

ZION'S ADVOCATE

"And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day, for they shall have the gift and power of the Holy Ghost."—1 Nephi 3:187.

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VOLUME 11

INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI, JANUARY, 1934

NUMBER 1

A Prayer for the Temple

*O God! O God! Verily, I implore Thee
With throbbing heart and streaming tears
To aid everyone who endeavors
For the erection of this edifice;
In the building of a house
Wherein Thy name is mentioned
Every morn and eve.*

*O Lord! Send down Thy benediction
Upon whosoever serves this edifice
And endeavors in its uprising
Among the sects and religions,
And confirm him in every good.
Open the doors of riches and wealth
Unto him and give in heritage
The treasures of the Kingdom which perish not;*

*Make him the sign of giving
Among the people and reinforce him
By the Sea of generosity and bounty,
Which is surging with the waves
Of grace and favor.
Verily, Thou art the Generous,
The Merciful, the Bountiful!*

already sacrificed father and husband to the Lord's work, or shall we as a church begin to feel some responsibility in this matter and determine to make regular contributions to make it possible for our missionaries to carry on?

If we shall become conscious of our obligation along this line, to the extent of raising this average allowance to even 50 per cent of the total, by the above means, it will make it possible for these men to do

more effectual work. If all the membership of the church would give a 100 per cent response to the above plan it would not only raise the average of our missionary allowance to a 50 per cent of the regular allowance, but it would also double the number of missionaries that could give their entire time to the work.

The Lord loves a cheerful giver. What will be your response to the above plan?

A Petition to the General Church

This is to give notice that at the next General Assembly, to be held April 6, 1934, the following resolution will be offered as an effort to change the nature of our conference, in order that under the very difficult times we are now in, the whole church may have opportunity of fair representation at our April meeting, and that the government of the general church may not be confined to the local church at Independence, Missouri.

RESOLVED, 1. That the present system of a General Assembly of the Church of Christ which is now held in April of each year shall be changed, and that the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) shall meet in a General Conference April 6 of each year, and that this conference shall consist of delegates chosen and sent from each and every local congregation throughout the church.

2. That each and every vote cast shall be a delegate vote, except those pertaining to the organization of the conference, or other routine work relative to the conference then in session.

3. That the ratio of representation shall be one vote for each six members or fraction thereof, who are an organized church.

4. That the local church shall have the right to select a delegate to represent them other than one of their own members, provided the one appointed is in good standing.

5. That the full voting power of each local may be vested in one delegate, or more, as the local may direct.

6. That a properly identified copy of the action of each local church shall be sent to the clerk of the conference, stating who shall be authorized to act as delegates for the said local church, before such a delegation can be recognized by the conference.

7. That all members of the church in good standing shall have the right and privilege of the conference floor, at all meetings during the conference, but shall not have power to vote on any question except during the organization of the conference.

8. That this conference shall be a strict delegate conference, that no elder, priest, teacher, or apostle shall have the right to vote except he be a delegate properly recorded as representative of some local church.

9. That each local church shall have the right to instruct its delegates as to how they shall vote on any given question, and a copy of such action or instruction shall be sent to the clerk of the conference.

10. That any local church may obtain a record of the voting of its delegates, by forwarding to the clerk or whosoever may have charge of the records, after conference has adjourned, sufficient funds to cover the expense of making out and mailing such report.

11. That this resolution shall be sent out as a referendum, immediately after this conference has adjourned, and the result of the vote shall be published to all the churches, either through the columns of the Advocate or by direct report to the pastor of each local, in January, 1935, that each local may know in time to elect its delegates for the conference to follow in April, 1935.

12. That the final counting of the votes shall be on January 1, 1935, and no vote received after that date shall be considered or counted.

13. That the absence from the room of any delegate, at time vote is cast, the vote of such delegation can not be taken.

(Signed) A. M. SMITH.
W. L. GATES.

