

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."—I Nephi 3:187.

Volume 29

Independence, Missouri, June, 1952

Number 6

Awake My Soul!

Awake, my soul! Truth's ever brightening ray,
Which long has led me on an upward way,
Now drives the last dim shadow from my sky,
And on my vision breaks the perfect day.

Escaped from every phantom of the night,
I walk exultant in a heavenly light;
No fears oppress me and no griefs annoy,
And all care's restless brood have taken flight.

Whence comes this triumph? Whence this vision clear?
Doth heaven's clear day to Reason's eye appear?
'Tis heaven within which gives the light divine,
Instinctive vision of a goal so near.

Thus, to His own, their hearts from fear to shield,
Mid war's wild wreck, on Life's fierce battle field,
"I give you peace," the Master said, and, lo!
The house of many mansions stood revealed.

There is no death from the sting of sin,
There is no darkness 'gainst the Light within.
The Light and Life is Christ, forevermore,
From sin and death the trusting soul to win.

They pass from death to life who Him believe;
The Sons of God are all who Him receive.
Heirs of His immortality are they;
"Because I Live," He says, "Ye, too, shall live."

—Selected

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ZION'S ADVOCATE

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: W. A. Sheldon, 11427 E. 16 St., Independence, Missouri.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS: Margaret E. Wheaton, 1101 W. Orchard St., Independence, Missouri; Marion Sprague, 424 E. Walnut, Independence, Missouri.

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INSTRUCTIONS IN ORDERING

Our quarterlies are not dated, but numbered, because they contain a regular course of study, and if the schools desire to make this study, they should order the quarterlies according to number so as to avail themselves of the entire course, so far as the study has been extended up to the present time. None of the courses are, as yet, complete. This is due to lack of funds.

Order all Quarterlies from the General Sunday School Association Treasurer.

EDITORIAL

YE ARE MY WITNESSES, SAITH THE LORD

From the very beginning of man's history, God has made his presence known in the testimony of all created things. Further, He has given many unimpeachable evidences of his existence and his power to those of sufficient faith—and also unto wicked men, where his wisdom and justice has dictated that their evil designs should be made manifest, and their deeds abased.

For hundreds of years, yes, thousands, the nation of Israel has occupied the unique position of being heir to the most glorious promises God has ever made to the children of men. We use the word "heir", because, if we understand the meaning of it, it is that one has a hope of receiving something of great value; not as though he had already attained, or is presently enjoying the fruits of said promises, but that he may eagerly expect to reap at some future time. In this respect, Israel may be likened to the prodigal son of Jesus' parable: having once enjoyed the comfort and security of a loving Father's generosity, he now, through folly, is scarcely able to exist from day to day. But he begins to see the error of his way and yearns to come once more within the gates of his Father's estate. He knows that Father's love, and so still hopes to be received. And will that Father come out to meet him, and order the feast to be prepared? He will, for so says the scripture.

Read all of Isaiah 54, but we will quote just a part to show his lovingkindness:

"In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the Lord thy Redeemer. For this is as the waters of Noah unto me: for as I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth; so have I sworn that I would not be wroth with thee, nor rebuke thee. For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee."

Why such a wonderful promise? In spite of Israel's transgressions? Yes, but there is more to it than perhaps meets the casual glance. Firstly, were we to assume that God thus made promise because he simply wanted to show favoritism, we should do violence to the scripturally-sound principle that God is just in all his ways. And were this principle not true, we should have good reason to say within ourselves that it makes no difference what we do—God will do with us as he pleases, anyway. No, it is not a matter of pure favoritism, but of foreknowledge with God. He has favored them, undoubtedly, but it was because there was a remarkable degree of faith shown forth by the fathers, i.e., Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Their children were slow to hear and hearken to the commandments through Moses, and the Lord rebuked them many times; and because of his long-suffering, he showed them many signs in the wilderness that they might take courage and fear before him. When they obeyed his voice, he provided for them in every necessity, scattered their enemies, and

brought them into the land which he had beforehand covenanted to give to their fathers.

And so, when he spoke through the prophet and said:

"Ye are my **witnesses**, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. I, even I, am the Lord; and beside me there is no saviour. I have declared, and have saved, and I have shewed, when there was no strange God among you: therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, that I am God." (Isaiah 43:10-12).

When the Lord thus spoke, he knew he had performed to their knowledge accordingly, and so he could say (21st verse):

"This people have I formed for myself; **they shall shew forth my praise.**"

Evidently, then, God foresaw the time when Israel would forsake the idols which they had raised up unto themselves (when they should find through bitter experience that there was no other saviour), and return to their "first love", and keep his word, and in this manner "shew forth" his praise.

It is not enough to have seen the workings of his matchless power at some time in the past; hollow, indeed, is the statement that "once God did . . . for me (or my grandfather)".

Why, "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."

How? **Through the righteousness of faith.**

The above quotation is rather all-inclusive, is it not? It must be so, if God is to be no respecter of persons, as he says, and yet God said of Israel, "This people have I formed for myself", but this is because that "they shall shew forth my praise", and surely through their own desire.

Well, we may ask, Where is Israel, and are they showing forth this witness to the nations of the earth?

Bible students know that as a whole, Israel has been hidden up until the day that the Lord should call them forth, but of course, Judah is easily recognized in the Jewish nation. There remains eleven of his brethren, to make up Israel in its entirety. Two of these are Ephraim and Manasseh, not so generally recognized, but nevertheless, they may be found at this present time. At the appointed time, all of them will come from the north, south, east and west; from the isles of the sea and wheresoever the Lord has driven them. And then their "watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the Lord shall bring again Zion."

But the Lord has already "set his hand the second time to recover the remnant of his people"; the "ensign" has been raised, and the "dispersed of Judah" are being gathered.

Ephraim has been revealed after being lost among the nations for many centuries, for he has rallied around the "ensign" of the gospel of Christ revealed in these last days, "witnessing" that the Lord IS GOD.

Gentiles, too, have seen the glorious light, but their day is nearly, if not completely over, because of rejecting the message of life.

Now, seeing we are encompassed by such a great cloud of events, and having received the testimony of the word, with what joy may we anticipate the future? Or if we, yes, even we, be found rebellious, with what fear and trembling should we await the morrow? Then why stand we in jeopardy every hour when we neglect so great salvation?

Neglect? you say. Yes, when we fail to demonstrate to the world that we as brethren have not the love of Christ and each other in our hearts; when we fail to do all that we know to do which is right, or if having done so, we FAIL TO SEEK GOD with all our might that he would direct us FURTHER, but rather determine that we may rely upon our human wisdom and counsel.

Shall we not, brethren, seek him early; arise, and go up to the high mount, confess that we are only strangers here below, needing to be shown the right way. If this be the prayer of our heart, will he not quickly answer? In his answer will be the sure witness borne in upon the soul that we have found him, that he abides in us, and we in him; and the world shall know that we have learned of the meek and lowly Master because we "shew forth" his praise. These shall be acknowledged as HIS witnesses.

WILLIAM A. SHELDON

PASTORAL

Having been appointed to the general watchcare of the work in Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana, I take this opportunity to give greeting to all the ministry and brothers and sisters in this field.

I am desirous of doing all things possible to build up the work in this field of labor. I will be glad to hear from any who may desire to have me visit them and possibly open the door of the Church of Christ in your neighborhood.

Please do not feel backward about writing to me if you need help in any way.

Begging your co-operation to this end.

Your brother and servant for Christ,

DON W. HOUSKNECHT

Missionary in Charge
Michigan, Ohio and Indiana

205 E. Shiawassee
Fenton, Michigan

LETTERS

A REPORT BY LETTER TO THE CHURCH

2964 Newton Avenue
San Diego, Calif.
March 3, 1952

A new recruit is enlisted in the Army of the Lord, in the Church of Christ.

Here in San Diego, California upon the date of Sunday, March 2, 1952, Elder Robert Lee Maley, stationed here with the United States Navy at present, was ordained according to his previous call to the ministry through the Holy Spirit. When Bro. Robert was assured within his own soul that his call to the ministry is from God, he accepted the call, as a soldier, to serve for life in the army of the Lord, receiving his ordination to the eldership in the Church of Christ at our sacrament service here yesterday. His ordination was by Elder Clyde Walrath, assisted by Apostle James E. Yates; and his acceptance into the ministry was thus approved by the assembly of the Church, the Holy Spirit bearing witness also to the church members here in San Diego, that the call is from Heaven.

