

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.

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THE SOLITARY LIFE

This is the story of a young man born in a village, that would not attract the attention of a traveler of means. This young man grew up in another village which was not considered a place of good report. He worked at the carpenter trade until about the age of 26, then for seven years he was an itinerant preacher and teacher. He never went to college. He never held an office. He never owned a home. He never had a family. He was not popular with those of high position in either the church or state. His life was not patterned after any great man of history. He carried no credentials and was identified only by His works.

Although He was still young and had committed no crime, neither had He raised up an army of followers, the opinion of those in high positions in the church turned like fire against Him. When this happened His friends deserted Him, leaving Him to the mercy of His enemies. He was given a trial and found guiltless, never-the-less He was executed with criminals. While He was dying, His executioners gambled for His only possessions, His clothes. After His death He was laid in a borrowed tomb through the pity of a friend.

Over nineteen hundred years have passed on into history since that day. Great men and great nations have risen up and have fallen and today He is spoken of more than any other man who has lived on the face of the earth. Churches and civil laws are founded on that plain doctrine which He preached so long ago. He has affected the armies in the fields, the navies on the seas, the parliaments and the congresses in their mighty halls. He has affected kings on their thrones and presidents in their chairs. In fact all mankind is affected directly or indirectly by Him. His name is Jesus Christ.

(The above is a revision of "One Solitary Life")

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ZION'S ADVOCATE

Official Publication of the Church of Christ

Headquarters on the Temple Lot, Independence, Missouri

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EDITORIAL

We mortals are prone to stop before we finish some task that we start. We may get enthused over some piece of our work or even over our life's work, then before we are through, and sometimes before we are more than a fraction of the way, we will lay the work to one side and forget about it. It might be because we get tired of the task and it might be because we do not know how to go on from where we are.

Did any of you sisters ever start to make a dress and get part way through with it, then for some reason lay it to one side and in many cases forget about it? Maybe you had made a mistake in cutting out the pattern or maybe it just seemed like two of the pieces would not sew together right. Did you ever go up in the attic to get the quilting frames and found a partly finished quilt or comfort on it?

Did you ever see a farmer plow a field then because of some discouragement, never plant it to some kind of crop? Maybe he had a lot of hogs on feed and before they were anywhere near ready for market, he sold them.

I can remember, when I was a young man, of working on a place where a man, who was an architect, drew plans for his own house. He selected the location and built the foundation. The last I heard of it, the foundation still stood as a testimony of an unfinished piece of work. The man and his wife have long ago passed on from this life.

Did you ever decide at the beginning of some year, to start keeping account of your income and expense? Perhaps you carefully kept account for a while. When the year drew to a close you suddenly found that you had not entered a single item on your record for months.

Perhaps, some of you older ones can remember the time when you were looking around behind some garage or machine shop and noticed an automobile or a tractor that some one had started to build. Perhaps, it had only a frame, wheels and axles. Maybe there was a motor mounted on it too. But it was never finished.

A short time ago I read an article in a church paper, concerning a young doctor who had returned to his home town after completing his education. One night he was called to the bedside of a dying man. The man who was about to die had left Christ out of his life and so had the young doctor up until this time. The young doctor's experience at the bedside of the dying man caused him to change his course in life. The article carries the doctor's experience up to the point where faith has entered into his life and leaves it there. Faith is only one of the four steps necessary to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

I recall an instance quite a few years ago when a missionary went into a locality and held several meetings. Several people were baptized by him while he was there and much good seemed to be accomplished through his efforts. He never returned to that locality and the work he started was never followed through. In a few years he and his work were nearly forgotten and most or all of it drifted away.

If the dress that the woman started was never finished, no good as clothing could come of it but if the reason for setting it to one side was overcome and the work completed then someone could use it as a garment and in that way it could be put to some good use.

If the farmer, after plowing his field would have planted it he could have looked forward to harvest time. He certainly could not reap if he had never sown any seed.

If the architect who drew his house plans and built the foundation, would have gone ahead and built the house on the foundation, then he and his wife could have spent many years of their lives using the house as their home. And if it had been built properly they could have left it to their heirs.