**The ADVOCATE requires your consistent
and loyal support**

ZION'S ADVOCATE

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Editorial

Peace

"Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things whereby one may edify another."—Romans 14:19.

Thus admonished an apostle of old. The admonition is just as applicable to members of the church today as it was when Paul gave it so long ago. In the world there is much of strife and contention, and with the body of believers in Christ there should be found a wonderful refuge of peace and safety. Sad to remark, however, that such a haven of peace is not always found in the church. Satan often enters and stirs up strife and contention among those who should be at peace and love each other as the blessed Master first loved them. Remember that when we start contending for our own preference, or advocating our own hobbies, that we are opening the way for strife and the destruction of our peace. Thus we should be constantly on guard to prevent the encroachment of Satan to endanger our peace.

Remember that in good old Job's time, it is recorded: "Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them."—Job 1:6.

Satan has not ceased that practice after the passing of all these years. And let us not give him a welcome into our midst. "Let us follow after the things that make for peace." What are some of these things that make for peace?

First, Centering our affection on God. To love and adore him with all the powers of our being.

Second, Daily reading of the word of God.

Third, Self-examination daily to see that we are in accord with the word.

Fourth, Praying constantly, not only for ourselves, but for all the children of God.

Fifth, Be concerned about the upbuilding of the church, and the accomplishment of the work committed to us as the church.

Let us avoid all semblance of contention and strife. If we belong to Christ, we must be one. Otherwise he will disown us. Do not forget the Temple work.

Remember that our funds are very, very meager, and the brethren are attempting to carry on the work as economically as possible; let us uphold their efforts. Our limited funds must be conserved and made to go as far as possible while the work is being revived. And with the volunteer work being offered at present it should be made to go a long way. Remember, that if we are to succeed in this undertaking, we must have peace. The world around us is full of strife and unrest. The World's Peace Court is about to fall to pieces; statesmen are trying to better conditions, but without avail so far. And in this world of confusion and uncertainty, the church should be an example and a refuge of peace. May God help us each to work and to live to this end.

Keep the Faith Unbroken

By George A. Derry

He came to my desk with quivering lip,
The lesson was done.

"Have you a new leaf for me, dear Teacher?
I have spoiled this one!"

I took his leaf, all soiled and blotted,
And gave him a new one all unspotted.
Then unto his tired heart I smiled:
"Do better this time, my child."

I went to the Throne, with trembling heart,
The year was done.
"Have you a New Year for me, dear Master?
I have spoiled this one!"

He took my year, all soiled and blotted,
And gave me a new one, all unspotted.
Then unto my heart He smiled:
"Do better with this one, my child!"

I am the New Year, and I come to you
Pure and unstained,
Fresh from the hand of God.
Each day a precious pearl to you is given
That you must string upon the silver thread of life.
Once strung, can never be unthreaded, but stays,
An undying record of your faith and skill.
Each golden minute-link you then
Must weld into the chain of hours,
That is no stronger than its weakest link.
Into your hands is given all the wealth and power,
To make your life just what you will.
I give to you, free and unstinted, twelve glorious
months
Of soothing rain and sunshine golden;
The days for work and rest, the nights for peaceful
slumber.
All that I have, I give with love unspoken.
All that I ask,—You keep the faith unbroken.

Missionary Activities

APOSTLE A. M. SMITH

Brother A. M. Smith is now at Oak Hill and Preston, Missouri, holding meetings. As soon as he finishes in that locality it is his intention of going down into Kentucky and Tennessee. He will go into the territory visited in the fall by Brother McClain, an account of whose experiences was published in the December Advocate.

APOSTLE C. L. WHEATON

Apostle C. L. Wheaton is busy, as usual, in Idaho. Read his letter in this issue carefully and prayerfully, as it throws a great deal of light on the sacrifices being made by the missionaries and their families. Much of Elder Wheaton's travel from place to place has been on foot or by freight train, which is not the ideal way for a missionary to travel.