Nineteen or twenty persons were present, and the sacrament was served to those who are members of the church. All through the service, the Holy Spirit made itself manifest with assurance, even as a spiritual light, to illuminate the souls of all present, as that Heavenly Guest was welcomed into the hearts of the worshipping assembly.

Will the General Church Recorder at Independence, Missouri, (the headquarters for the General Offices of the Church of Christ) kindly take notice of the ordination items in above data, and record same properly in the record there, please. Let the Church remember to uphold and sustain by our prayers, our young men especially, thus being enlisted in the army of the Lord for the salvation of souls.

Yours sincerely, and humbly reported to the Church,

JAMES E. YATES

P. S.: Two older brothers of Bro. Robert Maley are already serving as elders, with reliable devotion to duty, in the Church of Christ. They are: Elder Thos. Maley, a presiding Elder in Minneapolis, Minn., and Elder Forest Maley, our efficient General Church Secretary, in Independence, Mo.

To the Church of Christ,
and to
All the Readers of the Advocate.

Greetings:

In harmony with the instructions of the April (1952) Conference of the Church of Christ, that the Secretary of the Council of Twelve prepare and publish in the Zion's Advocate, a composite ministerial report of the Council of Twelve, I do hereby offer the following as such a report, covering the ministerial activities of the members of the Twelve, during the conference year of 1951. It would be quite impossible to give, in this re-

port, a full and detailed account of all the activities of the members of the Council, but we shall endeavor to give sufficient data, gleaned from the material now in the hands of the Secretary of the Council, that will enable you to comprehend, to some extent at least, the work that has been accomplished by the Council during the past year.

During the Conference year of 1951, there were eight members of the Council of Twelve giving their full time to the service of the Church. There were two Apostles, who, while under Conference appointment, drew no allowance from the Church, but labored as "circumstances may permit," and there were two who were inactive. Apostle W. F. Jordan, of Viceroy, Canada, who because of ill health had not been able to assume the responsibility of his Apostolic Office, sent in his resignation from his Apostleship to the 1951 Conference; however, since this did not reach the Conference till after adjournment, and his appointment to labor had already been provided for, this resignation was not acted upon till the recent conference in April, 1952, when with deep regret, the Council and the Conference gave him honorable release from this responsibility, wishing him God's blessing in whatever undertaking he may be able to engage, feeling confident that, whenever, and wherever, the opportunity shall occur, he shall be blessed in the defense of the truth.

Apostle Thomas E. Barton, of Hayden, Colorado, whose wife suffered a very severe heart attack some years ago, has not been actively engaged in Church work, being closely tied to the care of his wife and the opening of a coal mine from which he expects to receive the means to more effectively serve the Church. However, Bro. Barton did assist in the Grand Junction, Colorado reunion last year, doing his part to make it a success and a power for good to the Church and to all those who were fortunate enough to be in attendance.

Apostle T. J. Jordan, of Regina, Sask, Canada, who has labored under Conference appointment, as "circumstances may permit" as missionary in charge of the European Mission, also Western Canada, has been quite actively engaged, extending his activities into Iowa, and Minnesota, as well as to his Canadian field. He has also been in touch with the Saints in Wales, and we are glad we can report that, under his direction in South Wales, the work there has taken on a much more healthy attitude and shows progress with new forces working for the upbuilding of the Church in the European Mission.

Apostle William Sheldon, who associated with Apostle B. C. Flint to labor in Wisconsin and Apostle A. M. Smith in Missouri, "as circumstances may permit", has been a very active missionary. Besides his appointment as a missionary, he has also been the editor of Zion's Advocate for the past two years; he has given of his time and efforts in the field in and around Independence, Missouri, as well as his vacation in Wisconsin.

Apostle William Anderson, the Senior member of the Council of Twelve, was in his field and quite active, according to the report he made to the Conference until sickness brought him home. As we all know, Bro. Anderson was quite sick, but by April he

had gained some of his old strength and was able to take his place and his share of the responsibility of the Conference.

Apostle James E. Yates covered his field, although it is a large field and requires much traveling; he made many contacts with the scattered saints and also many visits to those who, while they accept the work of the Restoration, are not members of the Church of Christ. Brother James, like Bro. Anderson, and Bro. Flint and others, complain of the difficulty to find places to hold meetings or get people interested enough to listen. Brother Yates was not able to be present at Conference, owing to the condition of Sister Yates who had recently undergone a major operation, and had not recovered sufficiently for him to leave, so the Conference missed his jovial comradeship, and worthy counsel.

Apostle Leon A. Gould, who had been appointed to labor in Michigan and the Northeastern states, reported he had not covered much of his field, being engaged in caring for the needs of the field where the heresy of the One-Person-Godhead was causing so much trouble. However, he reports that "the work in Michigan is making progress, in spite of the adversary"; that following the Reunion at Hopkinsburg, seven were added to the fold, also others were added at Wyandotte and Flint, Michigan. Brother Gould stresses the great need of the church for men qualified as shepherds, to take care of the small groups and thus relieve the missionary to go other places and open the work. Besides the caring of this field, Bro. Gould spent several weeks and many nights reviewing the manuscript for the Church of Christ history.

Apostle R. R. Robertson found many opportunities to talk the gospel to people who were not of the Restoration faith, and he found them very much interested and is hopeful of much good coming from these contacts. He was permitted to baptize "A father, mother, and a son of the Cherokee Indian Nation, and feels that many more are soon to follow. He covered his field filling every opportunity that was offered; Bro. Robertson's field is another large one, covering all the Southeast States and two or three of the Western States, including Colorado; the Saints are few and very much scattered.

Apostle B. C. Flint's health improving, he was able to go to his field soon after Conference closed; he made his usual trips to the scattered saints in his field, reports a "very successful season". He was enabled to baptize some, and the crowning event of the year was the Reunion at Lima Center, Wisconsin, where much joy and happiness was experienced in the association of the saints and the spiritual good to all that attended.

Apostle C. L. Wheaton, our missionary to the Indians, reports a very active year; he worked among the Navajos of the Southwest, the Six Nations up in Canada, the Tuscaroras in New York, and the Zapatecans and Mayans in Old Mexico. He has distributed many tracts and Books of Mormon, several hundred of our Articles of Faith and Practice, translated and published in Spanish. Bro. Wheaton reports great interest among the Indians of Old Mexico. However, he was not permitted to do any baptizing, since the laws of

Mexico will not permit a foreign-born minister to officiate in this kind of work. He established several local Sunday Schools, where they will be able to study the Bible and Book of Mormon. Bro. Wheaton also spent quite some time working on the manuscript history of the church.

Apostle Don Housknecht, associated with Bro. Leon A. Gould, spent his year in caring for the work in Michigan. In his itemized report, he states his work in such a way that one knows full well he was quite busy. He, too, states that in spite of the opposition in that trouble spot of the vineyard that "progress was made this year in Michigan." Bro. Housknecht also emphasizes the need of local men to care for the small groups, thus relieving the missionary for new openings.

Apostle A. M. Smith: My report would be very much as those we have already made. We were able to do a little good, visiting all points in my field except one, which we knew was being cared for by men of the ministry within my field. There has been some increase in this field (Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska), and a very decided improvement throughout the field in a general way. We have been helped much in this work by the local men of the ministry, especially has this been true of the excellent support and teamwork of the ministry at Independence, Missouri. Besides this, I was enabled to visit Colorado, Montana and Minnesota, sowing the good seed as we went, trusting God to send the refreshing rain that a harvest might be reaped to the good of God's work. My time, too, has been taken up with the reviewing of the history manuscript.

In giving this digest of the work of the Apostles through the year, we feel that it would be unfair if I should fail to make mention of another group of earnest workers for the Master, whose influence and assistance to the Apostles, in their work, can not be estimated in number of converts, neither can the influence to the general good of the church be measured or repaid, by words of mere commendation. This group is the wives of the Apostles. Nearly everyone of the Apostles now takes his wife with him, and were it not for her contribution to the traveling expenses, many, many times "Ye Missionary" would be stranded by the wayside, and many a sick Saint would not receive the blessing of administration by the Elders. Many a faithful one, isolated and alone, needing the encouraging word of cheer, would fail to receive that word were it not for that intimate conversation in the kitchen between the Apostle's wife and the lonely, isolated saint. The Apostle needs the companionship and the counsel of his wife, and the help he receives from that meager allowance which she guards so faithfully.