If, after starting to keep account of income and expense, we neglect to keep it up and in the meantime lose our bills when the time of the year comes for us to make a report to the government, we may lose quite a bit of sleep over the deal and may eventually find ourselves on the wrong side of the law.

That unfinished tractor or automobile that you saw back of the garage or machine shop would never do any one any good as it was and if it was never finished it was nothing but a piece of junk. On the other hand if it had been finished properly then there was a chance for some one to have gotten much good out of it. After all, it was these tractors and automobiles assembled by mechanics of bygone years which led up to the ones we have today.

If the writer of the article containing the story of the young doctor would have followed up with the other principles of the Gospel then there would have been a better chance of the reader fully understanding what was required of him if he wished to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven. For instance, a statement like this: Repent and be baptized every one of you for the remission of your sins; except ye are born of the water and the Spirit ye can in no wise enter into the Kingdom of heaven; and Paul baptized them and layed his hands on them and they received the Holy Ghost. There are many references such as this which could be used

and should have been so the reader might be better instructed.

If the missionary would have returned the following year or would have seen to it that one did go there then instead of loss there is a good chance that there would have been gain. There might have been a church organized there and much good could have been accomplished through it.

Yes, we are too prone to stop before we are finished with our task. Let us look in the glass and see if that man is one of the quilty ones.

A. F. B.

DIRECTORY

of

Officers and Committees Serving The Church of Christ (Temple Lot)

To assist those who may have matters of interest to the Church, and to the Conference, we present here a list of persons holding responsibilities in and for the General Church. We urge you to contact any one of them, or group of them, with regard to matters which concern your interests in the Church.

Council of Twelve Apostles

Wm. F. Anderson, 619 South Chrysler Street, Independence, Missouri. Missionary to Michigan, Ohio and Indiana.

T. J. Jordan, Suite 111—Donahue Block, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada. Missionary jointly with Leon A. Gould in Western Canada, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Iowa.

Leon A. Gould, Route No. 1, Bemidji, Minnesota. Missionary jointly with T. J. Jordan.

Leon Yates, 918 North 8th Street, Phoenix, Arizona. Missionary to Arizona, Utah, Nevada, and California.

Thomas E. Barton, Hayden, Colorado. Missionary to Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska and Wyoming.

Clarence L. Wheaton, 204 West Sea Avenue, Independence, Missouri, Missionary to New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas and Mexico.

William A. Sheldon, 1011 South Cottage, Independence, Missouri. Missionary jointly with Don W. Housknecht in Eastern Canada, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

Don W. Housknecht, Fenton, Michigan. Missionary jointly with Wm. A. Sheldon.

Archie F. Bell, Ava, Missouri. Missionary to Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana.

B. C. Flint, 209 South Chrysler St., Independence, Missouri. Missionary to Wisconsin and Illinois.

Arthur M. Smith, Ava, Missouri. Missionary to Europe. (Secretary of Twelve).

R. R. Robertson, Puryear, Tennessee. Missionary to Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Florida.

Council of General Bishops

John A. Sweem, Hamilton, Missouri.

D. Ray Bryant, Cowgill, Missouri.

C. LeRoy Wheaton, Jr., 412 South Hocker Street, Independence, Missouri. (Secretary).

Nicholas F. Denham, 810 South Liberty Street, Independence, Missouri.

Edward H. Padhola, 3021 Chandler, Lincoln Park 25, Michigan.

Walter B. Davis, 7753 South Constance Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

Vance H. Harris, 1920 South Osage Street, Independence, Missouri. (Business Manager).

Boards, Committees and Officers Elected Annually

Representative of the Twelve in the Church Office, and Caretaker. James M. Case, 1106 E. Gudgell, Independence, Missouri.

Business Manager, and Secretary of Transportation. Vance H. Harris, 1920 South Osage Street, Independence, Missouri.

General Church Secretary. Forest E. Maley, 11805 Roberts, Rt. 6, Kansas City 22, Missouri.

General Church Recorder. James M. Case, 1106 East Gudgell, Independence, Missouri.

General Church Chorister. Metta Anderson, 619 South Chrysler Street, Independence, Missouri.