APOSTLE W. F. ANDERSON

Apostle William F. Anderson has been home for several weeks, partly under the weather. He has occupied the local pulpit a number of times, and also at the Stark Acres church. He is hoping to get started for the North and East in the near future.

APOSTLE B. C. FLINT

Apostle B. C. Flint has returned to Madison, Wisconsin, where he has been forced to remain to take care of some personal matters and recuperate somewhat.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

If any others are doing local missionary work, we shall be glad to have you write your experiences. Also let us tell the rest of the church what each local church is doing. Write to the Editor.

REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN

The Regina, Saskatchewan, local Sunday school has contributed a total of \$62.50 towards the upkeep of the Advocate since last April. Here is just an example of what a small group can do in a missionary way if they only try. If the rest of the Sunday schools will follow their example, the Advocate will be out of debt and we shall have a surplus for tracts. Without the consecrated help of the Regina Group, we should have had a larger deficit to make up.

The Voice of the Good Shepherd

(Continued from page 4.)

ness. And Jesus, when he was baptized, came up straightway out of the water; and lo, the heavens opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him; and lo, a voice out of the heavens, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."—Matt. 3:13-17.

We see here Jesus is the Shepherd, John was the porter, baptism is the door by which the Shepherd entered, and he that climbeth up any other way is said to be a thief and a robber.

Jesus taught this same principle to Nicodemus in John 3:5. He said, "Except a man be born of water and the spirit, he can not enter into the kingdom of God."

But you may ask, Why was it necessary for Jesus, who knew no sin, to be baptized? We shall let Isaiah answer. He says, "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way;

and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."—Isaiah 53:6.

He was also sent to be an example for us, and again, it was necessary that he should fulfill all righteousness.

Let us go back and review the example of Jesus, our Lord.

1. He had implicit confidence in him who sent him. He says, "I always do those things that please him."

2. He avoided everything that was offensive to God and injurious to man. This the whole tenor of his life declares.

3. He was obedient to every requirement of his Father, and the order of baptism was one.

Now, let us compare his conduct with his teachings, and see if they agree.

"Verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life."—John 5:24.

(To be continued)

Letters from the Faithful

NEW YORK

"We were very miraculously unhurt in an automobile accident recently and feel that what either of us can add is far too little for the thanks and appreciation which we feel.

"Since I have never myself written you before, I should like to take this opportunity to tell you how happy I have been since last June when Brother Anderson baptized me. I only wish that more might know the joy of the gospel. For me, it has changed existing into living.

"Dan sends his greetings to you.

"Sincerely yours,

"MILDRED S. DANFORTH."

A NON-MEMBER

"I am real sorry that it should even be thought necessary to suspend publication of the Advocate. Surely 520 subscribers ought to be able to pay ninety cents each, and wipe that little debt out, even if times are hard. Well, I am not really a member of the Church of Christ, but I am just sorry enough to do my part, and am herewith sending for the Advocate debt \$1.00, and for the Temple fund \$1.00. The check was a Christmas gift to me. Please just give credit to

"A NON-MEMBER."

RHODE ISLAND

Dear Advocate Readers: I am writing to notify you of the ordination of Daniel L. McDonald on December 31, 1933, to the office of deacon by Seventy Herbert B. Johnson, assisted by Elder Herman F. Burlingame, Jr.

The Cranston branch has been receiving some wonderful blessings recently, and we pray that the church, worldwide, is being blessed likewise.

Sincerely your sister in the gospel,

FANNIE E. McDONALD.

MINNESOTA

"I hoped the different people I subscribed for would get the number of the Advocate with the excavation picture in it; but now I have seen that number, I hope they didn't get it. I'm not sure it's profitable to subscribe for non-members when there is so much strife that must be reported. I don't know just where the trouble is, but it seems to me that Wood and Morgan should have been able to think of something more profitable to do than to get everybody to splitting hairs over some doctrine that has so little to do with our present actions.