A close study of this report, I hope, will stimulate interest in the work we are all earnestly engaged in; the work of the Master. A change has taken place, and the work of the missionary becomes more difficult since there are so few places where the word can be preached. We should all realize that all the responsibility of missionary work does not rest upon any one group in the church, since the Lord has spoken in these latter days and said: "And again; I say unto you, I give unto you a commandment, that every man both

elder, priest, teacher and also member, go to with his might, with the labor of his hands, to prepare and accomplish the things which I have commanded."—Book of Commandments 40. And so the burden is laid on all to the upbuilding of Zion, the establishing of the everlasting kingdom of God.

Respectfully,

ARTHUR M. SMITH
Secretary, Council of Twelve

AN APPEAL FOR HELP! !

204 West Sea Avenue
Independence, Missouri

April 17, 1952

To the Membership of the
Church of Christ, (Temple Lot)
Scattered Abroad

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The General Conference of 1952 is now history. Those whom you have appointed to carry on the work of the Lord in the various parts of his vineyard have begun to take stock and prepare for their work for the coming year.

In spite of inclement weather, and other factors, we are happy to state that we have had a fairly good conference and that much good has been accomplished for the onward progress of the work. We are sending forth more of the servants of the Lord this year; we have a manuscript history ready to put into the hands of the Board of Publication for printing; calls are coming from many quarters for greater missionary activities, and men have been chosen to new fields of responsibilities, which will require the moral and spiritual, as well as material support, of every member of the Church of Christ. **These men all need your help.**

Among others who have been given a task which is great is the author of this letter to you. As you know, Sister Angela Wheaton and I have spent a great deal of our time and efforts in the foreign field of Old Mexico the last two years. Many of you have thrilled to the reports of our activities as we have illustrated them to you by the use of visual aid in the form of slide lectures; through the columns of the Advocate; and the relating of our experiences as we have come among you.

In order to bring you this most interesting story, and evidences in support of the Book of Mormon, supplied by the archeology of the area we have labored in, we have travelled jungle trails, through fever infested country, and had to partake of food and water at times which has been unwholesome. Added to this we have had to accustom ourselves to strange people, with strange ways and a strange language. Yet we have had great joy in this service to the Master, and do not relate these things because we murmur or complain. God has been good to us. The people of the Lord, through their generosity and prayers have likewise been good to us, with the result that we were able to give an encouraging report of our labors to the conference.

We have labored among the Indian people in Canada, the United States and Mexico, including Yucatan. In Yucatan we have effected three Sunday Schools where most of the people of these villages have requested that our church be established in their midst. Baptisms, however, at the present time, can only be performed by native born Mexican ministers. Many are being converted to the Restoration Gospel, turning from the Catholic religion and taking their idols and altars out of their homes and begging for the Book of Mormon and Bible in Spanish. In some of the places, the priest advised his people to chase us out—so far there has been no attempt made to do so. They are anxious for us to return to their midst again, and if it be the will of God for us to do so, we expect to go back after a season of labors among the Lamanites in the United States. During the time we were in Mexico we presented the Book of Mormon to the head of the Museum of Archeology at Merida, Yucatan, also to the head of the National Museum of Archeology and Anthropology at Mexico City. They had never heard of this book before in either place, and were greatly interested when we pointed out places in it which told of the great civilizations of the past of which the many ruined cities there bear mute evidence. In both instances, the Book of Mormon was received with gratitude. We have scattered the story of the Book of Mormon over the full length of Mexico during the last two years. Through all this experience, we have been moved upon by the command of God—"Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," etc., and as promised the "signs follow" and we have been made to rejoice when these promises have been verified.

Now, another conference year is before us. The Macedonian call for missionary work in our field comes from many places. To answer these calls we need help. Your Help! Your Prayers! Your Moral Support! And especially, we need your financial support so that our work will not be hampered. In Yucatan we need tracts, Bibles and Books of Mormon printed in the Spanish language. We also need funds to travel to our fields, part of it by ship to foreign ports. We need funds for the purpose of carrying relief supplies to the aged and unfortunate among the Indian people with whom the church has appointed us to labor. In this labor for the Master, there is work for each of us to do. Like the other missionaries of the church we have arranged our affairs so that our time will be at the disposal of the church. We too had good paying jobs, and happy family ties, and the comforts of home when the day's work was done. But realizing that every man and woman in the church is not called "to go into all the world and preach the gospel", we have left these things behind, trusting in God and the people of his church to supply that which we cannot supply ourselves. It is at this point that you can use the talent that God has given you, in promoting the missionary work of the church; remembering this, that no war is won by the soldiers on the front line alone. But when they are backed by the loyal army of workers behind the lines, who supply the moral and material needs of the army, with enough and on time, these soldiers can press on to victory and glorious achievement.

Therefore, brothers and sisters of the Church of Christ, you are just as much a part of the missionary force as the men on the front line. We ARE AT WAR! ! At war against sin and wickedness! Against Satan and all his legions! And that "great and abominable church." So as one of the soldiers of Christ behind the front line, you can help keep the supplies coming. If you are not paying tithes, then why not resolve to start now? If you are not making your free-will offerings, why not do it now? For the Lord has said, "bring all the tithes into my storehouse, that there may be meat in my house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."—III Nephi 11:13-14.

If you are not doing your part, then by what right have you to glory in those things which others accomplish? If you tell the news of the good things your missionaries have done to your neighbor, and therein get a thrill or lift of the spirit of God in telling it, can you at the same time find joy that **you** helped accomplish this task by your tithes and offerings? If you cannot, then by what virtue should you boast?

As we said before, we need your help. We need sufficient funds to make it possible for others to give their full time as missionaries among the Lamanites. If you want the work among the Lamanites to continue, we pray that you will keep the supplies coming up to the front lines through your tithes and offerings sent in to the General Bishopric at regular intervals. Our work this far has been accomplished as the result of the generosity of the saints, either through direct donations to us, or through the Bishops, and a personal sacrifice of several hundred dollars of our personal funds not accruing from church sources. We have appreciated your generosity, and in faith go forth on our mission for another year, believing that as it has been in the past, so it will be in the future—our needs will be supplied. May the Lord bless each of you for your giving.

Most sincerely, your brother in Christ,
CLARENCE L. WHEATON
Apostle to the American Indians

"THESE SIGNS SHALL FOLLOW THEM THAT BELIEVE"—JESUS

Upon date of February 12, 1952, Sister Irene F. Yates, companion of Apostle James E. Yates, of California, after much prayerful consideration, became convinced that she should submit to surgery of the breast for potential cancer, and entered the hospital.

Upon date of February 13th, she underwent the major operation. The surgery covered a period of **four hours**, removing the entire right breast, together with under-arm tissue as far around as to the shoulder-blade, to the back. The surgeon, Dr. Howard C. Smith, is a man of prayer and of faith also, and feels sure that with the larger cancerous tumor, and the several smaller ones, with their rootlets, removed, that the surgery was a success made possible by the Superior Power of the grace of God.

The Church throughout, including many faithful souls offered prayers in her behalf.

She was released from the hospital on February 22, to the care of her daughter, Mrs. Myrtle Earl. Myrtle gave to her mother faithful care for nearly four weeks. At about time for the writer to start back to our General Conference of the Church of Christ, Sister Yates returned to our home; but as it was still necessary for someone to be with her daily for a while, I abandoned my plans to attend the Conference, and remained to care for my worthy companion. By the blessings of the Lord, in whose blessings she has been graciously sustained from the first, the terrible wound healed rapidly, until last week she went with me upon a long journey of missionary driving, covering some five days of travel. For the manifest power of God in this rapid progress toward complete recovery, we accord the praise.

Yet Another Testimony

While Irene was at her daughter's home, we received alarming word of a near tragic accident, at Phoenix, Arizona. My son, Elder Hubert A. Yates, was working on the hoof of a wild horse (as we got the story), with a file in his hand. In some way, the file snapped and was broken, and a heavy sliver of the steel imbedded itself in one of his eyes to such a depth that the eye fluid ran out upon his cheek. He went to an eye specialist, and the doctor found that the steel had penetrated the eyeball so deeply that it could not be extricated with forceps. Learning of this, I drove the four hundred miles to Phoenix, immediately, to be with my son, in his distress, and to pray with him. The doctor succeeded in getting the steel out with a magnet. The eye was then bandaged, and later when the doctor deemed it proper to remove the bandages, he expressed his fears, as to what he expected to have to tell all, when the bandage had been removed. But, **praise be to God**, when the bandage had been taken off, **the injured eye could see!**

It was a happy astonishment to the doctor, and to all. Then before I left Phoenix for the return trip to San Diego, I requested of my son, that he show to me exactly the condition of the injured eye. He put his hand over his good eye, and **with the injured eye, read the titles on the backs of the books in the bookcase, across the room from where we were!**

Seeing that proof and demonstration, I took the long drive home alone, but joyously happy, and with my heart filled with thanksgiving and praise, as I contemplated anew, the words of Jesus our Lord, when he said: "And these signs shall follow them that believe."

