their golden anniversary year, they specify as follows: "Our work should have acquired wisdom in our service to The Church. Let us each ask the question, 'What have I learned and am I doing enough?'"

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

(Continued from Page 3)

faith, the palsied man was healed, and they all went on their way rejoicing. The same thing is true today: when Jesus sees our faith, things will happen and we may go on our way rejoicing. May The Lord help us to live in such a way that He may see our faith manifested along with these other qualities in our lives!



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"... think on me when it shall be well with thee ..."
Genesis 40: 14.

Dear Girls and Boys,

In our last story, Joseph was with the merchantmen on his way to Egypt. There he was sold as a slave to Potiphar, a captain of Pharaoh's guard. The Lord was with Joseph and Potiphar soon saw that everything Joseph did prospered. For this, he was made an overseer. The Lord blessed the Egyptian's house too for Joseph's sake.

Potiphar's wife was a wicked woman, and she hated Joseph. She told a lie about him and had him put in prison. The Lord was still with Joseph. The keeper of the prison liked Joseph and gave him charge of all the prisoners. Two of the prisoners had been in Pharaoh's household. One was a chief butler and the other the chief baker. One night, each man had a dream which troubled him. When they told their dreams to Joseph, he said he would ask God to help him tell the meaning of the dreams.

The butler told his dream first. He related that in his dream before him was a vine with three branches on it. It was as though it was budded and the blossoms came forth; and there were clusters of ripe grapes. He went on to say that he took Pharaoh's cup in his hand, pressed the grapes into it, and gave the cup to Pharaoh. Joseph gave the interpretation that the three branches were three days and that within three days Pharaoh would restore him to his place as his butler again and that he would serve Pharaoh again. Joseph added, "But think on me when it shall be well with thee, and also show kindness ... unto me and make mention of me unto Pharaoh and bring me out of this house. For indeed I was stolen away out of the land of the Hebrews: and here also have I done nothing that they should put me into the dungeon."

When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was good, he said that he would tell his dream to Joseph. He stated that he too was in his dream. He said that in the dream he had three white baskets on his head. The top basket was filled with all kinds of bakemeats for Pharaoh, and the birds came and ate from the basket. Joseph told him that in the interpretation the three baskets represented three days. He said that in three days Pharaoh would lift off the baker's head, would hang him on a tree, and the birds would eat his flesh.

It came to pass that the third day was Pharaoh's birthday and a great feast was held for all his servants. The dreams were fulfilled. The baker was hung and the butler was restored to his chief butlership again. He served the cup to Pharaoh just as Joseph had said. But poor Joseph! He remained in prison. The butler forgot

all about him.

Next month we shall find out what is in store for Joseph. Do you know how long he remained in prison? Genesis 41, Verse 1 has the answer.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

Here is another riddle from Florida. The answer is found in the Old Testament. The answer to September's riddle was Joseph. Did you find it?

"This man was betrayed by a woman he loved. She tricked him with her guile. Until he told her secret words, Then he began his trial.

He lost his sight and he was bound, In fetters he worked, and did grind. And when they wanted a merry sport, This man was not left behind.

They mocked and laughed this man to shame, But he knew his God could see. Then came the fateful day for them, When they crashed to Eternity."

Sincerely,
Sister Mabel

THE AMERICAN INDIAN

What Once Was Will Be Again

By Thomas Everett

As has been reported in previous issues, there is increasing evidence that the American Indians are seeking to become more prominent in matters that concern them. Their quest to become more involved in their matters has been rewarded in some areas, as some recent events illustrate.

The Indian people of the United States and Canada are becoming more involved in national affairs, and are presently asking for, and are being granted the right to run their own affairs in some instances. Furthermore, the federal governments of the United States and Canada are supplying the funds for this purpose. As a result, these people are becoming more of a united power than they have been for some time.

In Canada recently, representatives of Ontario's 100,000 Indians gathered in Toronto to plan how to assume administration of Indian community development work now carried out by the provincial government. This right has already been granted to Indian groups in Manitoba and Alberta, Canada.

In the United States, the National Congress of American Indians, "the United Nations of the tribes," consisting of over 100 Indian tribes, has asked the federal government to grant them the privilege of running their own affairs and dealing with problems as they relate to reservations, employment, and education.

The only thing that the Indian wants is to live his life as the Great Spirit would want him to. The intenseness of this desire is portrayed by the returning of the Indians as a people back to the Great Spirit. They believe that the Great Spirit is once again turning His face back to them.

We can see God's hand moving as the Indian people, not only from the United States and Can-

ada, but the whole Western Hemisphere are beginning to gather. In 1966, Indian prophets from Central and South America met with Indian representatives from the United States and Canada to discuss social problems and apocalyptic prophecies of their people.

Shortly before that time, the Ojibwa prophet, Francis LeQuier, sent a proclamation to reservations throughout the country stating that this is the day when all the Indian tribes shall come together and be one nation, the day when a new race of men will be raised up by the power of the Great Spirit. The following words of the Book of Mormon reflect this viewpoint and signify the position of prominence which they will occupy.

"But if they (the Gentiles) will repent and hearken unto my words, and harden not their hearts, I will establish my church among them, and they shall come in unto the covenant and be numbered among this the remnant of Jacob, unto whom I have given this land for their inheritance;

"And they shall assist my people, the remnant of Jacob, and also as many of the house of Israel as shall come, that they may build a city, which shall be called the New Jerusalem.

"And then shall they assist my people that they may be gathered in, who are scattered upon all the face of the land, in unto the New Jerusalem.

"And then shall the power of heaven come down among them; and I also will be in the midst." — (III Nephi 21:22-25)

Church Evangelist Addresses Oklahoma Indian Exposition

Evangelist Timothy D. Bucci of Youngstown, Ohio attended and addressed the "38th Annual American Indian Exposition" August 12 - 13 in Anadarko, Oklahoma. This marked the fifth year that he has traveled to the Oklahoma Indian area and the second time he was given the privilege to speak over the public - address system to campers and attendants, who numbered approximately 3,500 this year.

The message presented by Brother Bucci was on the "Indian Moses", the man of God who is identified in the *Book of Mormon* as the "Choice Seer" and as the Deliverer for the American Indian in the future. How this wonderful Indian man will appear and lead his people from their present state was explained. Listeners were advised to prepare for this future great event, and they were told to "get ready, live righteously, and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ."

In explaining the belief of The Church of Jesus Christ that the Choice Seer will be the Indian leader, Brother Bucci pointed out that this man will be like Moses, who was the deliverer of the House of Israel from Egyptian captivity.

The "Choice Seer," who will be called Joseph, will lead the Indian people from their present economic and spiritual conditions. Brother Bucci, who is well-versed on this "type and shadow situation," has also written a booklet about the similarities titled, "The Jew and the American Indian."

There are no Indian reservations in Oklahoma, but there are landholdings sometimes referred to as reservations of various tribes. Indian farmers, professional people, tribal councils and agencies are located throughout the state, where approximately 148,000 Indian people reside, according to reliable reports.

Communities where Brother Bucci visited on this one-week trip were Chickasha, Okmulgee, Anadarko, and Tahlequah where about 75,000 Cherokee Indians live. Newspaper advertisements were placed in each of these localities to tell about the "Indian Moses." In the past, areas visited were Pawhuska, Pawnee, Okmulgee, and Muskogee.

Accompanying Brother Bucci this year was his grandson, Brother George A. Kovacic of Erie, Pennsylvania. Traveling there with him to the 30th Exposition in 1961 was Brother Fred Musolino of Youngstown. On that occasion, Brother Bucci was also privileged to speak to the assembly but it was in the stadium over the public address system on the Sabbath morning. There were about 3,000 Indian people in attendance at that time. Other years in which the Church Evangelist journeyed to the event were 1957, 1959, and 1964.

It is the prayer of everyone that Brother Bucci's message was well-received and heeded because the scriptures speak of the fulfillment of his statements. The Church of Jesus Christ is most interested in taking part in the mighty work which the "Choice Seer" will perform and is most desirous of leading all souls to The Gospel of Christ.

AUDITORIUM PROGRESS

(Continued from Page 1)

Further progress reports will be presented in future issues.

All readers are requested to continue their generous donations for the auditorium so that all obligations may be met. Funds may be forwarded through Branch and Mission Financial Secretaries or may be mailed directly to the General Church Financial Secretary - Treasurer, Meredith R. Griffith, R. D. No. 1, Box 117, Bentleyville, Pennsylvania 15314.

Reminder!

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President Visits Arizona Locations

Brother Gorie Ciaravino, General Church President, visited Arizona Church locations on a recent western tour. He spoke twice at the Phoenix Branch and once at the San Carlos Indian Reservation.

On Thursday night, August 7, his talk at Phoenix was about the coming of the "Choice Seer" and the "Gathering of the Saints" which will take place. He also gave a progress report on the General Church Auditorium. Other speakers were Brothers Ether Furnier, George Neill, and Richard Christman, Presiding Elder.

The following Sunday morning at Phoenix, August 10, Brother Ciaravino introduced the service by reading **Alma 8:1 - 18** of **The Book of Mormon**. In speaking on the text, he told how Angels visited men in the past and emphasized how these same kinds of visitations are possible today. He also described how the Nephites and Lamanites lived in their cities, based on the impressions he had obtained the day before while touring the preserved ruins of the community where the Hohokam Indians had lived. Brothers Philip Damore, Furnier and Christman delivered brief talks thereafter.

That evening, Brother Ciaravino spoke at San Carlos on experiences which had been received and how he had been directed to visit the San Carlos Reservation about eight years ago. Brothers Meredith R. Griffith from Monongahela, Pennsylvania who was spending some time at Church Indian missions; Damore from Phoenix; and Dan Piccuito, full-time San Carlos Church missionary, followed. Testimonies and hymns of praise sung by the Indian Brothers and Sisters in their Apache tongue at the end of the meeting added immensely to the edifying service.

Among the other areas visited by Brother Ciaravino during his one-week Arizona stay, most of which were locations of the seed of Joseph, was the White River Indian Reservation where Brother Isaac Smith is serving as a full-time Church missionary.

Discuss Parable On Preparedness At Rochester

Evangelist Nicholas Pietrangelo of Detroit, Michigan addressed the Rochester, New York congregation on Sunday, August 31. His talk was based on the "Parable of the Ten Virgins," found in **St. Matthew 25**.

The necessity for preparedness for The Lord's call was stressed and the five virgins who were ready and had their lamps trimmed were compared to the other five in the parable who were not properly found waiting. The parable was used to elaborate on the way mankind must be ready at all times to meet the Creator or face the undesirable consequences which may

result.

Brother Patsy Marinetti, Evangelist of Rochester, followed on the subject, further accentuating the necessity for preparedness.

Apostles Talk At Hopelawn And Bronx

Another meeting was held on Wednesday, August 13, at the Hopelawn, New Jersey Branch by Brother V. James Lovalvo, visiting Apostle from Modesto, California. Members from both the Hopelawn and neighboring Metuchen Branches attended the service.

Explanations and discussions on the duties of Church members were presented. The points dwelled upon were taken from the Minister's Manual. The proceedings were enlightening and enjoyable.

A few weeks prior, Brother Paul D'Amico, Apostle from Lockport, New York, joined Brother Lovalvo in conducting two other wonderful services. On Friday, July 18, they traveled to the Bronx, New York Branch and the following Sunday, July 20, they took the lead at the Hopelawn meeting.

At Bronx, Brother D'Amico talked about the Restoration of The Gospel and recited many experiences which have been received. Brother Lovalvo followed and elaborated on the Restoration and its great significance. He also told about some experiences and of his conversion into The Church 36 years ago.

Brother D'Amico also introduced the Hopelawn service and spoke inspiringly about the eventual gathering of the House of Israel and the raising up of the Lamanites by God. The blessings and illumination which will take place were pointed out. Brother Lovalvo, in continuing on the theme, enumerated the things which the Saints must possess to progress as individuals and as a Church. He emphasized that the love of God is of the utmost importance and should be cultivated without hindrance and that the scriptures must be searched for spiritual strength.

The teachings and sermons were edifying and most beneficial and left all members looking forward to further similar meetings for their spiritual growth and development.

Sermons At Roscoe By Guest Speakers

Talks by visiting members of The Ministry at the Roscoe, Pennsylvania Branch recently have been both inspiring and enlightening. These sermons were delivered by Brothers Frank Calabrese and Rocco Biscotti on July 27 and Charles Smith on August 17.

In opening the first reported meeting, Brother Calabrese of Lorain, Ohio read from **Revelation 3**. Brother Biscotti of Cleveland, Ohio followed. The messages and testimonies of the two Brothers, both of whom are Church Apostles, were

encouraging and God's presence was felt in the service.

Brother Smith of Fairless Hills, Pennsylvania spoke on the love of God. He used Psalm 127 as the text for his most instructional and heartwarming sermon.

The words presented by the guest speakers were well-received and most appreciated by the Roscoe flock.

San Diego Branch Conducts First Vacation School

The San Diego, California Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ presented its first Vacation Bible School August 18 - 22. The sessions were sponsored by the Branch's Missionary Benevolent Association Local and Sunday School, and many children of the community, as well as the congregation, attended the classes.

Lesson books were made up about four parables: "The Good Shepherd," "The Foolish Man Who Built His House Upon the Sand," "The Foolish Rich Man," and "The Kingdom of Heaven." Besides using these workbooks, crafts and hymns were taught.

On Thursday night, August 21, there was an Open House to display the work of the children and to present achievement awards. Refreshments were also served.

Sister Diane Surdoch was the Director and musical instructor for the school. The Assistant Director was Sister Orletta Liberto, who also taught the 6 - 8 age group students. Other section teachers were Sister Violet Thomas (ages 3 - 5) and Sharon DiFranco (ages 9 - 11). The craft instructor was Sister Lorraine Morano. Sisters Becky Nelson and Mary Saczko also participated in teaching the children. Brother Louis Ciccatti was the Minister who introduced and concluded the sessions with appropriate remarks, and Brothers Gary and Larry Ciccatti were the project artists.

The success of this first venture has left the San Diego group looking forward to further such undertakings.

Name And Gifts Of The Church Hammond Subjects

The name and gifts of The Church of Jesus Christ were the subjects for talks at services in Hammond, Indiana recently. Brothers Michael LaSala of Detroit, Michigan and Joseph Calabrese of Lorain, Ohio discussed the name on September 7, while Brothers Norman Campitelle and Spencer G. Everett, both also of Detroit, spoke about the gifts on August 24.

The words of Christ in III Nephi 27:8 in the Book of Mormon were read by Brother LaSala. They specify, "And how be it my church save

it be called in my name? For if a church be called in Moses' name then it be Moses' church; or if it be called in the name of a man then it be the church of a man; but if it be called in my name then it is my church, if it so be that they are built upon my gospel."

The significance of this passage was described by both speakers. In addition, Brother Calabrese told about the missionary work in South Dakota where he recently spent some time, along with Brother Joseph Bittinger, General Church Second Counselor.

On August 24, Brother Campitelle enumerated the gifts which are given to the people of God, and he encouraged everyone to put whichever of these they possess to work. He emphasized that these gifts must be put to good use and perfected if they are to bear fruit. Brother Everett followed on these virtues, pointing out the great value they have in the sight of God.

Visitors Speak In M-O District

Four visiting Brothers of The Ministry addressed congregations in the Michigan-Ontario District on Sundays during the month of August. They were Joseph Capone and James Scalise from Bell, California; Louis Parravano from Modesto, California; and Paul D'Amico from Lockport, New York.

Brother Capone talked at Detroit Branch No. 3 on August 10 and in Windsor the following Sunday, while Brother Scalise spoke in Windsor on August 10 and at Detroit No. 3 on August 17. Both speakers gave their personal testimonies and experiences received while they have been in The Church. They also emphasized the necessities for not being obstructed in service to God and for remaining faithful to The Gospel. While in Windsor, Brother Capone spoke in the Italian language for the benefit of those present of that extraction.