"Why not build the Temple and let such things rest until Christ comes to purge and perfect. I imagine they will see many things more important they could have been using their surplus energy on.

"Suppose I'd better stop finding fault. Mother says it seems as though if someone criticizes something too strongly, that is the very thing they will be doing before long.

"Sincerely,

"A SISTER."

IOWA

Des Moines, Iowa, January 17.

Dear Brethren: Am inclosing a dollar for the Temple Fund. Hope I can do more later, if my husband can get something to do. Am trying to put my trust in the Lord and have faith to walk the straight way so that we may be worthy of His blessing.

With kind regards to you and all the workers,

Your sister in Christ,

MRS. D. A. EMSLIE.

DENVER, COLORADO

Elder T. B. Nerren writes that he is hard at work and happy. This group under the leadership of Elder Jesse Cruse has been enjoying a steady and healthy growth. They now have a membership of about thirty with many visitors regularly attending.

If the membership of the church will purchase and read the Advocate, the result will be a better understanding of each other and the work before us. Is not this the thing most needed to bring about the accomplishment of our work?

Concerning the Debt

The receipts so far from the appeal inclosed with the last Advocate amount to \$52.00. The cost of this issue will be about \$30.00, and from now on the paper will be the present size until the debt is paid—that is, if this amount or more is sent in each month. If not, there will be no other alternative than to miss a number.

Judging from the tone of the letters of those who have responded, no one wants to see the Advocate suspended. Neither do we. Rather, as stated last month, we want to see it grow better and more interesting from month to month. Many of you wish more church news, so let each of us appoint ourselves reporters to write in the news of general interest from our own localities.

We have had enough of jangling and contention; let us shut our ears to those of our number who are continually looking for trouble and defects. When two men enter into a contentious argument, both are wrong.

Let us seek to find God in our brothers and sisters. To look beyond the horizons of pettiness and fault-finding and see the real glory of God, more and more manifest, as His day approaches.

Remember! No matter how confused and troubled the waters may appear; how dark and hopeless the outcome may seem—that it has been foreordained from the foundation of the earth that Christ and his kingdom are to be victorious. Let us, then, unite ourselves under his triumphant leadership and follow on to the glorious consummation!

WALTER L. GATES,
Business Manager.

WHAT I LEARNED from the PROVERBS

By Mary Smith, aged 17

As requested by our Sunday School class teacher to give an account of what I have learned from the fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth chapters of Proverbs.

In the beginning, I learned that if you are wise, you will start building for the future. If you build your future with wickedness, with sin for a foundation, it is sure to be overthrown, because God says, "The house of the wicked shall be overthrown." Therefore, I am going to be sure that I build my house on a foundation of solid rock, with walls of good deeds and a roof of sacrifice. I learned that to fear the Lord is to love him to the extent that you will fear to do evil which is not pleasing before him. To my knowledge, a fool is a simpleminded person: a man who lacks knowledge and one who has never witnessed the Spirit of God. It is only a fool that convicts someone else of being a fool. I learned that in order to lay the foundation for your spiritual character, you must put worldly things far behind you, you must be a faithful witness of Christ, you must also go from the presence of fools; because, "where your heart is there will your treasure be also." If you are a faithful witness of Christ you will not lie, but truth will be your by-word.

The more wisdom a man has the easier it is to obtain more; and the deeper knowledge becomes simple and easy to understand. It does not matter how cheerful you appear to be your heart can not conceal its own bitterness.

If you seek first the kingdom of heaven, you will have very little reason to have a sorrowful heart.

(To be continued in the February issue.)

FOR UNITY

Among All the Covenant People

Bring them together again, O Lord, by the power of Thy covenant, and gather their dispersion by the might of Thy promise, and unite their hearts by the dominion of Thy love! Cause them to love one another so as to sacrifice their spirits, expend their money, and give up their desires for each other's sake!

O Lord, make to descend upon them quietness and tranquillity! Shower upon them the clouds of Thy mercy in full abundance, and make them to adorn themselves with the characteristics of the spiritual!