With humble testimony to His marvelous power, Sincerely, your brother, in the Gospel faith "Once delivered to the saints,"

JAMES E. YATES

(The following incident was previously reported by Bro. Yates, together with the mishaps described above, but conditions for publication have not been favorable until now.—W.A.S.).

Where Life Upon Earth Proceeds, We Are All Subject To Distressing Incidents Which Often Come Unheralded.

And throughout all, if God be not our soul's spiritual stay—**We Have None!**

Immediately following the visit to Phoenix, to pray with Hubert, a phone call from the home of my eldest daughter, Ruth Yates Willard in northern Arizona, south of Flagstaff, informed us of an auto accident there which had put three of them in the hospital.

My daughter, Evalena Campbell, and grandson, Bob Willard, and I prepared at once, leaving Phoenix, to drive up to Sedona, answering our heart's love-call, to see the sufferers there, who in the light of one gladsome morning, had, before the day's end, and after leaving portions of their own blood upon the highway, found some shadows of a different density, there in the hospital—a different density than the mere absence of plain sunlight.

We arrived shortly after dark at the hospital in Cottonwood—some hundred and fifty, or more, miles north from Phoenix.

We found two of our dear ones, in one room of the hospital; our Ruth, and her daughter, Donna and later the Grandmother Willard in another room.

Ruth's injuries were the worst, though not discovered by her, till after she had made arrangements for them to be brought to the hospital, and for the wrecked car to be taken to the insurance people. She then discovered that her foot appeared to be almost broken off, at the ankle. By her pressure of the hand upon the injury, the ankle snapped back into place. But the ligaments are so torn and strained, that it is likely that she will need her ankle in a cast for some time.

Donna Willard Moser, my granddaughter, we found to be so bandaged about the head and face that she could not converse with us, except by nod, or gesture. The prayers of administration were offered, and good results began to appear at once.

The prayers of anointing and of administration bring a Spiritual presence into the sick room, which is most effective above all—an effective prevelance not equalled by any other spirit or substance, as **an Over-All Condition** to make potent for healings and for recovery. Other agencies may supplement for good; but **none excels God's way.**

Our dear Grandmother Willard's injury, was that of a strained back, in a lameness almost chronic. Her soul was also in accord with the prayers. Thus she participated in the benefits. Every right prayer for the sick or injured, is beneficial, as God sees, and knows, even though in His superior wisdom, all which the prayers may plead for, may not be granted.

The point of the accident upon the highway, was some ten miles up toward the mountains from Cottonwood, on the river.

Donna, who is a good driver, was at the wheel. Her little girl had climbed over from the back, into the front seat. She stood up in the seat, (as I understand it), and then suddenly jumped into her mother's arms, causing the mother to lose control of the car. The car struck against the railing of a bridge, flattening a wheel, with bent or broken axle, side down on the

road. It struck, then bounced back, and back, and back, across the bridge, the **fourth time in all**, before coming to a stop. If the same thing had happened before entering the bridge, or after leaving it, it appears quite unlikely that any could have survived.

In the midst of such distressing events, we are thankful to God for that; as well as for His power and blessing to those stricken afterward. In all such cases, all should remember, however, that while we are in the midst of life in this present world and surrounded by death, all about us, all such temporary escapes as these, are in fact but brief postponements of the final experience wherein all of us must at last, pass through the somber doors between the present in time, and the future in eternity, and which gates are poised upon feather-weight hinges; and standing there awaiting the entrance of each and all of us, at whatever time the benign and all-wise Ruler over all, shall determine for each and every one of us. None can win anything for ourselves, by trying to blink that fact. For all facts witness that **GOD IS**, and that His decrees for us all, are **UNCHALLENGEABLE**, from the dim viewpoints of our **very short**, and our **very imperfect sight**.

"Let us then be up, and doing,
With a heart for any fate;
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labor—and to wait."

—Longfellow

This true narrative, humbly related to the Church of Christ, and for all our most careful, and prayerful meditations.

JAMES E. YATES

Because of the bulk of Conference material, Independence Items along with some of the notices was crowded out last month.—Editor.

INDEPENDENCE NEWS

March came in like a lion here in Independence. We all enjoyed the soft snow that greeted us Sunday morning, but when it began to come down so fast and thick the next day, we didn't appreciate it nearly as much. With the snow between six and ten inches deep and beginning to drift, Sr. Mildred Wheaton was kept busy on the telephone for about four hours as many of us called there to check on those caught in the traffic jams as they came home from work.

The first Tuesday of the month, we had our semi-annual election of officers. Bro. LeRoy Wheaton was re-elected pastor, while Bro. Forest Maley is again secretary and Bro. Maynard Case is custodian. Bro. Richard Wheaton replaced Bro. Leslie Case as treasurer.

Bro. William Sheldon led a panel discussion with Brethren Wm. Anderson and B. C. Flint on the history and beliefs of the church the first Sunday night. Bro. Anderson was the speaker in the morning of the second Sunday. He took as his text the words from one of our hymns.

Bro. Richard Wheaton followed him that night with the 24th chapter of Matthew as his text. He used clippings from newspapers and radio quotations to show the fulfillment of most of the list in that chapter.

On March 15, Bro. Joseph Yates used as his subject, the second great commandment. Bro. Bert Cooper con-

(Continued on page 96)

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

We solicit articles for this department written in an affirmative manner. An affirmative article is one in which a premise is established, and evidences presented to support that premise. In all controversial articles, contributors will be required to observe the rules of decorum established by parliamentary rules governing deliberative assemblies.

ONWARD TO ZION

We have just commemorated the anniversary of an event which had its beginning one hundred and twenty-two years ago.

I speak of the restoration of the authority from God to set up and establish His church and to teach the Gospel that Jesus Christ taught and demonstrated.

In the three and one half years of Christ's ministry there was unfolded to the people of that day and recorded for our benefit by the writers and historians that we might Spiritually enjoy the same things that they not only Spiritually but physically enjoyed, by having physical contact with Him.

I wonder, were Jesus physically with us today, if we would reject Him as the Elders, Rulers, Priests and Teachers of Israel did.

I have often thought that if those people, seeing Him and talking to Him in person and even were eye witness to many of the miracles that He performed yet still rejected Him, how much the more had we, not being eye witnesses but only spiritual witnesses, pay the more earnest heed to our manner of living and demonstrate the joy and pride that should be ours, being the very people chosen by Him to proclaim His gospel, the very people chosen by Him to become the instruments in His hands to bring salvation to the souls of men now walking in darkness yet searching for the "light" that should be in us.

Therefore, with this thought in mind, let us make a check of ourselves to see if we can be justly proud of our achievements in the past one hundred and twenty-two years.

It is true that if our forefathers failed, we could not be blamed for their shortcomings, but we should remember that "My word shall not pass away, but shall be fulfilled." (Book of Commandments 1:7) And the Lord said further, "I excuse not myself for what I have spoken."

Knowing this then, what excuse do we offer for our failure (surely you can't believe that we have "done all, to stand". Eph. 6:13) to demonstrate to the world that we are that "peculiar people that should show forth the praises of Him who has called you out of darkness, into His marvelous light."—I Peter 2:9?

Let us see if we can bring to mind any of the instructions from the Lord given to us in these latter days, for the specific purpose of teaching us how to **put into operation in our day**, the same wonderful Gospel of Christ as He proclaimed it at Jerusalem and how to establish His kingdom on earth, the building up of Zion that shall not be thrown down.

Mind you, we are trying to point out the things that we have **left undone**, for we well know that when we stand before God to be judged, that we will not only

be punished for the things that we should have done, but left undone, but also the things that we did do but did not do well.

It is not my intention to try and point out which is the lesser of the two evils, commission or omission, but to be guilty of either is bad enough.

Now then, let us point out a few of the instructions that the Lord has given to us that **we have not put into operation**.

Chapter 1 of the Book of Commandments, the seventh verse says, "Search these commandments for they are true and faithful, and the prophecies and promises which are in them **shall be fulfilled**." And remember that God's word shall not return to Him void.