The love which must be exhibited by the people of God was discussed by Brother Parravano at Detroit No. 3 on August 24. The Saviour's words to love one another in St. John 13:34-35 were used as the text.

On August 31, Brother D'Amico introduced the service at Detroit No. 3 with the passages from Acts 10:34-36, 44-48 which deal with the ushering in of the Gentiles into The Church when Peter baptized Cornelius and his household. The thoughts that God is no respecter of persons and that the Gentiles will be used by The Lord to return The Gospel to Israel were pursued. Brother D'Amico was also requested to speak briefly in the Italian language. Brother Parravano, in following, quoted Moroni's words about the Gentiles in Mormon 8:34 - 38 of the Book of Mormon and elaborated on the subject points.

All the talks were highly edifying and encouraging to the congregations addressed.

"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." John 6:37.

Two More Members Added To Church In Cumberland

Two more members were added to the Lavale (Homewood Chapel) Mission of The Church of Jesus Christ at Cumberland, Maryland on Sunday, August 3. Both the new members, Robin Anderson and Michael Garlitz who reside near Trenton, New Jersey, were baptized and confirmed by Brother Idras A. Martin.

The conversions were the seventh and eighth in a series of baptisms which were experienced by the Cumberland flock in a four-week span. The baptisms provided answers to many prayers for the entry of souls into The Gospel.

Brother Henry Border is the Presiding Officer of the Mission, and Brother Martin of Monongahela, Pennsylvania, which is in charge of the group, travels there to assist him.

Baptism Performed At Youngstown

The Youngstown, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ was blessed with another baptism on Sunday, August 17, when Julia Shankle came into the fold. She was baptized by Brother Anthony A. Corrado and confirmed by Brother William Gennaro.

Many visiting Elders from other branches of The Church were present at this service. They had attended the General Priesthood meeting at Youngstown for the General Church Auditorium the day before.

Brother V. James Lovalvo of Modesto, California opened the service, reading from Isaiah 44. He gave a very inspiring sermon on "They Fed On Ashes," explaining the vanity of idolatry and how easy it is to allow many idols to take the place of working for God in these, the latter days. He also spoke on the importance of leaving The Gospel as a heritage to our children.

Brother Dominic Moraco of Detroit, Michigan followed, stating that we have found a living God and that nothing can ever separate us from His love if we remain steadfast in The Faith.

This day was a blessing for all present, particularly for our new Sister who has been afflicted and is in need of the prayers of all the Brothers and Sisters.

Another Addition To Windsor Flock

Another member was added to the Windsor, Ontario, Canada Branch on Sunday, August 24, when Ruth Byrne was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ. She was immersed by Brother Don Collison and confirmed by Brother John Romano, visiting from Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 2.

Brother Romano had spoken at the inspiring service. He talked about the wonderful teachings and examples of Christ and how these guidelines should be followed by all of His people. He also gave his testimony and some of his personal experiences. Brother Romano has recently returned from his second tour of Church missionary work in Italy.

After Sister Byrne was confirmed, Brother Allan Henderson anointed her for an illness from which she has been suffering.

The entry of our new Sister into The Gospel was most edifying and added to a series of baptisms which have been performed in Windsor lately.

Baptism, Guests At Phoenix Branch

A new member, Claudia McCullough, was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ at the Phoenix, Arizona Branch on Sunday, August 17. There were visiting Ministers and members from other Church locations on this memorable occasion when Brother George Neill took Sister McCullough into the waters.

Apostle Samuel Kirschner from West Elizabeth, Pennsylvania, who confirmed the new Sister; Evangelist Meredith R. Griffith from Monongahela, Pennsylvania; and Evangelist Daniel Piccuito from the San Carlos, Arizona Indian Reservation were the guest members of The Ministry who were present. The talks delivered were very inspiring, and all assembled felt the Spirit of God in this service during which Sister McCullough was prompted to make her decision to obey The Gospel of Christ. Her conversion added immeasurably to the blessings experienced.

Ten days later on Wednesday evening, August 27, Evangelist Joseph Calabrese from Lorain, Ohio spoke to the Phoenix congregation. His words, like those of all the other guest speakers, were most welcomed and well received.

Brief News of Interest

MUNCEY BEGINNING

The passing of Sister Julia Nicholas (see "Obituaries" on page 12) recalls how her late husband, Brother George, and she invited The Church of Jesus Christ to visit them and hold meetings in their home at the Muncey Indian Reservation in Ontario, Canada. Shortly thereafter, the two of them were baptized and stood as pillars at this Mission, the first established on an Indian reservation. Brother Nicholas was also the Chief at that time.

The Brothers who had originally gone to Muncey from Pennsylvania were William H. Cadman of Monongahela; Anthony DiBattista of Glassport; and Alma B. Cadman and Paul Love of Greenville.

Sister Nicholas was blessed with the Gift of Tongues, which she spoke or sang as The Spirit

gave her utterance. She received many wonderful divine experiences during her many years in The Gospel, and she was healed from afflictions many times through the laying-on of hands by The Ministry.

Members of the Muncey Mission looked upon her as a spiritual mother, and, although she will be greatly missed, her testimony will never be forgotten. Also recalled will be her perpetual smile and example which have been inspirational to all who knew her. In addition, her outstanding attendance at meetings will be remembered as not only being exemplary to everyone on the reservation but to all the missionary workers who labored there as well.

EXPRESSES THANKS

Sister Marie McGuire of the Lorain, Ohio Branch has written to thank all the Brothers, Sisters, and friends who prayed for her during her recent serious illness and major surgery. Prior to that time, she was in an automobile accident from which she was also spared and for which she also has expressed her thankfulness to God.

Many cards and well-wishes have been sent to Sister McGuire from around The Church, and they have offered her much encouragement. Anyone desiring to write to her during her present recuperative period, as well as continuing to pray for her, may do so at 1000 Cooper Foster Park Road, R.D. 2, Amherst, Ohio 44001.

DISTRICT DIRECTORY

The Florida Missionary Benevolent Association Area has compiled a directory containing the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all members in that state. Also, a short history of each Branch and Mission in Florida is included.

Parties interested in obtaining one of these comprehensive and well-organized directories for a \$1 donation may write to Brother James Sheffler, 10680 S. W. 60th Street, Miami, Florida 33143.

SPIRITUAL BIRTHDAY

Brother Thurman and Sister Birdie Furnier, now living in Lorain, Ohio, had a spiritual birthday on August 23. They were baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ in 1914 in Smock, Pennsylvania by Elder Martin King, and they have remained faithful to The Gospel these past 55 years. The Lorain MBA Local held a social after one of its Friday evening services to mark the special occasion and to honor the Furniers who are both in their 80's but who have many good experiences and words of wisdom to share with everyone. Their steadfastness is characterized by the exuberance with which Brother Furnier, General Church First Counselor, discharges his duties for The Church. It is certain everyone will want to join the Lorain group in offering congratulations to the Furniers.

Incidentally, another notable milestone was passed at the Lorain Branch when Apostle Frank and Sister Rosemond Calabrese celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on August 17. An open house was held for them by their two children

in which Brothers and Sisters of the Branch participated. The Calabreses have been members of the Lorain congregation for many years, with Brother Frank and Sister Romy being baptized in 1946 and 1951, respectively. Congratulations and best wishes are also extended to the Calabreses.

VALUABLE COLLECTION

Brother Herman F. Kennedy of the Roscoe, Pennsylvania Branch has a valuable collection of literature which he has accumulated during his life. The 82 year-old Church Elder was pictured in a local newspaper and was cited for his unusual possessions.

It was reported that among the rare books in his collection is a "History of the Bible" which was published in London, England in 1699 and which has 234 illustrations. The caption also indicated that he is still able to read without the aid of glasses and that he still enjoys writing hymns and poetry.

Readers will recall that Brother Kennedy, who lives in Charleroi, Pennsylvania, suffered a fractured hip recently, as reported in the March issue, and that he has recuperated through God's mercies.

PRACTICE WHAT LEARNED

Putting into practice the teachings they have learned, two young couples from the Monongahela, Pennsylvania Branch have moved to Arizona to be in a position to assist at the San Carlos Indian Reservation there. Brother Joseph and Sister Paulette Griffith have taken up residence on the reservation where Brother Joseph is teaching school. Brother Arthur and Sister Bonny Landrey have relocated in Scottsdale where Brother Arthur has accepted a teaching position. The Landreys will be close enough to travel to San Carlos on weekends as much as possible; they are members of the Phoenix Branch.

Earlier, Brother Kem Metz, along with his mother, Sister Doris, had moved to the White River Reservation. He accompanied Brother Isaac and Sister Bonnie Smith and their family there.

The Golden Rule Sunday School Class in Monongahela, after studying about The Church's Missionary work, was responsible for the original purchase of a trailer at San Carlos in which class members could live while helping with the physical labors on the reservation. Subsequently, interest grew from this initial experience, and some of the participants have now moved to the Indian localities so they can be available to extend additional help.

Another new member in Arizona is Sister Yvonne Capone from Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4. Formerly a school counselor in Flint, Michigan, she is teaching in the Laveen School District, a southwestern suburban area of Phoenix. She has already become active in the Phoenix Branch, particularly in the Missionary Benevolent Association where she was elected an officer.

TESTIMONY RECALLED

The death of Sister Maude Stallworth of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3 which was reported in June recalls the importance of giving our

(Continued on Page 12)

NUPTIALS

BARBER—CECE

Mr. James Michael Barber and Sister Carolyn Suzanne Cece were married at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3 of The Church of Jesus Christ on Saturday, September 20. Brother Silverio Coppa performed the ceremony. Sister Donna Taormina was the vocal soloist.

The Barbers are now living in Detroit.

THOMAS—DI FALCO

Mr. Richard Allen Thomas and Sister Lorraine Marie DiFalco were joined in holy wedlock at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 of The Church of Jesus Christ on Friday evening, September 19. Brother Nicholas Pietrangelo conducted the marriage ceremony. Brother Bart DiPronio was the vocal soloist.

The newlyweds now live in Detroit.

SMITH—OWENS

Mr. Gordon G. Smith and Miss Kathleen Ann Owens were united in marriage at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 of The Church of Jesus Christ on Friday evening, September 12. Brother Nicholas Pietrangelo, uncle of the bride, performed the ceremony.

The Smiths are now residents of Detroit.

PASQUALE—PUSATERI

Mr. Benjamin Pasquale and Miss Carol Jean Pusateri were united in holy matrimony at the Youngstown, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ on Saturday, June 28. Brother Elmer Santilli conducted the marriage ceremony, assisted by Brother Richard Santilli. Mr. Joseph Costarella was the vocal soloist.

The newlyweds are now living in Euclid, Ohio.

OBITUARIES

JULIA NICHOLAS

Sister Julia Nicholas, a faithful charter member of the Muncey, Ontario Indian Mission of The Church of Jesus Christ, departed from this life on August 29. Born on April 8, 1893, she was baptized into The Church in October, 1932.

She is survived by five daughters, two sons, and a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Brother Joseph Milantoni conducted the funeral services, assisted by Brother Anthony Gerace.

Sister Nicholas will be remembered for her genuine humility, her living testimony, and her profound love for The Restored Gospel. In addition, her baptism, along with her late husband, Brother George, heralded the beginning of the Muncey congregation, the first officially established Church Indian Mission.

MARTIN G. ONDRASIK

Brother Martin G. Ondrasik, a faithful member of the Imperial, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed on to his eternal reward on August 11. Born on May 18, 1935, he was baptized into The Church on May 2, 1954.

Left to mourn his loss are his parents, two sisters, and one brother.

Brother James Moore officiated at the funeral services.

Our departed Brother will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him. They are comforted with the realization that, although his stay in this life was comparatively short, he nevertheless came to know his Savior and obeyed His Gospel.

BRIEF NEWS OF INTEREST

(Continued from Page 11)

testimonies to whomever possible. The beloved Sister Maude heard about The Church of Jesus

Christ when she went to inquire about purchasing the home of Brother Marco Piersante. As she waited for the arrival of Brother Piersante, two members of his family told her about The Church. She started to attend services immediately thereafter. She obeyed The Gospel and subsequently testified many times of this most fortunate occurrence in her life. Incidentally, she bought the house and lived there for a long period.

RETURN TO GREENSBURG

Brother Martin and Sister Candace Yusko have returned to Greensburg, Pennsylvania from Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4. The young couple had an eventful and happy stay in Detroit, as they were both baptized at No. 4 during their brief time there.

The Detroit congregation members were sorry to have them leave, but they sent along their best wishes with them as they returned to their home location. Obviously, the Greensburg Branch was happy to welcome them back.

WORSHIP IN HAMMOND

Additions to the group who have been attending services in Hammond, Indiana are Dr. Lee and Mrs. Anita Griffith and their young daughter, Mara, from Monongahela, Pennsylvania. They have moved to Oak Park, Illinois for the next two years while Brother Griffith completes his internship as an oral surgeon at a nearby hospital. Their additions have certainly been most welcomed.

NEW ARRIVALS

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the indicated new members of their families. New arrivals have been as follows:

Wendy Karen to the Dwayne Edward Jordans of San Fernando Valley, California;

Julie Ann to the Joseph Parravano of Modesto, California;

Hillary Katherine to the Gary Howard Scotts of Lorain, Ohio;

Todd Wayne Porter to the Cecil Garlitz of the Lavale (Homewood Chapel) Mission in Cumberland, Maryland;

Ronald Keith to the Ronald Lee Hamiltons of the Eldora, Pennsylvania Mission;

John Samuel to the George Frederick Seighmans of Monongahela, Pennsylvania;

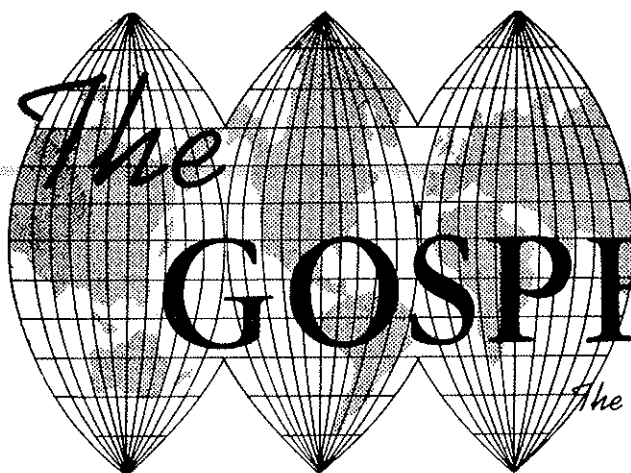
Lori Jo to the Henry Cardillos of Youngstown, Ohio;

Shelly Marie to the Ronald James Cotellesses of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 2;

Wendy Ann to the David Libers of the Cleveland, Ohio West Side Mission;

Carrie Alise to the Michael H. Buffingtons of Imperial, Pennsylvania; and

Todd Alan to the Timothy Currys and Sherri Renee to the Joseph Draskovichs of Greensburg, Pennsylvania.



The GOSPEL NEWS

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Thanksgiving Day

By Paul D'Amico, Apostle

"And inasmuch as ye shall observe my commandments, ye shall prosper in the land, but when ye transgress, ye shall be cast off from my presence." Thus said The Lord to the Jaredites, and also to the Nephites, as they came upon the land of promise, known to us as "America."

In 1620, the Pilgrims arrived upon this land, thus fulfilling that part of Nephi's vision in which he saw first a gentile (Columbus) and later other gentiles (Pilgrims) come to the land where the seed of his brethren (Lamanites) resided. These Lamanites are better known to us today as "American Indians."

History tells us that, when the first harvest came, "Thanksgiving Day" was celebrated, for the Pilgrims felt they should thank God for the harvest and for the wonderful bounties He had bestowed upon them. Certainly, this was most appropriate on their part.