O Lord, hold us firm in Thy noble command, and bestow upon us Thy gifts through Thy bounty, grace and beneficence!

Verily, Thou art the Generous, the Merciful, and the Benevolent.

Let Us Help Spread the Gospel

Apostle Clarence L. Wheaton

After leaving the quorum sessions held by the Twelve at Independence, Missouri, during September, I found it necessary to hurry home to my family, up in northern Idaho, to do what I could to help supply the larder and woodshed for the winter. At the same time I was painfully conscious of the fact that there were a number of places in my field where a missionary was needed to impart new life among members in isolated places, and also to extend the sphere of the church's influence into other fields.

Arriving at my home after much hardship, and exposure to cold weather, part of the distance via freight train, I spent one and a half days with my family, after an absence of nearly two months in the field, to go into western Idaho, for the purpose of getting meat for winter use. When I got to Ahsahka, where I had preached and baptized four persons during August, I found that my friend, Mr. Wheeler, was away, so had to delay the elk hunt for a few days. But these days were not to be spent in idleness, for the next day after my arrival here, the Indian Church was secured, and we started a series of meetings. We have held meetings each night to a growing and interested congregation. Sunday, October 8, I conducted one more soul into the waters of baptism. Prospects are that others will soon follow.

As I look around me and see the splendid opportunities that await us for service in the Lord's vineyard, and realize how we are making the effort to meet the demands made on us, it makes my heart ache to know that we are handicapped by the lack of proper provision to care for our families that are sacrificing our help and place in the home in order that this gospel might be preached.

Along with these thoughts a plan keeps presenting itself to me that is practical and will not work a hardship on any member of the church. In bringing it to the attention of the membership, it is not intended as a permanent arrangement, nor as a substitute or infringement upon the work of the Committee of Seven that was appointed last April to have charge of temporal affairs of the church, but rather it is offered to meet the emergency of the present time.

The plan is simple, and of such nature that every member can comply with it without great deprivation to himself, or in any way doing away with the accepted principles of the temporal law of the church. It is this: We have a recorded membership of approximately 1,800 members. Many of these are wage

earners; some of course are children—dependents who have no income. On an average, this would give us a figure which shows that one person out of five is a wage earner, the rest partial wage earners or total dependents. On this basis we find that out of 1,800 members we would have approximately 400 wage earners, approximately 600 members between ages 16 and 18 years, who earn a portion of their keep, and the rest children under these ages who are total dependents.

If these 400 wage earners would resolve to contribute \$1.00 each per month, the church would have a regular contribution monthly of \$400; per year \$4,800. If each of those between the ages of 16 and 18 would contribute fifty cents per month, the church would have from them an income of \$300 per month, or \$3,600 per year. And if each family would then contribute for each dependent child baptized into the church twenty-five cents per month, the income would be for 800 children approximately \$200 per month, or \$2,400 per year. Thus the total income for the church each year would be equal to the combined figures above, or \$10,800 per year.

For the past four years the General Assembly has provided that for the families of those giving their entire time to missionary work, that a minimum allowance of \$50 per month be granted for the wife, and \$10 per month for each child under 18 years of age. Under this arrangement, the greatest allowance was for two members of the Twelve with wife and five children each, and the smallest for the wife of the missionaries. It was also arranged that when there were not sufficient funds to give full allowance each month, that same should be pro-rated equally to all, without partiality.

Last year this proratio averaged about 27 per cent of the total. Thus a family of seven that should have received \$100 per month received only \$27. A family of three, \$18.30; and a family of two (man and wife), \$13.50 per month. Out of these sums the missionary's family had to be fed, clothed, and sheltered.

This year the average allowance will not exceed 20 per cent of the total. This will mean an average income of \$20, \$12, and \$10 respectively as per above figures.

Now the question arises, Shall we continue to make the burden of missionary work fall upon the shoulders of the wives and children of those who have