Editor of Zion's Advocate. Archie F. Bell, Ava, Missouri.

Associate Editors Zion's Advocate. Margaret Wheaton, 1101 West Orchard, Independence, Missouri and Lois Harris, 1920 South Osage Street, Independence, Missouri.

Dining Hall Committee. Minnie Smith, Ava, Missouri; with power to choose assistants.

Reception Committee:

Nicholas F. Denham, 810 South Liberty Street, Independence, Missouri.

James M. Case, 1106 East Gudgell, Independence, Missouri.

Rolland D. Sprague, 424 East Walnut Street, Independence, Missouri.

Standing Boards and Committees

Please notice that the number enclosed in parenthesis () indicates the number of conference years each committee member has yet to serve, figured from the Conference of 1954.

Auditing Committee:

(3) Dorothy Denham, 810 South Liberty Street, Independence, Missouri.

(2) Rolland D. Sprague, 424 East Walnut Street, Independence, Missouri.

(1) James M. Case, 1106 East Gudgell Street, Independence, Missouri.

Referendum Committee:

(3) Marion D. Sprague, 424 East Walnut Street, Independence, Missouri.

(2) Ora Derry, Rt. 3, Box 342, Independence, Missouri.

(1) Nicholas F. Denham, 810 South Liberty Street, Independence, Missouri.

Relations Committee:

- (3) R. R. Robertson, Puryear, Tennessee.
- (2) Leon A. Gould, Route 1, Bemidji, Minnesota.
- (1) Arthur M. Smith, Ava, Missouri.

Board of General Church Historians:

- (3) James M. Case, 1106 East Gudgegell Street, Independence, Missouri.
- (2) Arthur M. Smith, Ava, Missouri.
- (1) Clarence L. Wheaton, 204 West Sea Avenue, Independence, Missouri.

Library Board:

- (3) Archie F. Bell, Ava, Missouri.
- (2) James M. Case, 1106 East Gudgegell Street, Independence, Missouri.
- (1) Arthur M. Smith, Ava, Missouri.

Building Committee:

- (3) Richard A. Wheaton, Route 3, Box 260, Independence, Missouri.
- (2) Vance H. Harris, Chairman, 1920 South Osage Street, Independence, Missouri.
- (1) Harvey Bell, Ava, Missouri.

Board of Publications:

- (3) James M. Case, 1106 East Gudgegell Street, Independence, Missouri.
 - (3) C. LeRoy Wheaton, Jr., 412 South Hocker Street, Independence, Missouri.
 - (1) Denver G. Chapman, 1112 West Short Street, Independence, Missouri.
 - (1) Forest E. Maley, 11805 Roberts, Rt. 6, Kansas City 22, Missouri.
- Chairman — Business Manager. Vance H. Harris, 1920 South Osage Street, Independence, Missouri.

Indian Relations Committee:

Howard LaHurreau, 3108 Woodrow Avenue, Fort Wayne 3, Indiana. Permanent Member.
 Arthur M. Smith, Ava, Missouri. Elected yearly.
 Vance H. Harris, 1920 South Osage Street, Independence, Missouri. Elected yearly.

**OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES
SERVING**

**AUXILIARY ORGANIZATIONS TO CHURCH OF
CHRIST**

General Sunday School Association

Superintendent. Leslie P. Case, Route No. 4, Lee's Summit, Missouri.

Assistant Superintendent and Treasurer. Rolland D. Sprague, 424 East Walnut Street, Independence, Missouri.

Secretary. Lois Harris, 1920 South Osage Street, Independence, Missouri.

Quarterly Committee. Robert Maley, Robert Case, Lois Harris, Ora Derry, Arra Gentry.

United Workers

Crescent, Independence, Missouri.

Chairman. Minnie Smith, Ava, Missouri.

Assistant Chairman. Katherine R. Moyer, 1931

Secretary. Lois Harris, 1920 Osage Street, Independence, Missouri.

Treasurer. Bertha Case, 1106 East Gudgegell Street, Independence, Missouri.

Member-at-Large. Frances Yates, 918 North 8th St., Phoenix, Arizona.