MIGHTY NATION

Many years have passed since the arrival of the Pilgrims and many Thanksgiving Days have been celebrated. America has become a mighty nation and, as we celebrate another Thanksgiving, we are faced with the question as to whether we, as a nation, as a Church, and as individuals, have shown our fullest and most sincere appreciation for what we enjoy upon this land of promise.

Today, perhaps more than at any time in our history, we should stop and give thanks for the Declaration of Independence which made us a free nation. This gave birth to the Constitution of the United States, which guarantees the rights of every citizen, including the right to worship the Almighty God in the manner he chooses. It was this right which permitted our Pilgrim Fathers to allow the Reformation movement to grow and prepare the way for the Restoration. I often say it was the forerunner to the Restoration, just as John the Baptist was the forerunner of Jesus Christ. Because the Reformation movement gave birth to so many churches, Joseph Smith was caused to ask God which of all the churches were acceptable to Him. In the midst of the Reformation movement came the mighty power of

(Continued on Page 6)

Ground Broken, Construction Begun On Auditorium

By Spencer G. Everett, Secretary
General Board Of Trustees

Ground has been broken and construction has been begun on the General Church Auditorium about two-and-a-half miles southwest from the center of Greensburg, Pennsylvania. These developments followed the purchase of a new site which is comprised of 18.088 acres and is located conveniently near main transportation arteries.

The groundbreaking was accomplished on Saturday, October 25, and the general contractor, the F. J. Busse Company, Incorporated, moved onto the land almost simultaneously to

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GMBA Conference To Convene Nov. 8 In Pennsylvania

The semi-annual General Missionary Benevolent Association Conference will convene at the Salem Senior High School on McLaughlin Drive in Greensburg, Pennsylvania on Saturday, November 8, at 10 A.M. There will be three meetings during the day.

The next morning's worship service will be held across the street from the school in the community building, also starting at 10 A.M.

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Special Report To Gospel News

By V. James Lovalvo, Apostle

(Following is a special report written for the Gospel News on September 8 by Apostle V. James Lovalvo of his recent visits among the various Church Branches and Missions. — Editor's Note).

Tomorrow will be the last day I shall spend in New Jersey; and it will be a sad one for both my wife and me. Welcoming hellos are truly wonderful; but good-byes are heart-rending. I now more than ever begin to know how Paul, the Apostle, felt when he bid the Saints good-bye prior to leaving for Jerusalem.

At the close of last Sunday's meeting, I was overwhelmed with the affection that the Brothers and Sisters showed us. They shook my hand with loving care and tenderness, and many Brothers embraced me with tears streaming down their cheeks while they bid me Godspeed. "Please come back, Brother Jim," was uttered with such love that the words of Paul, in effect, "Why do you weep and break my heart," came chokingly out of me. Suddenly, the full reward of all the time I had spent with the Saints on the Atlantic Coast came upon me when I saw their eyes brimming over with tears of love and affection towards me. All I could think was "I am not worthy!" This was the same kind of love which had been shown by the Brothers and Sisters of the Florida District when we were there last fall, and we had the same feelings then.

Over two months have gone by in my mission on the Atlantic Coast District; and, as I write, I am reflecting on "How quickly the time has flown!" This despite the fact that I have held many meetings which included fasting and prayer services every Saturday morning and an Elders and Teachers Meeting every Thursday evening, (a few times the Elders' and Teachers' wives met with my wife at the same time I was meeting with their husbands). Every Tuesday night I met with the Saints at the Freehold Mission, and on Wednesday evening I attended a meeting in one Branch or another. Of course, on Sunday we worshipped all day long at a particular Branch of my choice. All of the above meetings were attended to capacity. The Thursday night classes were indeed enjoyable, especially since the Brothers participated wholeheartedly and zealously.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

This last weekend was the Atlantic Coast District Conference, and it was a very good one indeed. However, the thing that left me speechless and filled me with unspeakable joy that I was moved to tears was when the Brothers passed a motion to ask the General Church to have me stay on the Atlantic Coast for another six to eight weeks. I cannot describe the feeling of gratitude that overshadowed me upon hearing this. All I can say is that I was made to feel very humble.

In our Thursday night classes I perceived

the wonderful interest the young Elders evidenced in our many discussions. This District has wonderful young men in the Ministry whose desires are to work for the Lord Jesus. One particular young Elder desires to see the Peaceful Reign so much that he is making all kinds of plans to dedicate his life as to live in the spirit of it; and others are now volunteering to help in other fields so that they can become exposed much more to the preaching of The Restored Gospel. I have found that these young men are as avid to learn more the things of God and His Church as I am in imparting same to them. Listening to them, I often think of what one man said once, "Give me ten men who are dedicated and we will turn the world upside-down." I have also seen that their affection towards me is like Timothy's was for Paul; and I, in turn, reciprocate this love with all my heart. With men like these, I have no fear for the future of The Church of Jesus Christ. I would like to add that Brother Dominic Rose and his Counselors are doing a good job in the discharging of their offices. Brother Rose is tireless in his efforts to visit as much, and as often as possible, all the locations in this District.

PRODUCT OF LOVE

God has been good to me while on this mission. The Brothers and Sisters have shown my wife and me hospitality that is beyond description. Without a doubt, this is only the product of the great Love of God that dwells in their hearts. Jesus said that only by this kind of love "shall all men know that ye are my disciples . . ." May the Good Lord bless the Saints everywhere with this love that transcends all other kinds of love. Though often we returned to our apartment tired and sometimes exhausted, there was always that sense of well-being and a sense of accomplishment.

We were also very fortunate to be able to attend the Pennsylvania Missionary Benevolent Association Campout over the Labor Day weekend. We arrived there Saturday noon and were able to attend one of their seminars, which was truly blessed. The Saturday evening service was filled with His goodness as we heard many of the young folks sing and bear their testimonies to the glory of God. Sunday's services began and ended with the blessings of The Lord showering upon us all. After lunch, many young people, along with the older folks, gathered in the open Auditorium (a large building, open at the sides, and with only a roof overhead) and began to sing hymns and sacred songs. It really turned out to be a spiritual concert. The male quartette from Greensburg sang many beautiful songs which delighted us immensely; then there were solos, duets, and group singing. Of the many blessings which we received, the most outstanding things that impressed me were the order that the young people kept and the respect they had for the ones in charge; also their "keeping holy" of the Sabbath day was truly remarkable. All in all, it was "good" to be there. We returned to New Jersey tired but very happy. Our trip to the Pennsylvania Campout was financed by the Atlantic Coast MBA Area, for which we thank

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Editorial Viewpoint

By George A. Neill

Man's refusal to appraise high enough the Word of God and things pertaining to our religious lives has often brought destruction to individuals and nations.

Thanksgiving is the oldest observance unique to the United States which we now commemorate as a national holiday. It had its beginning with the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock after their first harvest in 1621. Their tiny foothold on the edge of a large unknown continent, whose limits they were never to know, grew into English Colonies which had the conviction that government derived its power from the people. What happened then and through the years of our national history should be remembered with humility and thanksgiving on the 27th day of November, 1969. Our harvests were never more abundant and our material wealth never greater. The faith of our forefathers was strong; and that same strong faith in what we are doing has, through the years, built the land that we live in today.

We all know things have changed since the Pilgrim's day. Paul, the Apostle, looking down through the corridors of time to our day, said in **II Timothy 3:1-5**.

*"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.
For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unboly,
Without natural affection, truce-breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,
Traitors, beady, highminded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God;
Having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof . . ."*

How accurately Paul predicted the present conditions! If we were to add some modern descriptions of these same people to whom Paul is alluding, it would sound something like this: lovers of money, self-assuming, betrayers, without loving-kindness, slanderers, without self-control, having no love of goodness, haughty, head-strong, ungrateful, unappreciative. So is is, seemingly, Thanksgiving Day finds us a nation lacking in thankfulness.

To be ungrateful or unthankful is to lack appreciation. The word appreciation is related to the word appraise, which means to set a value on or decide the worth of something. When we decide to buy real estate, and it is necessary to obtain a loan to do so, we must have the property appraised. The bank through which we deal sends an appraiser to set the value on the property before the transaction can be made. If the value of property rises, it is said to appreciate; if it drops in value, it depreciates. It is somewhat the same with the things of God and the religious aspects of our lives. Let us learn to appreciate God and His Son, Jesus Christ, in our lives by setting values on them. If we fully appreciate our heavenly Father and His Son, we have a clear perception or recognition of their value; but I am afraid the world is dying for lack of keen perception of sacred things. Man's refusal to appraise high enough the Word of God and things pertaining to our religious lives has often brought destruction to individuals and nations.

The Roman army storming through Jerusalem in 70 A. D. was nothing more than the result of a warped appraisal of Jesus who was the long-awaited Messiah. Even though His credentials fulfilled the prophecies assuring Him to be the One sent of God, that doomed generation lightly esteemed His coming and neglected to appraise His kingdom as worthy of allegiance and support. The axe was thus laid at the root of the tree. There were, however, some appreciative individuals like John the Baptist, for instance, whose appraisal of Christ's worth made him feel unworthy to bear the latchet of His shoes. Those who correctly appraised Christ's role received an outpouring of God's spirit in their hearts.

There was a time when the whole world was stalked by the plague of inappreciativeness and ingratitude. Noah and his family were busy building an ark of safety before the very eyes of people who were lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God. Since they had no love of goodness, were haughty and were headstrong, it probably was not until the surging flood-

(Continued on Page 7)



UR WOMEN TODAY

Ladies' Circles Hold Conference In New Jersey

By Mary Tamburrino

The Quarterly General Ladies' Circle Conference was held at the New Brunswick, New Jersey Branch on Saturday, September 20. Sisters were in attendance from various parts of Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey.

A devotional period started the day's schedule. It was followed by the presentation of reports and communications, the disbursement of funds, and the making of future plans.

The New Jersey Circles presented a program titled, "Nothing Is Impossible With God" during the devotional segment. Hymns were sung and scriptures relating to the title were read to emphasize how God can do anything. Several Sisters told experiences which convinced them that "nothing is impossible with God," and many excellent thoughts were expressed on this theme. The devotional period was introduced and concluded by the group's singing, "Nothing Is Impossible."

Sister Mabel Bickerton, General Circle President, then offered some appropriate remarks. Testimonies and hymns of praise followed.

Official matters on the agenda were next taken up. Reports, presented by delegates and General Circle officers, were accepted by the Conference.

VARIOUS COMMUNICATIONS

Various communications were forwarded and read to the Conference. One was received from the General Church Board of Missions, thanking the Circles for the help and support they had given the General Church Missions. The assistance included the payment of expenses incurred in The Church's Home Missions Program.

Sister Evelyn Perdue sent a letter in which she expressed gratitude for the funds and baby clothes supplied by the Circles for the children of the Tijuana, Mexico Indian Missions. In addition, she told of the visitors and baptisms with which the Mission has been blessed.

Other communications were received from Sister Christine Taormina of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3 and from Brother Amos and Sister Margaret Udo, formerly of Nigeria and now of Emporia, Kansas, for remembering them. A written analysis of the African Relief Fund was also furnished by Brother John Ross of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania who is the General Church Representative for the Nigerian Missions.

Disbursements were then voted by the Conference. Donations were made from the General

Fund to the African Relief, Trailer at San Carlos, and General Church Auditorium Funds. Other amounts were allocated to the General Church Indian Missionary Fund from the General Circles' Indian Mission Fund and to the General Church Missionary Fund from the Circle Cook Book Fund.

CIRCLE PROJECTS

Future projects were planned next. The General Circle Project for the next three months involves the furnishing of Bibles to the White River Indian Reservation in Arizona. Each Circle unit was asked to send at least one Bible (King James Version) for use at this newly established Church Indian Mission. They are to be sent to Brother Isaac Smith, who is in charge of the new congregation, at Box 674, Pinetop, Arizona 85935.

Another future project, "Stories on Our Own Hymns," was proposed, discussed, and accepted by motion. The inspiration for the hymns of praise written by members of The Church of Jesus Christ will be related in this analysis. Sister Linda D'Orazio of New Jersey was elected Chairman of this activity, and the Circles of the Atlantic Coast were asked to work with her on this matter.

The calendar for the 1970 General Meetings was also established. These gatherings will take place as follows:

March 21 at McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania;

June at Detroit, Michigan (to mark the General Circles' 50th anniversary, date and exact location to be announced);

September 19 at Erie, Pennsylvania; and

December 12 at Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.

As reported in previous issues, the Circles are looking forward to their 50th year of existence. A special committee in the Michigan-Ontario District has been asked to make preparations for this special event. All Sisters and their daughters and friends are asked to start planning for the occasion and to attend this commemorative Conference, as well as the others, if possible.

QUESTIONS ASSIGNED

One Circle question from the last June Conference was found in **Mosiah 29:12** of the **Book of Mormon**, while the other one was held over until December. In addition, two new questions were assigned. They are "When will the revelations of John be unfolded in the eyes of all the people?" (found in the **Book of Mormon**) and "What two prophets spoke the same words written in Hymn No. 114 in the **Saints Hymnal**?" (found in the Bible).

Sister Mabel Bickerton reported that a Circle group had been organized at the Lake Worth, Florida Branch. She stated that the unit had been formed there on August 16. The entire Circle welcomes these new members and is certain that they will be of great benefit to the General Church, as well as to their Branch and the General Circle.

Some Brothers also attended the last meeting of the day, and they spoke many words of encouragement. They complimented the Sisters for the many efforts they have expended on behalf of The Gospel and they said they were cer-

tain The Lord would continue to help them and all the other members in their endeavors.

A vote of thanks was given the host New Jersey Circles for their exceptional hospitality at the Conference, which was the 197th time that the General Circles have met. The next General Gathering will be held in Monongahela on December 13.

Women Of The Church

By Mary Loyalvo

Last year, while we were getting ready to go to Florida on home missionary work for The Church, I was somewhat concerned, yet happy to be able to do something for the people of God. I was concerned about leaving the comforts of home and leaving my children and dear grandchildren for a while, when suddenly I received many letters from the Sisters of our Church. These communications came from all parts of the country, encouraging me with their loving expression of tender care. Many were their words of cheer as they wrote, "Go, Sister Mary, and our prayers will be with you." Also, "God bless you in your work, for we know that The Lord will be with you." With these numerous encouraging letters, my heart leaped with joy to know that I had such wonderful Sisters in The Church who would be constantly praying for us.

We started out with a remarkable send-off. Again, the Sisters of our San Fernando Valley Branch in California gave us a "Fare-thee-well" informal meeting in The Church. Afterwards, refreshments were served in the kitchen. All in all it was a joyful soul-touching departure.

On our way, as we were getting closer to Florida, a little thought of uncertainty again entered my mind, when a voice spoke within me, "Go, and you will find a Brother and a friend." Truly, this is what we found! The Brothers and Sisters welcomed us with tenderness and love; especially the Sisters were so very kind to me. I remember that, when affliction struck me severely, a Sister tenderly took care of me with deep concern for my health and welfare. I shall never forget also the depth of love with which the Sisters of Florida are endowed and the many small ways they attempted to make our stay there comfortable and happy. I can sincerely say that they succeeded in their efforts more than they will ever know. The Brothers were wonderful, too, but it was the Sisters who hovered over us like Angels of Kindness and made life very beautiful.

ANOTHER EXPERIENCE

Once again, in my husband's mission on the Atlantic Coast District, I had a wonderfully encouraging experience. I was sitting in one of the meetings feeling a little concerned and praying that I would be a help to my husband and an example to the people with whom I would come in contact. I was meditating on the song "I Asked The Lord" and I thought, "What shall I ask

The Lord?" As my mind became troubled, I remembered how The Lord had said to me "You will find a Brother and a friend." Suddenly the words of this beautiful sacred song were given to me, "Never be afraid, for I will see you through." The spirit of God filled my soul at this comforting experience, and I know that He will be with us so long as we love and serve Him.