Before the church was organized and God was calling men that He might use in the establishing of His church, we find that **a part of their commission** was to "bring forth and establish the cause of Zion."

If you were to ask anyone who is a member of the Restoration—What is Zion? They would answer—Zion is the pure in heart. This, we agree is true and therefore we must understand that Zion is a "condition" that we have to be in, to live in the Zion, **that we hope to be able to establish, as a place** of refuge, a land of peace.

"And it shall be called the New Jerusalem, a land of peace, a city of refuge, a place of safety for the saints of the most high God; and the glory of the Lord shall be there, and the terror of the Lord shall also be there, insomuch that the wicked will not come unto it: **And it shall be called Zion:**" Book of Commandments, Chapter 48:59-61.

We shall refer to this again later, but you can see now that there are commandments that the Lord has given that **we have neglected** to obey.

I regret that our forefathers before us failed to keep this commandment and others, but I hope that we today will not be found guilty but shall "seek the Lord while He may be found."

Neither can we say—They have failed to obey the commandment, so that makes it null and void. The time is past when we can say—another day! or "Let George do it" or it's not meant for us, but for someone of the future, because, there is **not much future**, and we only have to look at the time and conditions under which we are living to prove to ourselves that the Lord will not tolerate the wicked and sinful condition that the world is now "enjoying". Sodom and Gomorrah were sissies compared to this nation today.

If we are concerned as we should be, about the general welfare of our children and ourselves, this means physically, materially, and spiritually, then we must take into consideration the **environment** under which we are living.

If we are to be physically strong, we will naturally do things to **protect** our body, will **guard** against those things that would cause us to become weak, for if we are weak physically, then we naturally can't supply the material things we need and then we, as we say sometimes—"get down in the dumps" spiritually and all because we have not sought **protection** or set up a **guard** against such a thing happening to us.

This is good reasoning.

Now then, how about this **environment**. That is, our surroundings, conditions, and influences that are daily shaping our lives, more so the lives of our children. A good parent tries to shape and influence their child's life to a great extent, by the pattern they set by their own way of living. And too, they have to occasionally sit down with the child and explain things and reason with them why this should be or should not be. And why does the good parent do this? Why, of course, for the **child's "protection"**, and set up a **"guard"** around the child that it will not be influenced by the conditions surrounding it in this vile and sinful world.

If you will read again something on the last page of the March 1952, Advocate, you will see what I mean by, "vile and sinful world". "Did you Know?" Well, if not, I can give you a lot more. It is a fact that the late 'teens and early twenties appear to be the ages with the greatest tendency toward crime. In one year's time, prostitution by girls **under** twenty-one increased 12.6%. And crime is keeping on the upward swing at the rate of 5.1% increase **every six months**.

Now, I hope you can see what I mean by the **environment** that we are living under today, we and our children.

How can we ever be satisfied to live under such influences and conditions when there is **another way**—a way that God has told us can be ours if we but obey his commandments. Yes, dear people, one of the commandments we have not followed, one of the things we have **left undone**.

And to think that **preparation on our part** will lead us away from the sinful environment that under present living conditions **cannot be avoided**.

I say that they can't be avoided, but I should say we can't change these sinful conditions any more than a leopard can change his spots, for as God spoke through Paul to Timothy, saying, "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, unholy, without natural affection, truce breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God; having a form of Godliness, but denying the power thereof: **From such turn away.**"—II Timothy 3:1-5.

Then if we believe in God's word, as we have quoted, why should we waste our time, trying to change the leopard's spots.

But don't you believe that the Lord would be the

more pleased with us if were found the rather doing those things that will bring about the establishment of Zion, **the only place** that will afford us safety, peace and security, far and away from the environments that can and will destroy our will to serve God.

If the Lord has provided a way whereby **we can avoid** these things that are leading our children away from God, why should we then "procrastinate the day of our salvation" any longer.

Being concerned, you, no doubt, will ask—what can I do to help?

I would like for you to turn to the 29th chapter of the Book of Commandments where we find some things that we should consider.

"**Listen** to the voice of Jesus Christ, your Redeemer, the Great I Am, whose arm of mercy hath atoned for your sins; **Who will gather his people** as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, **even as many as will hearken to my voice**, and humble themselves before me, and call upon me in mighty prayer." The Lord is pointing out to six elders of His church, the commission unto which they have been appointed, namely: 8th verse—"And ye are called to bring to pass the **gathering of mine elect**, for mine elect hear my voice and harden not their hearts: Wherefore the decree hath gone forth from the Father, that they shall be **gathered into one place**, upon the face of this land, to **prepare their hearts**, and **be prepared in all things, against the day** when tribulation and desolation are sent forth upon the wicked: For the hour is nigh, and the day is soon at hand, when the earth is ripe."

Let us be warned further against putting off 'till another day! On page 65 of Chapter 40, Book of Commandments, is this warning given:" Behold, this I have given unto you a parable, and it is even as I am, I say unto you, be one; and if ye are not one, ye are not mine. And again I say unto you, that the enemy in the secret chambers, seeketh your lives: Ye hear of wars in far countries, and you say in your hearts there will soon be wars in far countries, **but ye know not the hearts of them in your own land**: I tell you these things because of your prayers: Wherefore, treasure up wisdom in your bosoms, lest the wickedness of men reveal these things unto you, by their wickedness, in a manner which shall speak in your ears, with a voice louder than that which shall shake the earth: **But if ye are prepared, ye shall not fear.**"

In this same commandment they were told to go to **the Ohio** and "there I will give unto you my law."

We find that on reaching this point that this law was given thus, on page 71, Chapter 40, Book of Commandments.

Here we are told, that the elders appointed, were to build up the church in the regions westward, (Missouri-Kansas line being farthest western line) and there it would be revealed to them when the city "New Jerusalem shall be prepared that ye **may be gathered in one.**" As we read more of this commandment on page 73, we find something that if obeyed, **will change our entire manner of living** because it affects not only our material but our spiritual lives as well.

It is upon this clause, of the commandment, that the success or failure of our being able to establish the New Jerusalem, hinges. Remember the young man that came to Jesus to ask the way of salvation? He asked, "What lack I yet?" and when Jesus told him, "**He turned away sorrowful.**" Are we going to do likewise because we are not willing to "consecrate"? How many times have you sung the "Consecration" Hymn? Did you not sing—"Lord accept the **humble Consecration of our lives, our talents** to thy cause!"

Only hypocrites sing this song and don't mean it.

Now I quote this "hard saying", "If thou lovest me, thou shalt serve me and keep **all my commandments**; and behold, thou shalt consecrate all thy properties, etc., etc.—and the residue shall be kept in my storehouse to administer to the poor and needy, as shall be appointed by the elders of the church and the bishops for the purpose of purchasing lands, and the building up of the New Jerusalem, which is hereafter to be revealed; that my covenant people may be gathered in one, in the day that I shall come to my temple: and this I do **for the salvation** of my people."

I'll grant you that to do this requires a lot of faith, first in God and then, man.

Right now we haven't much faith in man, have we? At least, we can show our faith in God to the extent that we can ask Him to work within the hearts of "the elders", that they, too, may prove worthy of your trust, that you may not be withheld from receiving your inheritance in Zion.

As we continue to study this 44th chapter of the Book of Commandments, we find on page 75 we are told to "ask and it shall be revealed unto you in my own due time where the New Jerusalem shall be built. And behold, it shall come to pass, that my servants shall be sent both to the east, to west, to the north, and, to the south; and even now let him that goeth to the east, teach them that shall be converted to flee to the west; and this **in consequence of that which is to come on the earth**, and of secret combinations. "The laws which ye have received, and shall hereafter receive, shall be sufficient for you both here, and in the New Jerusalem."

We refer back to the example we gave of how we do everything we can to **protect** our physical body from disease and ills and that which saps our strength. Now let us see what promise the Lord holds out to us in the way of **protection** for this body—His Church. Let us see if there isn't something that by obeying His commands to establish Zion and the New Jerusalem, that will give us protection for this body, His church, against the "perilous times" that shall come on the earth.