The Sisters here have been truly wonderful to us. I can also see in them the outstanding features of kindness and loving care. Everywhere we go, the Sisters are so mindful of our welfare. Were I to mention them one by one I would not be able to say enough about their deep concern for us. Little tokens of love that they impart to us each day are like blessings from Heaven.

Young and old, the women of our Church have been, and I know will continue to be an inspiration to us in our travels throughout The Church. It comes to me forcibly that Jesus found a place of rest and comfort in the house of Martha and Mary; that He showed Himself to a woman first (Mary Magdalene) because of the great love she had for Him. God has endowed women with a loving and compassionate heart; and, because of this wonderful quality, God has used women from time to time as instruments of love and mercy. There are many women mentioned in the Bible whose qualities and reputations will remain as memorials throughout the ages. Women today also are the strength of our Church. They make the lives of our Ministers easier by standing behind them with prayers and kindness, they take care of the needs of the Brothers at conference time, and they are considerate at all times.

PLACE IN CHURCH

Once a Sister asked me whether we, as women, had a "place" in The Church. I replied at that time that we certainly had; but now I know for a certainty that we have a definite "place" in The Church. At this moment, the late Brother William H. Cadman stands very "tall" in my mind as a truly wonderful man, spiritually and otherwise. It was Sister Sadie, his wife, however, who stayed at home, encouraged him, and prayed for him, although she could not travel with him. How often I heard him speak so gently and tenderly about his wife! She was an inspiration to him, as she was for the women of The Church as well.

The Ladies' Circle, which was started by her, has continued in the principles and examples she set. It is through the Ladies' Circle that much of the missionary work of The Church is financed; and it shall be through their fastings and prayers that much of the spiritual work will also be accomplished. It is also very true that the women of our Church have and will continue to have a very important role to play in the future success of our endeavors. Let me say in conclusion, "Thank you Lord, for giving us the great and wonderful gift of being WOMEN, and especially for being useful women of our Church."

"A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another." John 13:34.



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

"PHARAOH'S DREAMS"

Dear Girls and Boys,

You remember in our last story, Joseph was left in prison, the butler was called back to the Pharaoh's palace, and the baker was killed. Joseph remained in prison two years after this.

One night the Pharaoh had a dream. It worried him. He dreamed that he stood by a river and that seven fat cattle came out of the water. These animals fed in a meadow. Then he dreamed seven other cattle came out of the river, but these were thin and poorly fed. The lean-fleshed cattle went over and ate the seven well-favored and fat cattle.

After this dream, Pharaoh had another dream. He saw corn growing in a field. Seven ears came up on one stalk, large and full. Next, seven thin, poor ears, blasted with the east wind, sprung up and devoured the seven full ones.

When Pharaoh awoke the next morning, he was troubled because of these dreams. He called all the magicians of Egypt and told them his dreams. None could tell him the meaning. Then his butler remembered Joseph, who had interpreted his dream and who was still in prison. This he told Pharaoh, and Joseph was summoned at once. Joseph was brought from the prison dungeon, poorly clothed. He shaved, bathed, and dressed in new clothing which he was given before he came before the king.

Pharaoh told Joseph he had heard that he could interpret dreams. Joseph answered, "It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace." After Joseph heard the king describe his dreams, he said, "God hath shewed Pharaoh what he is about to do. The seven good kine are seven years; and the seven empty ears seven years: the dream is one. And the seven thin and ill favoured kine that came up after them are seven years; and he seven empty ears blasted with the east wind shall be seven years of famine . . . Behold, there come seven years of great plenty throughout, all the land of Egypt: And there shall arise after them seven years of famine; and . . . it shall be very grievous . . . God will shortly bring it to pass." Joseph then advised Pharaoh to look for a wise man to govern the land and store up food in years of plenty.

Pharaoh believed all the words Joseph had spoken. He asked his servants, "Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?" Quickly, the king realized Joseph was the man. He turned to him and said, ". . . there is none so discreet and wise as thou art: Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou." Pharaoh took off his ring and put it on Joseph. He dressed him in vestures of fine linen and put a gold chain about his neck. Joseph rode in the

second chariot and was made a ruler over all the land of Egypt. The people were commanded to obey Joseph.

Next month I will tell you about the famine. If you would like to read about Pharaoh's dream, look in the Bible in Genesis, chapters 39 - 41.

Sincerely,
Sister Mabel

THANKSGIVING DAY

(Continued from Page 1)

God's voice unto Joseph Smith that His church was not upon the face of the earth, but that, if he (Joseph Smith) would be prayerful, God would use him to bring about a Restoration of The Gospel of Jesus Christ. With the Restoration of The Gospel have come the promise of salvation and the eventual establishment of the Kingdom of Christ on the earth.

One also is impressed with the fact that, since The Gospel was restored in 1827, many wonderful inventions have come into existence. A study of history will prove that most of the significant inventions occurred during the years following the Restoration of The Gospel. The Restoration movement, therefore, brought not only a spiritual light for the salvation of mankind but it also brought many natural blessings in the way of modern conveniences. How very thankful and proud we should feel to be in the land of America!

MEMORABLE STATEMENT

I am reminded of a statement made by our late President, Brother William H. Cadman, in the October Conference of 1941. A Brother of The Priesthood had remarked that we should ask God to bless our land because we need more of His blessings. Brother Cadman replied: "Brethren, I like the expression, 'God Bless America,' but let me impress upon your minds that God has blessed America. Have we, as a nation of people, appreciated the blessings of God?" Surely, more than 28 years later we can ask ourselves the same question.

It should be recalled that the gentile Pilgrims invited the Indians to have thanksgiving with them on that first Thanksgiving Day. We represent the gentile Church today and we should prepare to work diligently for the great restoration of Israel so that we may have a great spiritual latter-day "Thanksgiving" together with the Seed of Joseph upon this blessed land of promise.

Dear Brothers, Sisters, and friends, let us be thankful for the natural and spiritual blessings which God has bestowed upon us and remember that The Church has a great responsibility to deliver this Gospel of The Kingdom to all ends of the earth. Jesus said that the end would not come until this Gospel would be preached to all the world. There is a marvelous work and a wonder to be performed, and we believe that God will employ this Church to perform it, if we are faithful to His commandments.

It is my hope that we will all join in one accord on this blessed Thanksgiving Day to sing: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

Ground Broken, Construction Begun On Auditorium

(Continued from Page 1)

begin work. Provisions for grading were supplied immediately and plans to follow with actual construction were made. The footings are presently being installed, and it is anticipated the building will be under roof by March 1970. Adherence to the projected schedule will permit the structure to be completed approximately three to six months later.

The original design of the building, which had been previously prepared by the architects (Pellis and Lettrich) for the first site near Imperial, Pennsylvania, is easily adaptable to the present location. The new tract of land, purchase of which was necessitated by the acquisition of the previous parcel by the Federal government, is located on a hilltop and is elevated above and fronts on Penna. State Highway 136. It is a beautiful, sloping site, and it overlooks most of the new community in which it is situated. The view from the crest of this plot to the east and south is most inspiring. On a clear day, many miles can be observed and most parts of Greensburg can be seen.

The auditorium is being constructed at about the center of the hill, facing Penna. 136. The parking facilities will be located at the rear of the building and will be reached by a drive from and extending to Penna. 136.

There are various highways which lead to within a short distance of the location. Most of these can be reached from the Penna. Turnpike. The site can be approached from the east and west by U. S. 30. From the north, access can be made by Penna. 66, while Interstate Highway 70 and U. S. 119 can be used from the south. Penna. 136 can be taken directly from the west, and it serves, of course, as the terminal road from routes in any direction.

AT GROUNDBREAKING

Members of the Greensburg Branch, the General Board of Trustees, and the Auditorium Committee, as well as Brother Gorie Ciaravino, General Church President, were present for the groundbreaking. Brother Joseph Bittinger General Church Second Counselor, representatives from other Pennsylvania Branches, and the architects were also in attendance.

Prayers were offered, hymns were sung, and brief talks were delivered, reflecting the overall request that The Lord bless the land for the intended Church use. All future efforts are being directed toward allowing the people of God to have their own place in which to praise Him and to meet for General Church, General Missionary Benevolent Association, and General Ladies' Circle Conferences, in addition to other Church gatherings.

Now that the construction has been begun anew, readers will be kept apprised of the progress, as available. In the meantime, dona-

tions should continue to be sent through Branch and Mission Financial Secretaries or may be mailed directly to the General Church Financial Secretary-Treasurer, Meredith R. Griffith, R. D. No. 1, Box 117, Bentleyville, Pennsylvania 15314.

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

(Continued from Page 3)

waters wet their feet that they suddenly wanted to reappraise the value of Noah's warning, but none of them lived to correct their mistake. Their misappraisal accompanied them to a watery grave.

Historically, lack of appreciation and miscalculation date from the Garden of Eden. None other than the serpent influenced our first parents to misjudge the value of God's words and commands. The history of mankind, however, is not all a record of ingratitude and false appraisals. It also shows many who were really appreciative of sacred things. A typical example was Moses. Paul, writing in Hebrews 11:24-26, stated.

"By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,

Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasure of sin for a season;

Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt."

Moses esteemed, appraised, and appreciated the reproach of Christ as greater riches than the materialistic attractions of Egypt. His correct appraisal of God's words throughout his lifetime brought many blessings to Israel, which was a prefigure of Christ Himself. In Hebrews 11, Paul mentioned many who considered it a great privilege to live for God, and who even fought to uphold sacred things. They were so confident of their correct appraisal of God's words and commands that they risked their lives to exercise their faith in Him. Many, if not all the prophets, were appreciative men and counted it a high privilege to be spokesmen for God. These God-fearing prophets were usually correct in their appraisal of God's commands. Space would not permit us to go on referring to the various individuals we could mention, but all the Apostles except one appreciated sacred things and put God's word first in their lives. The one exception misappraised the value of material things — pieces of silver — and he later confessed that his foolish evaluation was a mistake by bringing the money to the Chief Priests and Elders, and hanged himself.

In reviewing events of the past, it is essential to find out just where we stand in this struggle between appreciation and ingratitude. To be remembered is that the adversary's business is to warp our appraisal of sacred things. On this Thanksgiving Day, therefore, we followers of Christ should first count our spiritual blessings, realizing they come before material wealth. After making this appraisal, we can continue steadfastly to live the kind of life which reflects appreciation for God, His Son, and The Gospel of Christ through which our salvation may be attained. Can there be any better reason for being thankful?

Farewell, Cornerstone Services Held In Warren, Ohio; One Convert Baptized

A Farewell Service to the old building and a Cornerstone Service for the new building were held by the Warren, Ohio Branch on Sunday, September 28. To make the day complete, a young lady, Louise Mojica of Lorain, Ohio, was baptized into The Church.

The good-bye morning meeting was begun with a brief history of the building. It was presented by Evangelist Frank Giovannone, who along with Brother Nicholas Iorio, was placed in charge of erecting the old structure almost three decades ago at 681 Fourth Street. He described how the land had been purchased over 28 years ago and how the building had been constructed and dedicated six years later. An adjoining lot was purchased and donated to the Warren Branch for additional parking space by the late Brother Chester Dreer and his wife, Sister Rose, a year later. Another lot was donated by the Branch's Missionary Benevolent Association Local a few years afterward.

The first Presiding Elder was Brother Dominic Giovannone. At the present time, his youngest son, Brother Jerry, presides. There have been

many Brothers and Sisters who have enjoyed meeting there over the years. It was pointed out that some have gone to their reward, some have moved to other parts of the country, and some are still meeting together in Warren. The team effort by everyone concerned to provide the place of worship, to sustain it, and to now construct a new building has been most appreciated and stands as a tribute to their endeavors.

SPEAKERS FOLLOW

After the history was read, Apostle Paul D'Amico of Lockport, New York gave an inspiring talk based on **Genesis 1:1-6** and **St. John 3:16, 17**, starting with God's creation and tracing the events to Christ's time. He invited those who had not started to follow Christ's example to do so, and he related some encouraging experiences.

While the hymn, "A Memory," was being sung following Brother D'Amico's sermon, Sister Mojica came forward and asked to be baptized. Apostle V. James Lovalvo of Modesto, California then spoke of the many memories and of the blessings which were received at this building. His comments allowed all participants to remin-



Pictured at the Warren, Ohio Cornerstone Service are, left to right: Brothers V. James Lovalvo, Frank Giovannone, Jerry Giovannone, Elmer Santilli, and Gorie Ciaravino.

isce about the events of he past. Apostle Frank Calabrese of Lorain was the next speaker. He talked briefly about the young woman who had requested her baptism and an experience she had received.

Brother Gorie Ciaravino, General Church President from Detroit, Michigan, brought the service to a close. It was fitting that he be the last speaker, for it was pointed out that he had also been the first speaker at the dedication service 22 years before. His words were as appropriate and inspiring on this occasion as they had been at the initial service. Coincidentally, Sister Betty Alessio, who played the piano 22 years ago at the dedication and who now lives in Lorain, Ohio, also was the pianist at this Farewell Service.

Everyone then proceeded to the new Church building on Caleb Road. A light luncheon was served there by the Sisters of the Warren Branch after which the Cornerstone Service was held.

CORNERSTONE SIGNIFICANCE

Brother Frank Giovannone, who was in charge of this special meeting and is in charge of the erection of the new building, spoke about the significance of the cornerstone. He explained how important papers and documents commemorating the occasion would be placed in the corner of two walls behind the stone. The front of the stone bears the name of The Church and year, 1969, as pictured.

In continuing on the cornerstone theme, Brother Lovaivo read portions of scriptures in Psalm 118 and I Peter 2:6. He applied the topic to the cornerstone in the days of old, describing its purpose and symbolic meaning. He pointed out the time that all Christendom at least paid tribute to the great cornerstone, Jesus Christ. The Prophets had spoken about Him and many, many hymns have been dedicated to this wonderful Christ, the cornerstone of His Church. The correct procedure in using the cornerstone to guide the builder in the erection of the rest of the building was outlined. Also, that the cornerstone must be correctly placed on the building or the structure cannot be constructed properly was also pointed out.

Brother Ciaravino then applied the significance of the cornerstone to the importance of this service to the members of Warren. He stated that this was the first time that many individuals present had attended a meeting of this kind. He indicated that there would perhaps be more of this type of service in the future, hopefully depending upon the growth of The Church. In conclusion, he exhorted the Warren members to continue in their labors and told them he knew The Lord would provide them strength.

OTHERS FOLLOW

Other speakers were Apostle D'Amico; Evangelists Timothy D. Bucci of Youngstown, Ohio and Anthony Piccuito of Perry, Ohio; and Elders Elmer Santilli of Cleveland and Jerry Giovannone. They also acknowledged that The Lord would be present in the new building as He was in the old one as the Brothers and Sisters pursued their good works.

Three of the Warren members were recognized and honored by being asked to bear their

testimonies. They were Brother Victor Ciarolla, the oldest Brother in The Branch who has been a member of The Church of Jesus Christ since 1932; the aforementioned Sister Dreer, the oldest Sister of the group who has been in The Church over 43 years; and Sister Ina Giovannone, the newest member of the congregation.

Groundbreaking service for the new building had been conducted on October 15, 1967. Completion and dedication will be accomplished as early as possible in 1970.

The new Sister Mojica was baptized by Brother Calabrese after the Cornerstone Service. She was confirmed by Brother D'Amico. Her baptism and confirmation brought the day to a happy and appropriate ending, as they sustained the wonderful feeling which was experienced by all present.

Another Baptism At Youngstown

The Youngstown, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ was blessed with another baptism on Sunday, August 24. Terri Dunn was immersed by Brother Richard Santilli and confirmed by Brother Fred Musolino on that day.

The entry of the new member into The Gospel continued a series of conversions which have taken place at Youngstown recently. The repentance and baptism of the additional individuals have been most uplifting and encouraging to the local congregation as it continues its efforts to bring more souls to the knowledge of The Truth.

Baptisms Performed At Fort Pierce In September

Two new members were baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ at the Fort Pierce, Florida Branch during the month of September. Robert Morris rendered obedience to The Gospel on Monday, September 1, while Terri Naylor entered the fold on Sunday, September 28.

Brother Morris was immersed by Brother Patsy Rogolino and was confirmed by Brother Frank Rogolino. He had asked for his baptism during the Branch's Labor Day Outing. A meeting at which he was confirmed was held after he was taken into the waters.

Sister Naylor was baptized by Brother Frank Rogolino and was confirmed by Brother Ernest Schultz, her grandfather. The Branch's feet-washing service was also conducted on this wonderful day.

The entries into The Gospel of Christ by Brother Morris and Sister Naylor have been highly edifying to the Fort Pierce Branch where The Lord has been richly blessing His people.

New Sister Is Baptized At Six Nations

A new member was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ at the Six Nations Indian Reservation in Ontario, Canada on Sunday, September 14. The new Sister, Melita Hill, was taken into the waters by Brother Anthony Scolaro and was confirmed by Brother Anthony Lovalvo.

The two Brothers, both from Detroit, Michigan, also spoke on this day. They discussed the necessity for coming to Christ and for adhering to His Gospel. The sacrifice He made on the cross was emphasized. In addition, how He was the shadow of the type of the blood of the Lamb portrayed in Exodus was explained.

Two members were also reinstated during the spiritually uplifting day, further adding to the blessings received.

Rochester, Lockport Branches Assemble

On Sunday, September 21, the Lockport and Rochester, New York Branches assembled at Rochester for their second gathering in three months. Speakers at this service were Evangelist Dominic Moraco of Detroit, Michigan; Apostle Paul D'Amico of Lockport; and Apostle V. James Lovalvo of Modesto, California who talked in that order.

The text was taken from Revelation 14 by Brother Moraco. He talked about the angel seen flying in the midst of heaven with the Everlasting Gospel to preach to inhabitants of the earth and the meaning of this passage as it relates to the Restoration. He also pointed out how the day of Pentecost had started The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother D'Amico spoke in the Italian language for individuals of that extraction who were present. In confirming the words of Brother Moraco, he elaborated on the Restoration and the Book of Mormon. He recalled that it has been 142 years since Joseph Smith received the plates from the Angel Moroni.

After Brother Lovalvo sang "He Touched Me," he talked about the wonders of the universe and how everything is under God's control. He stressed that God is not dead but that He is alive and lives in our hearts.

Other solos had also been sung earlier by Sister Loretta Lovalvo from Detroit and Brother Lovalvo.

A good spirit prevailed throughout the meeting and God's blessings were felt by all. Brother Vincent Gallucci saw a vision in which a heavenly messenger was standing beside the Brothers while they were speaking.

Three Baptized; Three Guests Talk During Same Day

Three more souls came into The Church of Jesus Christ and three visiting speakers addressed the congregation at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 on Sunday, October 5. To add to the blessings, the baptisms had been revealed in two separate dreams during the week, as disclosed during the day.

Allen Henderson of Windsor, Ontario Canada and a couple, Rocco and Gina DePerno of Detroit No. 1, were the three converts. Brother Henderson was baptized by his grandfather, Brother Allen Henderson, also of Windsor, while the other two candidates were immersed by Brother Norman Campitelle. The three were confirmed as follows: Brother Henderson by Brother Louis Vitto, Brother DePerno by Brother Carl Frammolin, and Sister DePerno by Brother Nicholas Pietrangelo.

Brother John Griffith of Monongahela, Pennsylvania had opened the morning service, using Alma 42 of the Book of Mormon for his text. He also gave his testimony and told of how The Lord had called him into The Gospel. He was followed by Brother Anthony Ensana of Edison, New Jersey, who spoke of The Church of Jesus Christ and the blessings he has received in The Gospel. It was almost at the end of this service that the two new Brothers requested their baptisms. Sister DePerno made her decision at the water's edge after the first two had been immersed.

In the afternoon service, the elder Brother Henderson talked, basing his sermon on Romans 8. He also told of the wonderful feeling he experienced in having another of his grandchildren, along with the others, come into The Church.

The day will be unforgettable for all those assembled and especially for the three new members who made their covenants.

Teacher Ordained At Detroit No. 1

Brother Gerald Benyola was ordained into the office of a Teacher on Sunday, September 28, at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1. Brother Anthony Scolaro washed his feet and Brother Spencer G. Everett ordained him a Teacher during the Branch's feet-washing service.

Prior to washing Brother Benyola's feet, Brother Scolaro related a dream he had received the night before confirming the calling of Brother Benyola into his new office. This experience added to sustaining the reverent spirit felt in the meeting.

Baptized on July 7, 1957 in Hopelawn, New Jersey, Brother Benyola was ordained a Deacon on April 29, 1962 at Detroit No. 1.

Maryland Mission Continues To Grow In Membership

The Homewood Chapel Mission in Cumberland, Maryland continued to grow in membership on Sunday, September 7, when two more individuals were baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ. The two new members, Raymond and Georgianna Hunt, were taken into the waters and confirmed by Brother Idris Martin of Monongahela, Pennsylvania.

The baptisms were the ninth and tenth in a two month span for the mission where Brother Henry Border is the Presiding Officer. Brother Martin, a Church Evangelist and a member of the Maryland Mission, has been attending the Sunday morning services there and has been visiting the residents of the area for the past nine years. He and his wife, Sister Ellen, who has been accompanying him from Monongahela, are dearly loved in the community.

The increase in number has been most rewarding for all who have labored there diligently for The Gospel. Correspondingly, the fast-growing mission has received many blessings. One of these was experienced the Sunday before, August 31, when Sister Margaret Garlitz was ordained a Deaconess by Brother Martin. The calling of Sister Garlitz reflected the way Lord has worked at Cumberland, as the group there, has been attempting to more beneficially carry on the spreading of The Gospel.

Feet-Washing Service Proves Most Edifying

An outstanding feet-washing service was reported at the Windsor, Ontario Canada Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ on Sunday, September 7. The noteworthy meeting was especially significant for many recently-baptized new members who had the opportunity to participate in this ordinance for either their first or second time.

Brother Donald Collison talked before the start of feet-washing about how the ordinance signifies the characteristic of humility which should be exhibited by the people of God. He pointed out how this humility should be inward as well as being outwardly apparent. He also explained how this kind of humbleness would be one of the main factors which would enable one to remain steadfast in The Gospel, and he encouraged everyone to press onward on the road to salvation.

In carrying out the ordinance, the members experienced many blessings as they demonstrated the love exemplified by our Saviour, Jesus Christ. The feet-washing service was one of many wonderful meetings at Windsor, and the new members were able to discover the inner peace and edification about which The Lord taught

would come from the washing of feet.

There have been 17 new Windsor members baptized within the last year and a half, during which time there have also been two reinstatements.

Overcomes Injury To Be Baptized Along With Wife

A couple was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ at the Edison, New Jersey Branch on Sunday, September 21. The new members are John and Virginia Anderson.

Brother Nathan Peterkin baptized both of them. Brother Anthony Ensana confirmed Brother Anderson, and Brother August D'Orazio confirmed Sister Anderson.

About three weeks before, Brother Anderson had met with an unfortunate accident. While cutting the grass at the Church building, he slipped and the lawnmower came back over his foot and cut off three toes. Determined and undaunted, he had his cast wrapped and he and his wife were baptized, praising God.

The additions of Brother and Sister Anderson were most welcomed and encouraging to the Edison congregation.

SPECIAL REPORT

(Continued from Page 2)

them with all our hearts.

We shall be on our way towards Lockport and Rochester, New York and then on to Erie, Pennsylvania. I pray that God will have reserved a wonderful blessing for all wherever we go. We ask for the prayers of the Saints that we may be instrumental in His hands to bring peace and joy to the hearts of His people, for I know this, that "Without Him, I can do nothing."

I want to acknowledge with deepest sincerity the abundant generosity of Brother Sam and Sister Rose Risola, who supplied us with comfortable transportation by allowing us the use of one of their automobiles during our stay on the Atlantic Coast. Today, as we went to visit Sister Risola, as she has not been well, and to also bid her farewell, we prayed for her quick recovery, and for our safe journey to Lockport, which we shall undertake tomorrow, if The Lord permits. I truly pray that the angel of the Lord will accompany us on our trip and protect us all the way.

THANKS DISTRICT

I also want to thank so very much the members of the Atlantic Coast District for their generosity towards the General Church. They have defrayed the expenses incurred in the mechanical repairs of The Church's (Six Nations Reservation) old Station Wagon which I am going to use for a few months. I was not told the exact total amount of the costs involved, but I know it was sizeable, considering some of the major repairs which were made. May The Lord bless them richly for this act of kindness. I believe that the Love of God is as evident today as it was many years

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NUPTIALS

GARCIA—TORIBIO

Mr. Anthony Garcia and Miss Angelia Toribio were united in marriage at The Church of Jesus Christ in Tijuana, Mexico on Saturday, September 6. Brother Vincento Arce performed the ceremony. Sisters Angelia and Uvalda Mora offered musical selections. The newlyweds now reside in Tijuana.

CIRELLI—SCARSELLA

Mr. Joseph Arnold Cirelli, Jr. and Miss Marie (Penny) Scarsella were joined in holy matrimony at the Youngstown, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ on Saturday, August 30. Brother Timothy D. Bucci performed the ceremony.

The Cirellis are now living in Youngstown.

OBITUARIES

MARIANNA USAI

Sister Marianna Usai, a Deaconess and long-time faithful member of the San Diego Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed on to her eternal reward on September 13. Born on June 21, 1898, she was baptized into The Church on September 25, 1932.

Left to mourn her loss are three daughters, eight grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Brother Thomas Liberto officiated at the funeral services. He was assisted by Brother Louis Ciccati.

Sister Usai will be greatly missed by everyone who knew and dearly loved her. Her constant smile was a source of cheer and inspiration and truly depicted the warmth and compassion she possessed.

JAMES V. CALABRESE

Mr. James V. Calabrese, who had been blessed in The Church of Jesus Christ on February 1, 1923, departed from this life on September 9. He was born October 23, 1911.

He is survived by four brothers and three sisters. Brother Frank Calabrese, cousin of the deceased, officiated at the funeral services.

Well-liked by everyone, Mr. Calabrese always exhibited pleasant and sincere feelings for the people of The Church, who view his passing with sadness.

CELIA BLUEARM

Sister Celia BlueArm, one of the oldest members of The Church of Jesus Christ in South Dakota, passed on recently. The date of her death, along with the statistics of her life, was unavailable as of publication time.

A resident of Cherry Creek, she had been hospitalized in Rapid City where she was visited by Brothers Joseph Bittinger, Joseph Calabrese, and Anthony Loyalvo. At that time, she appeared on her way to recovery.

Sister BlueArm was a most pleasant and admirable member of The Church. She will be greatly missed by all who were acquainted with her.

NELLIE AGNES THREE LEGS

Miss Nellie Agnes Three Legs, 21, passed from this life when struck by an automobile on July 27 at Mobridge, South Dakota.

She is survived by her parents of Mobridge, two brothers and three sisters.

The sympathy and condolences of everyone connected with The Church of Jesus Christ are extended to Brother Henry and Mrs. Three Legs in the loss of their beloved daughter. It is certain that all readers are saddened at learning of this most unfortunate accident.

SPECIAL REPORT

(Continued from Page 11)

ago. The Saints here have proven beyond a doubt that God is the same today, yesterday, and forever.

Among the many blessings I have witnessed here is one which I rate as outstanding. I shall write it as it was told to me.

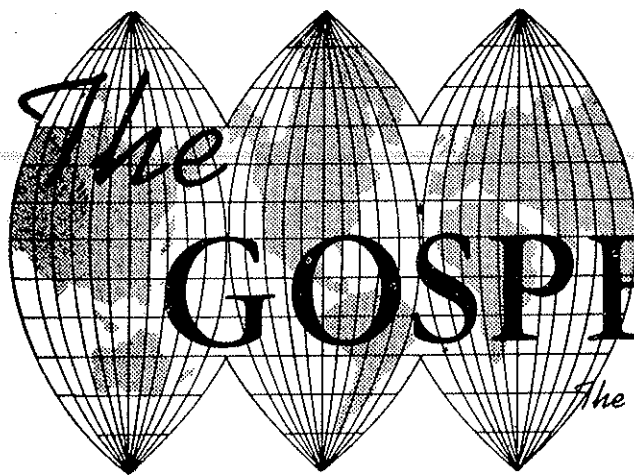
"On last June 24th, my son was to undergo an operation. I was very worried, and the night before I could not sleep or find rest. I got up from my bed and went to the kitchen to make a cup of coffee. I turned the gas jet on and then started to do something else. When I went back for the coffee, I noticed the coffee was cold. Thinking that I had not turned on the gas, I moved the pot to another burner and heated the coffee.

"After drinking the coffee, I retired once again. At two in the morning, I again got up; and, as I walked into the kitchen, I heard an unfamiliar noise. I could not make out what it was. I checked the stove and could not find anything wrong; I checked all over, still I could not find where this noise was coming from. I became frightened, being all alone in the house and fearing something was wrong, I knelt down and started to pray. I said, 'Lord, there is something wrong here this night. I place myself in your hands. I know that you can protect me from any danger, but Thy will be done.' I went back to bed and fell asleep.

"The next morning, my daughter who lives next door came over to see me as she usually does. As she reached the outside door of my house she could smell gas fumes. She walked up another flight of stairs to my apartment and knocked at the door but could not awaken me. She ran next door to my other daughter, and, by the time they came back, I had awakened and opened my door. As they entered, they noticed the gas jet was on, and had been on all night. The pilot light was still burning, and it was only through the mercy of God that nothing happened for the house was full of gas fumes. I cannot thank God enough for all that He does for me each day."

This miraculous experience was had by Sister Mary Cantamessa, who is over 80 years old. The Lord be praised every moment of our lives, for surely, He Lives!

Our prayer is that God bless all of my readers and all the Saints everywhere that His name may be extolled forever and ever. The treatment, love, and great concern for us exhibited by all with whom we have come in contact have made us even more desirous to serve The Lord and The Church in whatever way that we can.



The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

December 1969

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The Peace Christ Gives

(Christmas message and greetings from the Gospel News Staff).

Almost two thousand years have passed since the announcement by the Angel that Jesus Christ, The Saviour, was born in Bethlehem of Judea. Luke said that there appeared with the Angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

As one views world conditions today, however, he finds very little peace on earth and he discovers that good will toward men is almost entirely lacking. Violence and crime are found in the streets of practically every major city here and abroad, and wars and rumors of wars are heard throughout the nations of the earth. Furthermore, the constant threat of total extinction by nuclear warfare has become a real fear and a reportedly distinct possibility. Added to these disturbing and traumatic situations outside the home is the alarming breakdown in many cases of the family unit, which should be the loving, impenetrable, and stable force in the lives of both adults and children. In viewing all the present problem areas, the critics, the agnostics, or the unbelievers ask, "What has the coming of Christ accomplished? Where is the peace which He supposedly brought to earth?" The believers, on the other hand, in observing chaotic world conditions, ask, "What would we do without Jesus?" or "Where can we go but to The Lord?"

WHERE PEACE RESIDES

Before trying to solve problem situations or prior to learning how to cope with the adversities of life, it is essential to determine just what is true peace and where it can be found. Is it a feeling outside the individual or is it a reflection of his inner being? Obviously, peace is a state of mind and soul which produces tranquility, ease, and lack of worry. This feeling is one which resides within the individual and is not conditioned by outside problems and troubles.

Inner peace can only be obtained through the hope and trust which are placed in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. It cannot be gained

from outside influences, especially in today's world where there is turmoil everywhere and conflicts of all kinds are prevalent. Jesus pointed out these things when He specified that worldly matters spawn trouble bringing no peace of mind.