Turn now to chapter 48, Book of Commandments, page 87. Here we are told that we will "hear of wars in foreign lands, but behold I say unto you that they are nigh even unto your doors, and not many years hence ye shall hear of wars **in your own lands**. Wherefore I, the Lord, have said gather ye out from the eastern lands, assemble ye yourselves together ye elders of my church; Go ye forth into the western countries, call upon the inhabitants to repent, and in-

as much as they do repent, build up churches unto me; and with one heart and one mind, gather up your riches that ye may purchase an inheritance which shall hereafter be appointed unto you, and it shall be called the New Jerusalem, a **land of peace, a city of refuge, a place of safety** for the saints of the most high God; and the glory of the Lord shall be there, and the terror of the Lord also shall be there, insomuch that **the wicked will not come unto it**: And it shall be called Zion: and it shall come to pass, among the wicked, that every man that will not take up his sword against his neighbor, must needs flee unto Zion for safety, etc., and it shall be said among the wicked, let us not go up to battle against Zion, for the inhabitants of Zion are terrible: Wherefore we cannot stand."

Just where in all the revealed word of God can you find greater promises for the protection of the people, the "body", His church?

For one hundred and seventeen years the commandment given to establish Zion has laid unused and no pretense has been made to teach that it was a part of our responsibility today to "seek to establish Zion." Too long have our people believed that Zion was a "condition" only and not a "place". Zion is both a "condition" and a "place", and it must first be established as a "condition", that is, "the Pure in Heart"; then and only then can we establish Zion the "Place."

So then let us without putting it off any longer, establish Zion in our hearts, that we might be that "peculiar people" whose hearts truly are pure and thereby prove to the Lord that we are the people that He can use to bring to pass His early covenants. Inasmuch as we are "eternally indebted to God", let us start paying our debt. Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter.

It is not for you and me to say when we may be able to do all this, but it is enough for us to know that we should begin as of now to prove to God that we believe His word by being **doers** of His word. There is no time to waste, we must do it now, or another people will be raised up who will obey, and thereby receive the inheritance that could have been ours.

Again in the Book of Commandments on page 91, chapter 51, "It must needs be necessary, that ye save all the money that ye can, and that ye obtain all that ye can in righteousness, that in time we may be enabled to purchase lands for an inheritance, even the city."

Now read the 54th chapter, Book of Commandments, for here is made known the place "which I will consecrate unto my people." Read also the 59th chapter, for herein is given counsel concerning the gathering that it not be made in haste, also provision is made for the dedication of the "spot of the temple". Warning is also given in the 64th chapter **not to be hasty**, that there be no confusion. Apparently this warning was the only one taken to heart, for so far one hundred and twenty-one years have passed since this commandment was given and **it has not been done yet**.

If the Lord was as slow answering our requests as we are in answering His requests, we would be a rather discouraged people.

Now, finally, we ask you to **read** and **study** and ask wisdom of God concerning this very important and vital question.

We ask you to read now the last instruction in the Book of Commandments, chapter 65 on page 127 from the 37th to the end, and we quote a part, thus, "Behold the Lord requireth the heart and a willing mind; and the willing and obedient shall eat the good of the land of Zion in these last days."

I pray to God for the "body", His Church, which "body" we are, that we will accept His offer to "protect" us by keeping His commandments in mind and doing our best to obey them.

Your humble servant,

DON W. HOUSKNECHT

WITH THE CHURCH IN AN EARLY DAY

Chapter 16

There is another phase of this matter which should receive its due share of attention. "The net cast into the sea gathers of all kind," and with the guilty the innocent have always had to suffer. It would be no difficult matter to understand that one wrong act seen through a medium so distorted as the flying rumors set afloat by prejudice, hate, and a determination to drive the saints out of the State, could easily be multiplied into many. To this must be added the most malicious falsehoods which it would seem possible for men of corrupt minds to fabricate, or others like-minded to believe.

That further on, there came a time when the spirit of retaliation, or rendering evil for evil, crept into the church, we do not know, and where this spirit exists there is no room for the Spirit of him who said, "But I say unto you, render not evil for evil." But to return to our narrative.

We have seen in the affair at Gallatin that the trouble arose from the fact that the brethren wished to exercise the rights of free-men, and when attacked by a mob, resisted that attack. Had they rejected the counsel of the civil authorities and refused to return to their homes peaceably, there would have been some show of excuse for calling them aggressors, but because they did not stand by and see a mob abuse and even kill their brethren, can any conscientious Christian man charge them with wrong? They had been base cowards to have done this, and we don't believe that cowardice and Christianity are compatible. It would, however, have been wisdom if no reply had been made when the ruffian denied the right of the brethren to vote; but whether a collision could have been avoided by that means is doubtful.

What a lesson may be learned from the fact of the truth, unwittingly uttered by each party, and through what seas of blood the nation waded to the demonstration of the first, "No more right to vote than the Negro." If, indeed, it be true that certain inalienable rights belong to each individual, they can not be denied because of color, but it may yet be necessary to demonstrate the fact that a certain amount of education to enable the individual to exercise those

rights intelligently is necessary for the perpetuation of a free government. For ourselves, we believe it is so.

Two days after the affair at Gallatin, a wagon stopped at the gate of Daniel's home, and a man rapped at the door. When Daniel opened it, he found a cousin of Margery's there and learned that he had barely escaped with his life, after his wife had been dragged from their house with an infant two days old in her arms. They had carried her out on the bed and then set fire to the house. As soon as they saw their fiendish work completed, they had hurried on to the next dwelling. In their haste they had forgotten to set fire to the stable, so creeping out of the bushes where he had been concealed, he harnessed his horses and lifting his wife into the wagon, he covered her as best he could and brought her with him.

Margery's cheeks grew pale as she listened, but silently she prepared a bed, while Daniel went with Clayton, her cousin, to bring his wife into the house.

Tenderly and with all the skill in her power, Margery cared for the poor mother and her babe. Many were the thoughts surging through her mind as she strove to cheer and infuse new courage into the heart of the despondent one.

Not a day passed without bringing tidings of some fresh outrage, and one afternoon two of the brethren stopped at the door who had escaped from the hands of the mob after having been tied up and whipped until their backs were raw and their clothing dripping with blood. They had been torn away from their families and dared not return to learn their fate.

Chapter 17

It was early in the fall of 1838 that Daniel stood by the gate of his cottage in conversation with a gentleman who had reined in his horse and seemed much interested in the subject they were discussing. Were we to venture the assertion that the troubles then existing between the brethren and the people of Missouri formed the theme of their conversation, we would not be wrong.

"I agree with you fully," continued General Doniphan, the gentleman referred to, "but your people, or most of them, hold peculiar views on this subject, and I am satisfied that your very forbearance has seemed to these lawless men an invitation to more desperate deeds. I make no profession of Christianity, but I think if I ever should, I would be a disciple of Paul."

"Paul suffered many cruel persecutions and thanked God that he was counted worthy to suffer them for Christ's sake," said Daniel.

"But at the same time he demanded his rights as a citizen of Rome, whenever it was likely to benefit him; refusing even to be taken from prison privately, but demanding that the magistrates who had punished him unlawfully should come and bring him out."

"The name of Rome was a terror to the rest of the world," said Daniel, as his mind took in the force of the argument.

"She knew at least how to protect her citizens in the

exercise of their rights," said General Doniphan, "and allowed no man to be punished until he was condemned by law. If this government does not examine into the merits of the trouble given your people, it will be to her lasting disgrace in the eyes of all right-minded, thinking men. There is always a time, come it sooner or later, when prejudice fades and truth stands forth, and if that time does not come in the history of Missouri, it will be an exception to the rule.

"I have noticed also that while your ministers counsel forbearance and the returning of good for evil, the most active men in inciting your enemies are men who are professors of religion. I learn that a certain Captain Bogart, a Methodist minister, is traveling among the people with no other purpose in view than to incite them to hostility against those of your faith.

"He assures them that the government will not interfere; and another preacher, a Presbyterian, I believe, by the name of Wood, did not scruple to offer as an inducement, that if your folks could be got rid of before the land sales come off, those who were there would be able to secure all the land they wanted."

"Has it never occurred to your mind to draw a parallel between this condition of things and those which existed in the days of Christ?" said Daniel. "Then it was the scribes, lawyers, and Pharisees who were constantly stirring up the minds of the people against him. The common people, for the most part, heard him gladly. 'The poor have the gospel preached to them,' was among the evidences with which he told the disciples of John to strengthen their master's faith. But when the blind leaders of the people came to him he never spared them.

"Their hypocrisy and falsehood were laid bare to the gaze of others and going away smarting under the lash of his justly merited rebukes, they sought revenge by striving to incite the people against him. These ministers have, on various occasions, been made to know that they were no match for our elders in argument.