To find true peace, one must become a true follower of Christ. Inner communion with the Saviour gives the courage and sustenance to live a meaningful and productive life, because He promised to give life more abundantly. By resting all cares on Him, individuals are guaranteed peace of mind and untroubled sleep in a world which is afraid of what might happen next.

CHRIST, THE MEDIATOR

The coming of Christ has also filled another need for the believer. Through His death on the cross, Christ became the only mediator between man and God. "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;" (1 Tim. 2:5).

What would individuals who want to serve God do without the one and only great mediator, Jesus Christ? Consider how often believers take their burdens to God in prayer, with the knowledge that Jesus Christ sits upon the right hand of the throne of God interceding for them!

If all men would place themselves in a position of using Christ's help in matters, they would soon experience inner peace and there would be no need for suspicion, hate, dissension, and conflict. Basically, when people learn to trust themselves by placing their faith in Christ, they can learn to trust their neighbors. Mutual trust, admiration, and love by mankind would be the main concerns and peace would abide. Then

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The Peace Christ Gives

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Christ's examples and teachings could be recognized and accepted worldwide. All nations would feel the assurance that Christ has been the peacemaker, because they would be filled with this serenity. Then there would be good will toward men.

That all men have not accepted The Gospel of Christ and applied its formula to their lives does not detract from its importance. The Apostle Paul also lived at a very wicked period of time when evil men questioned both the importance of Christ's coming and the merits of His Gospel. Paul's answer to them was: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..." (Rom. 1:16)

THE SAME TODAY

Today, as in Paul's day, The Gospel of Christ is the power of God for the salvation of people who believe. To the unbeliever, however, the preaching of the cross is foolishness, as pointed out in I Cor. 1:18.

Men who choose not to believe and refuse to obey The Gospel of Christ find no peace. On the other hand, the relatively few who really believe and worship Him in spirit and in truth despite what world leaders may say and do have found a real and everlasting peace which only Christ can give as He gave unto His disciples. "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." (John 14:27).

As we enter another Christmas season, every true follower of Christ finds renewed joy in knowing that The Saviour's coming brought hope for heavenly eternal life and a deep inner peace while he lives upon the earth.

The Church of Jesus Christ stands ready to lead all honest individuals to The Gospel of Christ. She also serves as the avenue by which all men can avail themselves of having Christ as their Saviour and intercessor. By believing and coming to Him, they will know what peace Christ brought to the earth. They too will be able to join the chorus of the ages, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

Greetings and best wishes from the Gospel News Staff.

REMINDER!

All new subscriptions and renewals for the Gospel News should be sent to the paper's offices at Sixth and Lincoln Streets, Monongahela, Pennsylvania 15063. The amount for one year is \$3.00.

Branch and Mission Editors and Financial Secretaries may forward the sums for subscribers or they may be sent directly individually. Checks should be made payable to The Gospel News.

Auditorium Progress

By Spencer G. Everett, Secretary
General Board of Trustees

Progress on the General Church Auditorium Project near Greensburg, Pennsylvania is continuing thanks to the cooperation of everyone involved. It may be appropriate to review what has occurred since moving from the previously selected Imperial site.

As reported last month, the groundbreaking ceremony was held atop the picturesque and distinctive Greensburg plot on Saturday, October 25. This event was well attended, with members of the Greensburg Branch, the General Church Auditorium Committee, the General Board of Trustees, and other parties from nearby Pennsylvania locations being present. Also in attendance were other General Church Officers and representatives from other Church Districts.

Of added interest, A General Church meeting was held on the site following the ceremony. The General Church President, Second Counselor, and Recording Secretary, along with the Pennsylvania District Officers, Evangelists, and Elders, took part.

On November 8, the Auditorium Committee, the General Board of Trustees, and the General Church Financial Secretary-Treasurer met with the architects. In this meeting, they reviewed tentative facts and figures which must be presented to the Greater Pittsburgh Authority as a basis for negotiation and final settlement of The Church's claim in condemnation proceedings resulting from the United States government action in acquiring the previously selected Imperial site. It is anticipated that The Church of Jesus Christ will be reimbursed for whatever costs and expenses have been or may be incurred by the delay in construction, including relocation costs, building adjustment costs, and any other expenses which may be involved. An equitable and appropriate settlement is expected from the government.

The ability of the general contractor to move to the new site has enabled the continuity of the auditorium project to be unbroken. Also, the fact that the original design and structural plans for the building were adaptable to the new plot has made it possible to begin anew without any undue delay. These two factors, along with, of course, God's help in providing the new site, make it possible to foresee the completion of the building in the latter half of 1970.

Further reports will be presented in future issues so the work can be followed as it progresses toward completion.

All readers are requested to continue their generous and much-needed donations for the auditorium so that all obligations can be met as they arise.

"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." Luke 6:33.

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Editorial Viewpoint

By George A. Neill

It is my pleasure to share with our readers the following excerpts adapted from an old Bible history which belonged to my father and which I have treasured for many years.

One mile from Bethlehem is a little plain in which, under a grove of olives, stands the bare and neglected chapel known by the name of "the Angel to the Shepherds." It is built over the traditional site of the fields where, in the beautiful language of St. Luke - more exquisite than any idyll to Christian ears - "And there were . . . 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 to their happy ears were uttered the good tidings of great joy, that unto them was born that day in the city of David a Saviour, which was Christ the Lord.

The associations of our Lord's nativity were all of the humblest character, and the very scenery of His birthplace was connected with memories of poverty and toil. On that night indeed it seemed as though the heavens must burst to disclose their radiant minstrelsy; and the stars, and the feeding sheep, and the "light and sound in the darkness and stillness," and the rapture of faithful hearts, combine to furnish us with a picture painted in the colors of heaven. But in the brief and thrilling verses of the Evangelist we are not told that those angel songs were heard by any except the wakeful shepherds of an obscure village; and those shepherds, amid the chill dews of a winter night, were guarding their flocks from the wolf and the robber, in fields where Ruth, their Saviour's ancestress, had gleaned, sick at heart, amid the alien corn, and David, the despised and youngest son of a numerous family, had followed the ewes great with young.

"And suddenly," adds the sole Evangelist who has narrated the circumstances of the memorable night in which Jesus was born, amid the indifference of a world unconscious of its Deliverer, "there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

"Come now! let us go into Bethlehem, and see this thing which has come to pass, which the Lord made known to us," said the shepherds, when those angel songs had ceased to break the starry silence. Their way would lead them up the terraced hill, and through the moonlit gardens of Bethlehem, until they reached the summit of the gray ridge on which the little town is built. On that summit stood the village inn. The Khan (or caravansary) of a Syrian village, at that day, was probably identical, in its appearance and accommodation, with those which still exist in modern Palestine. A khan is a low structure, built of rough stones, and generally only a single story in height. It consists for the most part of a square inclosure, in which the cattle can be tied up in safety for the night, and an arched recess for the accommodation of travelers. The leewan, or paved floor of the recess, is raised a foot or two above the level of the court yard. A large Khan might contain a series of such recesses which are, in fact, low small rooms with no front wall to them. They are, of course, perfectly public; everything that takes place in them is visible to every person in the Khan. They are also totally devoid of even the most ordinary furniture. The traveler may bring his own carpet if he likes, may sit cross-legged upon it for his meals, and may lie upon it at night. As a rule too he must bring his own food, attend to his own cattle, and draw his own water from the neighboring spring.

In Palestine it not infrequently happens that the entire Khan, or at any rate the portion of it in which the animals are housed, is one of those innumerable caves which abound in the limestone rocks of its central hills. Such seems to have been the case at the little town of Bethlehem-Ephrath, in the land of Judah. This is indeed the ancient and constant tradition both of the Eastern and the Western Churches, and it is one of the few to which, though unrecorded in the Gospel history, we may attach a reasonable probability.

TRAVEL FROM NORTH

From their northern home at Nazareth, in the mountains of Zabulon,

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

(Continued from Page 3)

Joseph, the village carpenter, had made his way along the wintry roads with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. Fallen as were their fortunes, they were both of the house and lineage of David, and they were traversing a journey of eighty miles to the village which had been the home of their great ancestor while he was still a ruddy shepherd lad, tending his flock upon the lonely hills. The object of that toilsome journey, which could not but be disagreeable to the settled habits of Oriental life, was to enroll their names as members of the house of David in a census which had been ordered by the Emperor Augustus. It was not carried out in the ordinary Roman manner, at each person's place of residence, but according to Jewish custom, at the town to which their family originally belonged.

Others who were traveling on the same errand would easily have passed them on the road, and when, after toiling up the steep hillside, the David's well, they arrived at the kahn probably the one which had been known for centuries as the House of Chimham, and if so, covering perhaps the very ground on which, one thousand years before, had stood the hereditary house of Boaz, of Jesse, and of David - every leewan was occupied. The enrollment had drawn so many strangers to the little town, "that there was no room for them in the inn." In the rude limestone grotto attached to it as a stable, among the hay and straw spread for the food and rest of the cattle, weary with their day's journey, far from home, in the midst of strangers, in the chilly winter's night - in circumstances so devoid of all earthly comfort or splendor that it is impossible to imagine a humbler nativity - Christ was born.

Distant but a few miles, on the plateau of the abrupt and singular hill now called Jebel Fureidis, or "Little Paradise Mountain," towered the palace-fortress of the Great Herod. But the true King of the Jews - the rightful Lord of the Universe - was not to be found in palace or fortress. They who wear soft clothing are in King's houses. The cattle-stables of the lowly caravansary were a more fitting birthplace for Him who came to reveal that the soul of the greatest monarch was no dearer or greater in God's sight than the soul of his meanest slave; for Him who had not where to lay His head; for Him who, from His cross of shame, was to rule the world.

SHEPHERDS MADE WAY

Guided by the lamp which usually swings from the center of a rope hung across the entrance of the khan, the shepherds made their way to the inn of Bethlehem, and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe, lying in the manger. The fancy of poet and painter has revealed in the imaginary glories of the scene. They have sung of the "bright harnessed angels" who hovered there, and of the stars lingering beyond their time to shed their sweet influences upon that smiling infancy. They have painted the radiation of light from His manger-cradle, illum-

inating all the place till the bystanders are forced to shade their eyes from that heavenly splendor. But all this is wide of the reality. Such glories as the simple shepherds saw were seen only by the eye of faith; and all which met their gaze was a peasant of Galilee, already beyond the prime of life, and a younger mother, of whom they could not know that she was wedded maid and virgin wife, with an infant Child, whom, since there was none to help her, her own hands had wrapped in swaddling-clothes. The light that shined in the darkness was no physical, but a spiritual beam; the Dayspring from on high which had now visited mankind, dawned only in a few faithful and humble hearts.

And the Gospels, always truthful and bearing on every page that simplicity which is the stamp of honest narrative, indicate this fact without comment. There is in them nothing of the exuberance of marvel, and mystery, and miracle which appear alike in the Jewish imagination about their coming Messiah, and in the Apocryphal narratives about the Infant Christ. There is no more decisive criterion of their absolute credibility as simple histories than the marked and violent contrast which they offer to all the spurious gospels of the early centuries, and all the imaginative legends which have clustered about them. Had our Gospels been unauthentic, they too must inevitably have partaken of the characteristics which mark, without exception, every early fiction about the Saviour's life. To the unilluminated fancy it would have seemed incredible that the most stupendous event in the world's history should have taken place without convulsions and catastrophes. In the Gospel of St. James there is a really striking chapter, describing how, at the awful moment of the nativity, the pole of the heaven stood motionless, and the birds were still, and there were workmen lying on the earth with their hands in a vessel, "and those who handled did not handle it, and those who took did not lift, and those who presented it to their mouth did not present it, but the faces of all were looking up; and I saw the sheep scattered and the sheep stood, and the shepherd lifted up his hand to strike, and his hand remained up; and I looked at the stream of the river, and the mouths of the kids were down, and were not drinking; and everything which was being propelled forward was intercepted in its course." But of this sudden hush and pause of awe-struck Nature, of the parhelions and mysterious splendors which blazed in many places of the world, of the painless childbirth, of the perpetual virginity, of the ox and the ass kneeling to worship Him in the manger, of the voice with which immediately after His birth He told His mother that He was the Son of God, and of many another wonder which rooted itself in the earliest traditions, there is no trace whatever in the New Testament. The inventions of man differ wholly from the dealings of God. In His designs there is no haste, no rest, no weariness, no discontinuity; all things are done by Him in the majesty of silence, and they are seen under a light that shineth quietly in the darkness, "showing all things in the slow history of their ripening." "The unfathomable depths of

the Divine counsels," it has been said, "were moved; the fountains of the great deep were broken up; the healing of the nations was issuing forth; but nothing was seen on the surface of human society but this slight rippling of the water; the course of human things went on as usual, while each was taken up with little projects of his own."

IN CAVE

How long the Virgin Mother and her holy Child stayed in this cave, or cattle-inclosure, we cannot tell, but probably it was not for long. The magi, as we see from St. Matthew, visited Mary in "the house." But on all these minor incidents the Gospels do not dwell. The fullest of them is St. Luke, and the singular sweetness of his narrative, its almost idyllic grace, its sweet calm tone of noble reticence, seem clearly to indicate that he derived it, though but in fragmentary notices, from the lips of Mary herself. It is, indeed, difficult to imagine from whom else it could have come, for mothers are the natural historians of infant years; but it is interesting to find, in the actual style, that "coloring of a woman's memory and a woman's view," which we should naturally have expected in confirmation of a conjecture so obvious and so interesting.

To one who was giving the reins to his imagination the minutest incidents would have claimed a description; to Mary they would have seemed trivial and irrelevant. Others might wonder, but in her all wonder was lost in the one overwhelming revelation - the one absorbing consciousness. Of such things she could not lightly speak; "she kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart." The very depth and sacredness of that reticence is the natural and probable explanation of the fact, that some of the details of the Saviour's infancy are fully recorded by St. Luke alone.

"What Do You Expect From The Church?"

(Recently, Robert Watson Jr., California District Editor, asked members of the west coast region to write answers to the question, "What do you expect from The Church?" One of the essays received in response is presented below. The insights offered undoubtedly are stimulating and interesting. — Editor's Note).

When I was asked to comment on the question, "What do you expect from The Church?", I was reminded of the late President John F. Kennedy's speech when he said "Ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country." As an individual it is not what I expect to get out of The Church that concerns me. Instead it is what I expect to contribute to Her in the form of works and sacrifice that is important — most important.

Let me begin by defining what a church is. Webster indicates that it is a religious system including house of worship, clergy and members. That is fine, but the spelling of the word itself tells us more than the definition. Leave the "CH"

out of the spelling of "CH UR CH" and see what is missing. YOU ARE "UR".

I realize more and more each day that it is when I keep the "UR" (Brother Lou) in CHURCH that I can expect to gain the most from Her. And that is what I am doing about it. I do not mean that just coming to the building and filling a seat is keeping the "U" in CHURCH. That would not amount to very much. I find, as many others have, that it is when I give of myself that I receive. It is in consoling others that I am consoled. When I feed a hungry soul, I am filled. When I clothe a naked soul, I become clothed. The getting always follows the giving, just like the reaping always comes after the sowing.

In fulfilling this simple prescription, I then expect **any** and **every** good thing from The Church. I can expect The Church to be a spiritual mother, for I was born again of her. I expect Her to be a school to teach me love, faith, and the word of life, because I try to attend all meetings, including Sunday School and Missionary Benevolent Association classes. I expect The Church to be a hospital in the event I fall and become seriously hurt. I expect that She will also be a shelter in the time of storm, because the sea of life very often becomes rough. I expect Her to be a pasture where I can graze and feed my soul. I expect The Church to be a beacon light and the instrument which will establish peace throughout the world, as the waters cover the sea. I expect all these and many more because God wrote our faith, and we are required to live by it. We are required to keep the "UR" in CHURCH if it is to be the perfect body about which Paul spoke. God would have never called us into The Church if he did not have a place for us to fill. He expects works from you and me, as we expect good things from Him and The Church.