"One by one they have been compelled to retreat from positions they deemed impregnable, and the result is that while they know we preach only the gospel of Christ, they blind the eyes of the ignorant, and spare no effort to make them think that we do not even believe in Christ; and while we hold no faith or form of doctrine which the Bible does not authorize and which we can not sustain by the Bible, they incite the minds of the people by crying, 'Joe Smith, Golden Bible,' etc. Truly it is time for Christians to stop and think when they discover that a church which in every respect has followed the pattern as given by Christ and his immediate followers so closely that it is not possible for them to show any difference, yet so widely does this church differ from any and all others now in existence, that they cry, 'A new religion—imposture—deception,' etc."

"I am free to admit that I have thought of these things, but if you will excuse me, the subject of your peculiar faith is not what most interests me. You may remember that when you went to the election at Liberty, I told you that were I in your place I would vote or die, and I confess to you that had I been in the place

of your people, I never would have accepted the proposition of being set off in a county by myself. Think of it! Free-born American citizens, sons of men who forsook all to gain a home where they might worship God according to the way of their belief, who bathed the land in their own blood, dedicating it to freedom and equal rights, consenting to treatment no better than that of Botany Bay convicts! I tell you, Clark, it makes my blood boil!"

"But, General," said Daniel, "did you not help in organizing this movement?"

"Not in organizing it, but when I saw that obtaining justice was hopeless and your people were willing, not only willing but anxious for it to be done, I helped in the movement, hoping that perchance they might leave you in peace. It was, however, a vain hope, and it will be the part of wisdom for your people to fill up the ranks of the militia and prepare to defend your homes without delay. Far West will not long be safe, for I learn that Captain Bogart with his patrols is scouting through the country, driving every family out of Daviess County and threatening to make Far West a visit soon. If he does not make his word good in this respect, it will be because he can not."

"I am well persuaded of the truth of this." Daniel answered, "but the race is not always to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, and yet God many times suffers the wicked, for the time being, to triumph; and I am satisfied that much trouble is before us."

"My parting advice to you is to do all in your power by way of preparing to defend your homes. It is not, bear it in mind, the Government you are resisting, but a lawless mob."

The next day after this conversation, Mr. Clark accompanied by Daniel and one of his brothers went to Far West and were duly enrolled in the State Militia. Daily the clouds of trouble thickened. Homeless and plundered fugitives continued to arrive, each having his own tale of wrongs to tell.

One evening late in October, Daniel came into the house, and finding Margery alone, he said:

"I am summoned to Far West, and the call is imperative, but I can not go and leave you here. I will saddle your horse and take you up to father's. It is nearer town and will be safer there."

For a moment Margery's heart seemed to stand still and her cheek paled to a deathly hue, but controlling herself with a powerful effort she said:

"Do you know why you have been summoned?"

"Yes, Margery, I will not deceive you. Word has reached Far West that Captain Bogart is marching upon us. He expects to be joined by Neil Gillium's band of outlaws, and it is the intention of our General to call for volunteers to meet him before he reaches the town."

There was no need for Margery to ask, "Will you join these volunteers?" for there was that in the face of Daniel which assured her that his resolution was taken, and hastily she put things in order for leaving home, lifting her heart in silent prayer to God for faith

and courage to meet the worst.

"Take a few extra garments with you," Daniel had said, "for it may be some time before we can return," and then he had pressed her close to his heart praying God to care for and shield her. Neither dared trust himself to speak, for fearful weight of forboding kept each silent.

We forgot to mention that Margery's cousin had only remained with them a few weeks until his wife was better and had then gone on to his father's, some four miles beyond, thus leaving her and Daniel alone. As Margery passed from room to room, despite her utmost efforts a dull, heavy pain was tugging at her heart and she could not silence the question coming again and again, "Shall we ever return?" Oh, how blessed and sweet seemed now the memory of the quiet hours passed beneath this roof; hours hallowed by the sweet interchange of soul communion and loving thoughts; hours of worship and praise to the Giver of all good, hours when the death-angel had drawn so near, only to be met by the power of Him who said, "Thus far shalt thou come and no farther." They would never come back, those sweetly vanished hours, and who could say, who could forecast the character of those to take their place? In spite of every effort to force them back tears gathered and fell on her cheeks, but she resolutely brushed them away, and tying on her bonnet went to the door, hoping Daniel would be there.

"Are you ready, Margery?" his voice called out of the darkness.

"Yes, I am coming," and hastily shutting the door, she turned the key in the lock and joined him at the gate.

Tenderly he assisted her into the saddle and carefully guided her horse until they were in the main road, when both increased their speed, glad that it was not possible for the other to know how heavy was the heart each bore away.

A short ride brought them to Mr. Clark's. He met them at the gate, and Daniel, dismounting, was going in when his father said;

"Do not wait for that, Daniel, let us hasten on."

"One moment, father, I must see mother just a moment."

"May God bless and keep you, my son, and bring you back in safety, for if I am bereft of either who goes forth tonight, I am bereft indeed," said Mrs. Clark.

"Mother," said Daniel, "be careful of Margery and cheer her up a bit, for she is doubly in need of comfort."

"I will do all in my power, Daniel."

"God bless you, mother, and don't forget to pray for us. Goodbye, one and all," and he hastened out into the darkness.

As he reached the gate, two clinging arms closed around his neck, and for a short moment Margery sobbed upon his bosom. It was but for a moment, however, for, raising her head, she steadied her voice,

saying, "I will be brave, Daniel, and let no thought of me unnerve your arm. The God who witnessed to us that he was the Author of this work, will not forsake you; and if life is demanded, the cause which is not worth dying for is not worth living for. Prayer will be made for you, unceasing prayer, and the will of God be done."

"It is hard to leave you at a time like this, Margery, but I can trust you that for my sake, for the sake of the hope we both so fondly cherish, you will be brave of heart and hopeful of spirit. Mother and Mary will both cheer you up. Poor mother, she too needs comforting, and in trying to cheer her, you will in a measure forget your own anxiety. Father is waiting. We will come back soon—good-bye."

One lingering embrace and Daniel tore himself away. Joining his father and brother, they were soon galloping briskly toward Far West. As they came near the town they were met by parties coming in from other directions, all pressing toward the public square where the muffled roll of the drum was calling them together.

Shortly after the arrival of Daniel and his father, the call was made for volunteers to make a rapid night march in order to meet the enemy before they should strike camp for their march upon Far West. Among the first to step forward were Mr. Clark, Daniel, and his brother. In a few moments the ranks were full, and the command was intrusted to Captain Patten.

Let it be remembered that George M. Hinkle was at that time a colonel in the State Militia, and was the highest in command at Far West when the news of Bogart's movements reached there. It was under his orders that Captain Patten and his men were acting.

The delay was brief, and soon, armed and equipped as best they could be, swiftly and silently they left the town, and after a long night ride over the prairie, just at the dawn of day they drew near to the supposed neighborhood of danger.

Here Patten dismounted and divided his men into three companies. Fastening their horses to a fence and leaving a few to guard them, they started to reconnoiter the premises of a Mr. Field, where they thought perhaps the mob might be encamped. Not finding them, however, Captain Patten, in a short speech, exhorted them to trust in the Lord for victory and then ordered a march along the road to the ford of the river.

"It was just at the dawning of light in the east and when near the top of the hill which descends to the river, the words, 'Who comes there,' were heard and at the same instant the report of a gun. Young Patter-son O'Banion reeled out of the ranks and fell mortally wounded, whereupon Captain Patten ordered a charge and rushed down the hill. At a short distance the camp-fires of the enemy could now be seen, but it was still so dark that little could be seen by looking toward the west, while the mob looking towards the dawning light could see Patten and his men quite distinctly.

"When within about fifty yards of the camp, the brethren formed a line. The mob formed under the bank

of the creek, below their tents, and fired all their guns upon the brethren. Captain Patten then ordered the company to fire, which was obeyed immediately, and for a few moments the whole wilderness seemed one continued echo of the reports of the deadly rifle.

"The watchword, 'God and Liberty', was then given, and Patten ordered a charge which was immediately obeyed, and the mob was soon put to flight, crossing the river at the ford and such other places as they could get over. In the pursuit, one of the mob wheeled around from behind a tree and shot Captain Patten, who instantly fell, mortally wounded, having received a large ball in the bowels."

Returning from the attack, Daniel's first thought was of his father and brother. Were they safe? For a moment he paused to gaze upon his friend and brother, David Patten, but other hands were lending him help, and with a sharp pain in his heart that the bravest and best should so have been smitten down by the hands of his enemies in the prime of his life, his thoughts again returned to his father and with a heavy heart he pressed on to seek him.