I would like to share the following poem with you:

IT'S YOU

"If you want to work in the kind of a church
Like the kind of a church you like,
You needn't slip your clothes in a grip
And start on a long, long hike.

"You'll only find what you left behind,
For there's nothing that's really new;
It's a knock at yourself when you knock your church,

It isn't your church — it's YOU.
"Real churches aren't made by men afraid
Lest somebody else go ahead;
When everyone works and nobody shirks,
You can raise a church from the dead.
"And if while you made your personal stake
Your neighbor can make one, too.

Your church will be what you want to see—
It isn't your church — it's YOU!"

— Selected —

I expect the best because I expect to give the best. My prayers are that you agree with me and that you advise yourselves, as I am most pleased to remind myself, "U" BELONG IN CHURCH.

Brother Lou Ciccatti
Elder of the San Diego,
California Branch

M.B.A. Highlights

GMBA Conference Held November 8 In Pennsylvania

By James D. Gibson,
GMBA Editor

The Semi-Annual General Missionary Benevolent Association Conference was held Saturday, November 8, at Greensburg, Pennsylvania. The new and beautiful Greensburg-Salem Senior High School was used for the occasion.

The Conference was well-attended. Among the many Brothers, Sisters, and friends who traveled there were many members who came by chartered bus from the Atlantic Coast Area, the Michigan-Ontario Area, and Aliquippa, Pennsylvania. Enthusiasm and interest were displayed by all who were on hand.

Official reports, plans for the future, and election of officers occupied the day's agenda. In the evening, the host Greensburg Local presented an interesting and enjoyable program.

OFFICIAL REPORTS

To begin Conference matters, a report was given on folders for MBA lesson plans. One-half inch binders have been received, and it was pointed out that two binders will be needed to contain the complete set of lessons. A price of \$1.50 was established as the cost for each of these folders. The imprinting of the MBA decal on the front of each folder was performed by the Glassport, Pennsylvania Local. Brother Alma Nolfi designed and supervised the cover work involved on this project.

Brother Joseph Milantoni, who has been in charge of the lesson - plan endeavor since its inception, detailed the progress to date. The lessons have been prepared from the Book of Mormon.

Other officers and delegates also gave their reports. These accounts were given by the GMBA Editor, the Organizers, the Financial Secretary, the Treasurer, the GMBA President on behalf of the General MBA Activities Committee, and the Area Presidents.

The delegates reported on their membership status, their financial condition, their lesson contents, and their activities. Also, any outstanding projects planned for the future were specified.

The GMBA Editor stated that the MBA Bulletin has been published monthly as authorized. Thanks was expressed to all who have assisted in any way on this endeavor. It was also stipulated that articles have been submitted regularly to the Gospel News for this "MBA Highlights" column.

The Organizers present gave an analysis of their activities. They disclosed whatever efforts they have expended in their respective areas.

Financial reports reflected the receipts and expenditures for the past six-month period. The figures summarized the amounts in both the GMBA General Fund and the GMBA Land-Purchasing and Auditorium Fund. Many donations were received for the Auditorium Fund even though no goal had been set for the concluded semi-annual span. A total of \$2,040.57 was accumulated for this cause.

In presenting the General Activities Committee Report, Brother August D'Orazio, GMBA President, stated that campsites for next year's Association-wide campout had been investigated. A subsequent Ohio Area recommendation that a camp near Youngstown, Ohio be obtained for the event next August was approved. The Activities Committee was directed to further explore this possibility and to finalize plans to procure the site which was described as having ample facilities and as being ideally located. Progress on this project will be reported at the next GMBA Conference in May, which will be in Detroit, Michigan.

The MBA Areas gave accounts of their six-month activities and of their future plans. These reports disclosed the projects pursued have included outings, weekend campouts, Area Gatherings, visits to Locals, hosting of the GMBA Conference, and compilation of District Directories. In addition, fund-raising drives have been conducted to raise proceeds for worthy causes, including the new General Church Auditorium.

LAY MISSIONARY PROGRAM

The scope and extent of the Lay Missionary Program were presented and explained. The program, which is available to all lay members, is being administered by the GMBA, as requested by the General Church Board of Missions. A General Association Sub-Committee has been asked to advertise the lay-missionary efforts throughout the Association; to accept, schedule and process applications of the volunteer workers; and to submit the names of the tentative selectees and the scheduled use of the trailer at the San Carlos Indian Reservation in Arizona to the General Board of Missions. Participants would serve brief tours at the reservation, during which time they would assist in the physical labors there.

An informational brochure will be printed and distributed, after review by the General Church Board of Missions, to all who are interested in this missionary endeavor. An application will also be included. Sister Lydia Link of the Bronx, New York is instrumental in compiling the brochure which will be available.

Interested volunteers will be asked to submit their applications through their MBA Areas. From there, these forms will be sent to the GMBA Activities Committee for consideration and evaluation. Final approval will be given by the General Church Board of Missions.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

All but six General Officers were reelected for the next year. Newly-elected for one-year terms were Brothers Paul Palmieri of Aliquippa Vice-President; Louis Checchi of Greensburg, Chaplain; James Link of the Bronx, Financial Secretary; Joseph Perri of Metuchen, New Jersey,

Treasurer; and Chester Nolfi of McKees Rocks and Robert Nicklow of Glassport, Organizers for the Pennsylvania sector.

Plaques were presented to three outgoing officers in appreciation of their past service to the GMBA. Receiving these momentos were Brothers Milantoni of Detroit, John Bickerton of Monongahela, and Anthony Sclaro of Detroit, who had served as Vice-President, Chaplain, and Treasurer, respectively.

In other actions, donations were made from the GMBA General Fund to both the General Church Missionary Fund and to the General Church Auditorium Fund. A \$3,000 Association-wide fund-raising drive for the Auditorium for the next six months was also established by the Conference.

A vote of thanks was extended to the Greensburg Local for its most appreciated hospitality. The members of this group hosted the Conference, which had been appointed for the Pennsylvania MBA Area.

The Local also presented the previously mentioned program at night. It was titled, "Your Decision." Scenes and songs were offered to depict how each person is responsible for making his own choice in serving God. How both old and young alike must consider their plights in this life and in the next life were portrayed. Musical selections were offered by both the Greensburg Choir and the Greensburg Male Quartet. The entire presentation was most thought-provoking as well as being most edifying.

The following morning Sunday service, held in the community building across from the high school, was under the jurisdiction of the General Church's Pennsylvania District. An overflow crowd was present as six Brothers addressed the assembly after community and group singing were enjoyed.

Brother Palmieri introduced the service, using Mosiah 18:1-11 from the Book of Mormon as his text. He was followed (in the order in which they spoke) by Brothers Carl Frammolin and Dominic Moraco of Detroit; D'Orazio of Edison, New Jersey; Checchi; and Nicholas Pietrangelo of Detroit.

Each of the speakers gave a brief talk on how the passage of scripture which deals with baptism, as observed by our predecessors in the "waters of Mormon," is as important to us today as it was to them. These concise and practical explanations on how God works and on how the beauty of The Gospel is significant and meaningful to the Saints brought the memorable weekend to an appropriate and refreshing conclusion.



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

THE FAMINE

Dear Girls and Boys,

In our last story, Pharaoh appointed Joseph

governor of all Egypt. You remember Pharaoh's dream and the interpretation Joseph related to him. The seven years of plenty now had come and Joseph began to build great storehouses in which to keep large quantities of corn in preparation of the famine. There was an abundance of corn in all parts of Egypt.

When the seven years of plenty were over, the famine began. Many people in nearby lands were starving. They had not saved for the famine. As the years passed, there was no food in the surrounding lands, but there was plenty in Egypt. Soon people went to Pharaoh for help. He told them to go to Joseph and "what he saith to you, do."

Joseph opened the storehouses and fed the people. Other countries heard of this and people living there came to Egypt for bread. Jacob, Joseph's father, heard there was corn in Egypt and called his sons to him. He said that he had heard there was corn in Egypt and he told them to go there and buy some so that they would not die.

Ten of Joseph's brothers went down to Egypt. Jacob kept his youngest son, Benjamin, at home, fearing some harm might come to him. As the brothers arrived in Egypt, they were told to go to the governor. They came before Joseph and bowed down with their faces to the earth. Joseph recognized them at once but they did not know him. Joseph was just a boy when his brothers had sold him as a slave and now he was more than 30 years old.

Joseph was very happy to see his brothers and was anxious to hear about his father. He did not want them to know him yet and spoke very roughly to them. "Whence come ye?", he asked. They replied, "From the land of Canaan to buy food." Joseph said, "Ye are spies; to see the nakedness of the land ye are come." They were frightened and said they were not spies but had come to buy food. "We are all one man's sons; we are true men, thy servants are no spies." Again Joseph accused them of spying, but they denied it. They said, "Thy servants are twelve brethren, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan; and, behold, the youngest is this day with our father, and one is not." Joseph knew the "one is not" was he, now the governor of all Egypt. He told them they would have to prove they were not spies; that they were to bring their youngest brother to him. One could return and the others would be kept in prison. If they failed, Joseph would know they were spies.

How frightened the ten brothers were! They remembered how their father had mourned when they took Joseph's coat of many colors home. What would happen now when he learned they must bring Benjamin down to Egypt before they could get food? What do you think will happen? Will the brothers go home and bring Benjamin back? Will Joseph tell them who he is? Next month, I will tell you.

I hope you have a Merry Christmas. Don't forget whose birth you are celebrating.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

General Conference Is Both Eventful And Most Enjoyable

By Dominic Moraco

The semi-annual General Church Conference met in Hopelawn, New Jersey on Friday, October 17, to review organizational affairs for the past six months and to make plans for the future. Official matters were on the agenda for the first two days, while the customary Worship Service was conducted on Sunday.

The Spirit of God was felt throughout the Conference. At one point on Friday afternoon, the reports of general officers and committees were interrupted by the anointing of several handkerchiefs for individuals who were ill. The Holy Spirit and the power of God filled the room as these prayers were offered. It was impossible to resume with the designated schedule thereafter, and appropriately the remainder of the session was devoted to fellowship and testimonies which were edifying and enjoyable to all assembled.

REPORTS PRESENTED

Among the committee reports submitted were accounts presented by the General Church Auditorium Committee, the General Board of Trustees, the General Board of Missions, the Finance Committee, and the Committee on General Church Affairs. These analyses, as well as those of general officers, were accepted by the Conference. Specific items were covered in addition to consolidated reports on overall Church programs and activities.

The auditorium information (see "Auditorium Progress" on Page 2) disclosed that an 18 acre site had been obtained just outside Greensburg, Pennsylvania for the new building. The projected schedules for work on the structure were outlined, and plans were disclosed for settlement for the first site near Imperial, Pennsylvania which the Federal Government claimed for the expansion of the Greater Pittsburgh Airport.

Real estate items were reported by the General Board of Trustees. Among these were the sale of the Church buildings in Sopris, Colorado and Warren, Ohio. A new structure is approximately 80 per cent completed in Warren and work is expected to be finished sometime in the first half of 1970. (The Warren project had been presented in last month's issue).

MISSIONARY PROGRESS

Missionary progress was presented by the General Board of Missions. These status reports were primarily for locations in Africa, Italy, Argentina, and North American Indian Missions.

The Church in Nigeria reported holding Conference in August and of efforts to continue to operate the missions there despite the cruel civil war which has brought much strife throughout that country. Gratitude was also expressed to the parent Church for the welfare assistance which she has sent during this trying period.

Our missions in Italy stated they would appreciate having a full-time missionary from the United States to be in their midst. The Italian Elders there are doing their best by visiting from mission to mission and by keeping the members encouraged.

The Church mission in Argentina enjoyed the visit of Brother Paul and Sister Lydia Francione and their son, Andre, during the past spring. The members there are holding services and carrying on their duties as best they can.

Reports were also detailed for various Church Indian missions in Canada, Arizona, South Dakota, and Mexico. It was also disclosed that the newest Indian missionary, Brother Isaac Smith, along with his wife, Sister Bonnie, and their five children, has moved into his new home at the White River Indian Reservation at Pine Top, Arizona. They have also been holding services with the Indian people. Brother John Bickerton, his wife, Sister Dorothy, and their three children, are slated to move there after January 1. Incidentally, both families hail from Monongahela.

The Church is deeply concerned with spreading The Gospel of Christ, especially among the American Indian people, whom The Church knows as the seed of Joseph who was sold into Egypt. The Church also believes that a Choice Seer will be raised up from among the American Indians and that he will be mighty in doing God's work in these the latter days just as Joseph did in Egypt. Interest in placing missionary workers on Indian reservations reflects the anticipation of these future events and the desire to help in these matters to come.

The Finance Committee report was concerned with the monetary needs of sustaining missionary programs and the physical assets of the organization. A large part of The Church's budget deals with missions and in providing the necessary support of the dedicated and hard-working missionaries and their families who are laboring at some of the locations just described. Cost of individual Branch and Mission properties are usually borne by the local congregations. The united effort on behalf of the new Auditorium, however, will be needed because all individuals will be able to use the facility for General Church, General Missionary Benevolent Association, and General Ladies Circles Conferences and gatherings. It will, therefore, be the direct concern of everybody in Church.

GENERAL AFFAIRS UNIT

The Committee on General Church Affairs, comprised of the members of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles, the General Church President and his two Counselors, and the General Church Secretaries, reported on the work of Apostle V. James Loyalvo. The committee had asked him to spend about two months in the Atlantic Coast District and to visit the Lockport and Rochester, New York and Erie, Pennsylvania locations for a few weeks.

The analysis pointed out that Brother Loyalvo had been very successful in these assignments. During his tour of duty, he held instructional meetings with Elders, members, and young people. He also did a considerable amount of

preaching the Word of God during this span.

The committee requested Brother Lovalvo to return to Florida for the next three months. He had been assigned there last fall for two months where he likewise helped the Brothers and Sisters immeasurably.

The Conference also took special note of the fact that the year 1970 would soon be upon us. It was felt that the year 1970 represents the birth of a new era as foretold in Brother Alma B. Cadman's *Seventh Day of Rest* booklet. The Ministry at Conference therefore requested every Branch and Mission to hold "New Year's Eve Watch Meetings" to appropriately mark this significant event.

In another resolution, the Conference gave its approval for Branches and Missions to publish one or two-page newsletters as frequently as once a week if desired. Each location that does so however must adhere to the format and contents specified in the policy established at the Conference and outlined in the minutes. Basically, these local publications must be called "newsletters" with the name of the location indicated.

The Atlantic Coast was extended a vote of thanks for its superlative hospitality for the Conference.

SUNDAY SERVICE

The Sunday Service was conducted in the Franklin High School in Somerset, New Jersey. The large attendance contained representatives from all the Church Districts.

An inspiring singing period in which the congregation, choir, groups, and soloists participated preceded the introduction of the service by Brother Dominic R. Thomas of Detroit, Michigan. The text he used were the words of Jesus in *St. John 14:27*, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you . . ." Other speakers were Brothers Cleveland Baldwin of Freehold, New Jersey; Harry Robinson of West Elizabeth, Pennsylvania; and V. James Lovalvo of Modesto, California.

The Brothers spoke eloquently about the true peace which comes from serving Jesus Christ, the author of peace. They called upon all followers of Christ today to be truly dedicated and committed to serving mankind. A sensitivity to the needs of all people, regardless of race or creed, was portrayed as being necessary to accomplish these objectives.

It was pointed out that violence as is found in the world today will not bring peace, but that real and lasting peace will come only from within those who love and serve God. It was also illustrated that, in the midst of all the troubles today, God will make a way for escape for the peaceful followers of Christ, just as He has done in the past.

Brother Gorie Ciaravino, General Church President, made some appropriate concluding remarks. He asked the membership to beware of false peace and false doctrines which are upon the earth today. Only by constant vigil, he indicated, could true peace abide.

A refreshing spirit was felt throughout the service, the same as had been experienced during the entire Conference. Its presence illustrated the true peace which is found in The Church of Jesus Christ.

Fredonia Branch Enjoys Visitors

The Fredonia, Pennsylvania Branch has reported a series of enjoyable visits which it received from Brothers and Sisters from various parts of The Church. The guests came from Ohio, nearby Pennsylvania, and Arizona.

The sequence began when some members of the Youngstown, Ohio Branch attended the Fredonia Missionary Benevolent Association meeting on Sunday, September 7. Evangelist Timothy D. Bucci who accompanied them gave an inspiring talk of his recent trip to the encampment of many Indian tribes in Oklahoma. As was detailed in October, this was the fifth time that Brother Bucci had made the trip to talk to participants at the annual Oklahoma Indian Exposition. While there, he addresses those present, visits as many as possible, and distributes Church literature. He attempts to teach them that they are part of the chosen people of God and that some day this land will be returned to them, making it possible for them to live in righteousness with the Gentiles. He also informs them that the Choice Seer will come from among them in the future and that he will be an "Indian Moses."

Apostle Rocco V. Biscotti from Cleveland, Ohio was the guest speaker on Sunday, September 21. He used the "Parable of the Prodigal Son" recorded in *St. Luke 15:11-32* as his text. He elaborated on the repentance of the prodigal son and how he was willing to even be a servant in his father's house if he would just be granted permission to return home. The father's willingness and happiness to accept him back were exemplified by his desires to offer him gifts and love not expected by the errant son. Brother Biscotti adapted the parable to the plight of individuals and especially to the House of Israel when it will return to God.

The next Sunday, September 28, the Erie, Pennsylvania Mission joined the Fredonia group in its feet-washing service. Brothers Harold Burge and Del Lockwood from Erie both spoke inspiringly on *St. John 21*. This passage quotes Christ's asking Peter ". . . lovest thou me more than these?" The Brothers applied this question to today by asking, "Do we love Christ more than the things of the world?"

Apostle Alma B. Cadman, over 90 years old, and his older sister, Sister Elizabeth Cadman Davidson, who is over 97 years old, were also present and gave their testimonies. They both mentioned that they remember all of our Church Presidents, as they have been in The Gospel since their youth.

Brother George A. Neill, Gospel News Editorialist from Scottsdale, Arizona, was the last visitor reported at Fredonia. He was present for two days. During the Wednesday evening October 1 service, he talked about the conversion of the Apostle Paul. His review of how this great Apostle was converted to Christ was interesting and enlightening.

Four Visitors Talk At Lorain

Four guests addressed the Lorain, Ohio congregation on Sunday, September 28. The speakers, who had been present at the previous day's General Board of Missions meeting, were Brothers Dominic Rose of Brooklyn, New York; Joseph Bittinger of Monongahela, Pennsylvania; August D'Orazio of Edison, New Jersey; and Dominic Thomas of Detroit, Michigan, who spoke in that order.

Brother Rose introduced the service with the words of King Benjamin as found in **Mosiah 4:11** in the **Book of Mormon**, regarding the depth of understanding which the people of God should possess. He added to the profound statements in the scripture by observing that understanding is missing in the world today. He specified that, although wisdom is important, an understanding heart must be cultivated by each person in order to make this world a better place in which to live.

"Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is," was quoted from **Jeremiah 17:7** by Brother Bittinger. He spoke of the spirit of Christ as the substance which supplies the spiritual man with the source to prosper in the ways of The Lord, and he described how spiritual roots should be like the roots of a tree. He further compared a spiritual life to that of a tree.

Brother D'Orazio referred to **Psalms** in which David said that we should be like trees planted and growing by the living waters. He indicated how old and young alike should strive to improve themselves and The Church in the total process of spreading The Gospel.

In summarizing, Brother Thomas spoke of the good desires needed in serving The Lord. He elaborated on the necessity of pressing forward in The Gospel.

The talks were most provocative and were edifying as well.

Bi-Weekly Meetings Held In Hammond

The schedule of bi-weekly meetings has been continuing in Hammond, Indiana, with Brothers from Detroit, Michigan traveling there to preside. The last three reported services were held on October 5 and 19 and November 2.

On October 5, Brothers Ralph Leet and Peter H. Capone made the trip and spoke there. They talked about their experiences in The Gospel and of God's love and mercy.

Brothers Michael LaSala and Spencer G. Everett were at the service on October 19. The meeting was devoted to prayers and testimonies. Brother Everett concluded the meeting by reading **Mosiah 14:5** of the **Book of Mormon**. This passage deals with Christ's sacrifice for mankind.

Brother Frank Morle accompanied Brother Capone for the November 2 meetings. A fast and prayer service was conducted early that morning for the purpose of asking God to open the doors of others in the vicinity so that The Gospel can spread. At the regular meeting, both Brothers discussed the ways in which testimonies and various points of scripture can be used to acquaint others with The Church of Jesus Christ.

Everyone connected with the Hammond Mission was deeply saddened by the sudden death of John Molinatto, son of Sister Flossie Molinatto, who passed away in an accident (see "Obituaries" on page 12). Their prayers are for Sister Flossie; her daughter-in-law, Sigrid; and grandchild, John Dennis, along with other loved ones, will be comforted in their loss.

Weekend Services In Erie, Penna. Are Well-Attended

Many Brothers and Sisters from various parts of New Jersey, Ohio, and Pennsylvania were present at services held in Erie, Pennsylvania the weekend of October 4 - 5. A meeting was held on Saturday night, in addition to Sunday morning and afternoon.

Saturday evening, Brother Timothy D. Bucci of Youngstown, Ohio showed films of his Indian missionary work. He also narrated these efforts depicted, which have been expended primarily in Oklahoma.

Visiting members of The Priesthood on Sunday included Brothers V. James Lovalvo from Modesto, California; Bucci, Ralph Berardino, and Don Pandone from Youngstown; Anthony Picciuto of Perry, Ohio; Patsy Marinetti of Rochester, New York; Mario Milano of Cleveland, Ohio; Eugene Perri of Hopelawn, New Jersey; and Carl McCartney of Fredonia, Pennsylvania. The preaching of those who spoke was enjoyed by all. Closing remarks were also given by Erie Elders Harold Burge and Del Lockwood.

A songspiration was conducted Sunday afternoon, with some comments by Brother Lovalvo, Church Apostle, on the subject of talents.

Brother Lovalvo also remained in Erie for about a week, bringing spiritual strength and joy to the Saints.

Ordain Teacher At San Diego

Brother Joseph Dulisse was ordained into the office of a Teacher at the San Diego, California Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ on Sunday, October 5. His feet were washed by Brother Nicholas Liberto, and he was ordained by his father, Evangelist John Dulisse.

Baptized into The Church on March 9, 1959, Brother Joseph has been most active in his Branch. He has served in various elected offices for the Sunday School and Missionary Benevolent Association, as well.

Guests Address Joint Meeting

Two guest speakers spoke at a joint meeting held with the neighboring McKees Rocks and Imperial congregations at the Aliquippa, Pennsylvania Branch on Sunday, October 25. Brothers Joseph Milantoni from Detroit, Michigan and August D'Orazio from Edison, New Jersey were the visitors who addressed the assembly of the three groups.

Brother Milantoni read from I Nephi 10:17-19 in the Book of Mormon. He described how the full power of the Spirit can be received today, the same as was given to Nephi.

In following, Brother D'Orazio told of how he had a desire to hear and see what his older Brothers and Sisters had received. His wishes were like those of Nephi, who had wanted to view the things his father had seen.

Baptism Performed; Blessings Asked For 17 Children

One new member was baptized and prayers for blessings of 17 children have been experienced at the Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania Branch. On October 12, Joan Conn was taken into the waters by Brother Joseph Shazer and was confirmed by Brother Elmer LaRue.

The children were blessed on August 17. They ranged in age from six months to 12 years and they are from two families. There are seven in one family and ten in the other. The youngsters all attend the Vanderbilt Sunday School. Brothers Joseph Shazer, Nephi DiMercurio, and Emerson Fuller each took turns in offering the prayers of blessings for the children.

Convert Baptized As Two Guests Talk At Glassport

A new convert was baptized on Sunday, October 26, the same day as two guest speakers addressed the Glassport, Pennsylvania Branch. Ernest Patello rendered obedience to The Gospel of Christ, and Brothers Ralph Berardino and Timothy D. Bucci from Youngstown, Ohio were the visitors who spoke.

Brother Berardino introduced the service, speaking from Isaiah 53 and Matthew 27. Both he and Brother Bucci, who followed, inspiring discussed the prophecies and fulfillment of Christ's coming, rejection, suffering, and crucifixion.

As the highlight of the day, the new Brother Patello was baptized by Brother Alma Nolfi and confirmed by Brother Peter DiPiero. His entry into The Gospel was most edifying.

Visitors Attend Meaford Meetings

Services have been conducted by visiting Elders in Meaford, Ontario, Canada recently. The last one reported held there was on Sunday, October 26.

Brother Donald Collison from Windsor, Ontario presided over this service. He spoke on III Nephi 19 in the Book of Mormon. He elaborated on the power of prayer. Afterward, prayers were offered on behalf of the people of that locale who were ill. Brother Richard and Sister Jane Elzby also accompanied Brother Collison.

In August, Brother Jack and Sister Esther Ford and their family from Kinsman, Ohio spent three days in the Meaford area. Brother Ford is Presiding Officer at Kinsman.

Enters Church At Youngstown

Ruth Ann Zemko came into The Church of Jesus Christ at the Youngstown, Ohio Branch on Sunday, October 12. She was baptized by Brother Anthony A. Corrado and confirmed by Brother William Gennaro, Sr.

Speakers at the service had been Brothers Ralph Berardino and Timothy D. Bucci. They both invited all who had not rendered obedience to The Gospel of Christ to make their covenant that day and to not procrastinate in making their repentance and baptism realities.

Two Deaconesses Ordained; Visits Made To Modesto

Two new Deaconesses were ordained and many visitors were present at the Modesto, California Branch during a three-week span in October. The sequence occurred on the first three Sundays of that month.

On October 5, the two new Deaconesses were ordained. They are Sisters Grace Lovalvo and Sharon Parravano. Brothers and Sisters from San Diego, San Jose, and Lindsay were also in attendance on that day.

The following Sunday, Brother John and Sister Pauline Dulisse and Sister Josephine Palermo from Bell were guests. They were accompanied by Mrs. Vitina Cilluffo, a sister of both Sister Dulisse and Sister Palermo. Mrs. Cilluffo, 72 years old, had come from Palermo, Sicily in Italy and she had been in the United States since this summer, visiting four of her six sisters, all of whom she had never seen except for one. In Detroit, Michigan, she had stopped off to become acquainted with one of them, Sister Anna Carlini,

(Continued on Page 12)

NUPTIALS

DRAKE — HAGGERTY

Mr. Daniel George Drake and Miss Karen Marie Haggerty were joined in wedlock at the Perry, Ohio Mission of The Church of Jesus Christ on Friday evening, October 24. Brother Anthony Picciuto officiated at the ceremony. Sisters Betty Santilli, Donna Kline, Saville Gibson, and Bernadine Gibson sang a quartet selection at the wedding.

The couple plans to live in the Perry, Ohio vicinity after the groom is discharged from the service.

SAFFRON — CAPONE

Brother Stephen Saffron and Sister Yvonne Marie Capone were united in holy matrimony at Paradise Valley, Arizona on Friday evening, October 24. Brother Peter Capone, father of the bride who also gave her away, performed the ceremony, assisted by Brother Philip Damore. Sisters Patricia Christman and Ann Damore, accompanied by Sister Sarah Neill on the organ, sang vocal solos.

The newlyweds are now living in Phoenix, Arizona.

CRALL — BROWN

Mr. Robert E. Crall and Miss Rose Marie Brown were joined in wedlock at Reno, Nevada on Saturday, October 4.

The groom is presently in the service, and the Cralls plan to reside in the Streetsboro, Ohio area after he is discharged this April.

OBITUARIES

ISIDORE MANGIAPANE

Brother Isidore Mangiapane, a long-time faithful member of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 of The Church of Jesus Christ, departed from this life on November 11. Born on March 6, 1890, he was baptized into The Church on February 7, 1932.

Two daughters, one son, and 10 grandchildren are left to mourn his loss.

Brother Nicholas Pietrangelo officiated at the funeral services, assisted by Brother Paul Vitto.

Despite being physically afflicted for some time, Brother Mangiapane regularly attended all meetings. He will be greatly missed by all who were accustomed to his presence.

BETTINA L. PALLANTE

Sister Bettina L. Pallante, faithful member of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed on to her eternal reward on November 2. Born on December 13, 1890, she was baptized into The Church on April 8, 1934.

She is survived by one son, one daughter, six grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Brother Anthony Pietrangelo conducted the funeral services.

Sister Pallante will be long remembered for her soft-spoken, reserved and humble manner. Her warmth and ability to communicate her sincere desires will also be recalled, as well.

JOHN DAVID MOLINATTO

Mr. John David Molinatto, who had been blessed in The Church of Jesus Christ, passed away suddenly in a motor vehicle accident on September 27. He was born on May 13, 1944.

He is survived by his wife, one son, his mother, and one sister.

The deceased will be greatly missed by his many relatives and friends who knew him as a genuinely sincere and kind person. Sympathy and condolences are sent to his loved ones on behalf of all the Brothers and Sisters of The Church of Jesus Christ and for all readers of the Gospel News.

WILLIAM BAILEY, SR.

Brother William Bailey, Sr., a faithful member of the Vanderbilt Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ

who was in The Gospel for 65 years, departed from this life on September 24. Born on August 10, 1877, he was baptized into The Church in 1904.

Left to mourn are eight children.

Brother Joseph Shazer conducted the funeral services, assisted by Brother Thurman S. Furnier.

Brother Bailey was an exemplary older member who was truly grounded and rooted in The Gospel. He will be deeply missed by all who were accustomed to him and who benefited immeasurably from his presence.

JAMES HENRY JONES

Brother James Henry Jones, a faithful member of the San Fernando Valley, California Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed on to his eternal reward on September 14. Born on September 28, 1908, he was baptized into The Church on July 5, 1959.

He is survived by his wife, two daughters, and one son.

Brother Robert Watson, Jr. conducted the funeral services, assisted by Brother Frank Genaro.

Our departed Brother was a staunch and diligent worker in The Gospel. His willingness to speak about the things he regarded to be the truth will always be remembered by all who knew and loved him.

SALVATORE PAGANO

Brother Salvatore Pagano, a faithful member of the Bronx, New York Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, left this life on August 31. Born on July 13, 1887, he was baptized into The Church on April 18, 1954.

He is survived by his wife, three sons, and seven grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother James Link.

Brother Pagano will be greatly missed by all the Brothers, Sisters, and friends who were enriched by his life. His example will serve as a meaningful testimony to all who have known and loved him.

RUTH PORTER

Sister Ruth Porter, a faithful member of The Monongahela Branch, passed away August 9. She was born July 25, 1902.

Left to mourn her loss are her husband, a son and daughter, six grandchildren, three sisters and two brothers.

Brother John C. Bickerton officiated at the funeral service.

Sister Porter is greatly missed by all those whose lives were enriched by her presence.

TWO DEACONESSES ORDAINED: VISITS

MADE TO MODESTO

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and renew acquaintance with another, Sister Providence Palermo, whom she had met in Italy. Her other two sisters are deceased. They were the late Sisters Rose Ferrante and Louise Leto of Bell. Mrs. Cilluffo returned to Italy on November 20. Brother Dulisse gave a very inspirational talk at Modesto on October 12.

Brothers Reno Bologna from Detroit and Frank Genaro of San Fernando Valley spoke in that order on October 19. The subject scripture used was **Ephesians 4:17-30**. The speakers elaborated on the teachings of Paul, particularly as they pertain on how an individual must live according to his beliefs and how he must make his own decision with God.

The blessings of the October period were most edifying and uplifting to the Modesto congregation.