The sun had risen during the contest, and his kindling beams lit up the woods and the plain beyond. Swiftly Daniel passed from group to group in search of his father. He soon met his brother, who, like himself, had escaped unhurt, and joined in the search for Mr. Clark.

"He was close to Captain Patten when he was shot," said one of the men, "and, if I am not mistaken, I saw him fall before Patten did. Perhaps he has crawled to the woods back of us."

A few moments later, Daniel and his brother found him leaning against a tree, pale and bleeding from a wound in his side, but still alive. Together they hastily constructed a litter and carried him to the house of a brother living near, and while Daniel remained to care for him, his brother started for home to obtain means for his removal. In a few moments after his departure, they brought in the other wounded and the dead, until they could consult what should be done. The wounds were staunched and the dead prepared for burial, as well as their means permitted. It was then decided to return immediately to Far West.

The men relieved each other in carrying the dead and wounded, until they were met by teams from Far West, and among them was Mrs. Clark with one for her husband, as she could not remain at home after hearing what had happened.

You who have followed this brief story thus far, know something of the character of some of these men. To the writer the names of David Patten and Patterson O'Banion have been as household words. They were men of God; and if, indeed, there was or could be any mistake in their thus taking up arms for the defense of their homes, it was a mistake of the head and not of the heart. They were seeking the injury of no one, neither did they desire any man's land or gold, and fame had long since lost all its attraction for them. The question had reduced itself to this: Shall we quietly submit to see our families driven from their homes, exposed to all manner of hardships, without food or shelter from the storms of winter, or shall we meet

these mobbers and let them know they cannot do this thing with impunity? After many a conflict, many a debate with science, the issue had been met.

(to be continued)

OBITUARY

Brother Hastings was born June 6, 1862, in Deerfield, Michigan, and died at the age of 89 years, 9 months and 27 days. He united with the Reorganized

Dies at 89



F. W. HASTINGS

Church when he was 25 years of age, and officiated for many years as teacher, then priest, and later elder in that organization. The early years of his ministry were spent at South Boardman, where he served as Bishop's Agent. He travelled on foot many miles, carrying his heavy book satchel and suitcase, sacrificing much for the work his Master called him to do. In 1930, he transferred to the Church of Christ (Temple Lot), where he continued his ministry until about the age of 81, when his health failed and he retired to his home, though many times expressing his desire to be back in active service.

Surviving are his wife, Vivian; two daughters, Mrs. Ray Smith, Independence, Mo., and Mrs. Donna Peck, also of Missouri; four step-daughters, Mrs. Nicholas DeVille, Mrs. Rex Weaver, Mrs. Glenn Fast, and Mrs. Joseph Crain, all of Muskegon; three stepsons, Floyd Heath, Fremont, Cleo Heath, Muskegon, and Atwood Shelley, Fenton; twenty-five grandchildren; nine great grandchildren; and a sister, Mrs. Lula Hall, Davison. He was a loving companion, a kind and benevolent parent, and will be greatly missed by all who knew him. But we know our loss is his eternal gain as he rests in the paradise of God.

Comforting words were spoken by Elder L. E. Welch who was in charge of the funeral services; and Sister Bergey and Sister Pinder rendered beautifully the favorite songs of the deceased: "No Night There"; "Where We'll Never Grow Old"; "When I Get to the End of the Way," and "Saved by Grace."

"You have lived graciously through all the years;
And the good deeds and good works you have done,
With all the brother-love that your heart wore,
Is your gift, made of many into one.

"So now, Dear Heart, let your soul be in joy,
As you answer the call to homing come;
No one who lived so good a life as you
Need fear, for Christ will say, Your work's well done."

—GRACE SPRING LAU

(Continued from page 88)

tinued this subject when he spoke the next Sunday, illustrating it as the love in a family. Other speakers for the month were Bro. Leslie Case and Don Housknecht of Michigan.

It wouldn't be possible, now, to name all the visitors of the past month. The Vance Harris family completed their moving to Independence from Omaha, and the Ernie Premos are finishing moving to Springfield, Missouri. Bro. and Sr. Clarence Wheaton returned from their missionary trip to Mexico and Yucatan in time for Conference. Bro. Virgil Rudd had a short leave from his base in Texas where he is stationed with the air force. And in news from another of our group in the armed forces, Bro. Hardy SeEVERS is stationed in Hawaii for his army basic training.

There were quite a few sick with the flu and colds during the past month, and during the second week in April, Jack and Janice Sprague caught the measles. But there's some sweet with the bitter, and little Jeanne Manon was born to Denver and Jean Chapman the first day of April.

March followed through the old saying, and after a month when the weather changed as often as the wind, it went out like a lamb. April even stayed warm and sunny through half of the Conference week, then gave us a gray, misty Easter. But what can keep Easter from being a good day?

ELLA BELL, Reporter

REUNION NOTICES

Michigan

The Michigan State Reunion will be held at Flint, Michigan, on June 29.

Make plans now to attend.

Missouri

Remember the Missouri Reunion at Independence, Missouri on the Temple Lot, the week-end of August 15, 16 and 17.

Please notify the Reception Committee: Rolland Sprague, Nicholas Denham, James M. Case, P. O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri.

Publicity Chairman, J. M. CASE

I WILL FOLLOW NONE BUT JESUS

I am thankful that God has been willing to restore THIS GOSPEL upon this land of our where we have freedom of worship, and I believe one of the greatest accomplishments of our Christian living is humility and unless we are truly humble from the very depths of our souls we cannot follow Christ, we can not even hope to see him much less can he direct us, but he is anxious to lead and direct us just the same as he did the children of Israel and the Nephites and many more as they were disobedient and wandered and fell in the wilderness, so are the people of the restoration, unless we repent and depart from our worldly ways we can not expect to inherit the KINGDOM.

The Christian people have been struggling along for nearly two centuries trying to find peace and contentment but have not been willing to keep the commandments of God. You have been running to and fro not being willing to adhere to the voice of the Christ wherein it has said "come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give ye rest.

Oh, my friends are you not willing to forsake your lusts for riches, glory and pleasures of this world, come

and seek Christ, that he can make your burdens lighter and give you that rest which he has in store for you that seek and serve him. And Jesus said "Thou shalt love thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy mind." Oh, my friends, do you think Christ is asking too much of his people? Is this burden too heavy, that you do not serve him?

Is there anywhere today that you can find a friend who is so merciful and just, who is always willing and ready to serve you, IF you will keep His commandments? God has made a covenant with you wherein He has spoken these words "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and HIS righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." You should understand when God said "these things shall be added unto you", he means the necessary things to sustain you in this life. If you will but search the scriptures and go to God in prayer, he is willing to direct you just the same as he did those who obey him in the past.

Why not stop running before the Lord and let him lead you in truth and righteousness. How can he help you if you do not listen to his word? If you will search the scriptures you will find that he led his people UNTIL WHEN contention, pride and jealousy crept in and they would not listen to his voice.

Oh, my friends unless you adhere to his word and keep his commandments HE IS NOT DUTY BOUND to keep the covenant he has made with you when he restored THE GOSPEL. Lay not up for yourselves upon earth treasures where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal. But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through and steal.

Satan has devised many cunning things to attract God's people, and for this cause you have to be alert, that you are not overcome by the evil adversary.

Unless the days are shortened, the very elect may be lost. Oh, my friends as you look around about you and see all the chaos, contentions, wars and rumors of wars and they are still crying for peace and do not mean it.

It is time that YOU put forth the effort to fill your lamps with oil and be ready for these things which suddenly MUST come to pass.

Jesus said, When you see these things come to pass the time is not far off, but if you are serving Christ you will not wonder at the signs on earth and in heaven, but you will be willing to gather together and live in accordance as you have been instructed, that the Lord may be able to protect you from the fiery darts of Satan. If you will search the scriptures you will find where he has provided a place to gather and instructed HIS PEOPLE what the MUST DO.

If these sayings were not true I would not have told you, for I find in the scriptures where it says, woe unto the man that adds unto or takes ANYTHING away from my Gospel, for he shall be in danger of hell fire. So I, myself, would not knowingly add anything to or take anything away from this precious Gospel.

Please friends do not follow me or any other man any further than WE follow Christ. Prove everything and hold fast to that which is good, and ALWAYS be on duty, READY and WILLING to adhere to the Master's call, which is only our reasonable service.

GEORGE BRANTNER