School of the Ministry

Chairman. Archie F. Bell, Ava, Missouri.

Assistant Chairman. James M. Case, 1106 East Gudgegell Street, Independence, Missouri.

Secretary. Leon A. Gould, Route 1, Bemidji, Minnesota.

1955 CONFERENCE NOTICE

According to the order of the 1954 Conference, and according to the Referendum Action of 1939, the Ministers' Conference of the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) is to convene at 10:00 A. M. April 6, 1955. This is a Wednesday. The location is to be the little white church building on the Temple Lot, Independence, Missouri.

This is a conference of the Ministry. The Ministry are invited and expected to be there, if at all possible, to help decide the affairs of the Church.

Among the routine affairs handled by the conference are these:

1. Election of officers and committees.
2. Approval of Budget and Financial arrangements.
3. Missionary Appointments.
4. Receiving and acting on reports of officers and committees.

Anyone other than the Ministry (even non-members) may attend the regular sessions of the conference. Any member of the church may propose an action to be considered by the Conference, and may participate in the discussion of it. In most cases all the membership present are privileged to vote.

The only time when voting is confined to the Ministry is when a matter is of such a nature that it must be sent out for approval of the whole Church. This last is known as a Referendum or the People's Conference.

Those who plan to attend will serve their purposes best by making certain preparations. Consider these:

1. Prayer—ask God to attend, through His Spirit.
2. Transportation—plan to arrive early.
3. Housing—write Reception Committee.
4. Food Supplies—bring it or send it.
5. Bedding—bring it.
6. Prayer—that you might travel safely and bring your portion of the Holy Spirit with you.

Those who find themselves unable to attend the Conference will serve their situation best by making certain preparations and effort. Think upon these:

1. Prayer—ask God to attend.
2. Contributions to the Dining Hall Committee—cash or supplies.
3. Tithing—send it to the Business Manager.
4. Write—to your missionary and let him know what you would like to see adopted by the conference.

5. Petition—the conference for favorable action on some measure you feel would advance the work of the Church in your part of the country.

6. Prayer—each day of the conference, asking God to rebuke the Adversary for the sake of the conference, and illumine the minds of those at the conference for the benefit of all.

There usually are many other things that accompany the Conference. Generally there are these:

1. Prayer Meetings.
2. Preaching Services.
3. Committee Meetings galore.

4. Conventions of Auxiliary organizations; General Sunday School Association, School of the Ministry, United Workers.

5. Outing for young people under the sponsorship of the Independence Y.P.C.L.

Then, too, there are two "special sessions" a day convened in the lower part of the building to transact the business of seeing that the work of the Dining Hall Committee is "considered and favorably acted upon." Following the practice of previous years, we anticipate that no charge will be made for meals; the dining hall operations being financed by donations.

With all the committee work, kitchen work, etc. there will be more than enough to keep willing hands and minds busy the whole time.

Those who come will be able to make or renew acquaintances with others of the membership from all over the country. The facilities and our patience will undoubtedly be taxed to capacity at times. The consideration of some matters may seem unduly long, devious, or complex. There may not seem to be sufficient opportunity to visit as we would like.

However, there is this to be remembered—**The Conference is there to work;** to handle with discretion and dispose with wisdom those matters which come before it. Seldom does one encounter any form of work that is not liberally seasoned with tedium and/or odium. People really get to know each other better by working together.

Those who will need a place to stay be sure to write the Reception committee care of James M. Case, Box 472, Independence, Mo. Tell him how many will be coming—how many men, how many women, how many boys, how many girls, what their family relationship is, and their ages, which ones have to be housed together, etc. Write early as you can. Also tell him what bedding you plan to bring. Tell him if there will be any handicapped who would be unduly inconvenienced by climbing long stairs. Tell him when you expect to arrive.

Those who plan to bring or send food supplies should not fail to contact Sister Minnie Smith of Ava, Missouri. Tell her what and how much you plan to bring or send. That should be done early likewise, so that Sister Smith need not overstock on the same things from local commercial sources.

Those on committees should contact their fellow committee members and formulate a report to the conference. Make it a point to look down the list of officers and committees in the Directory and see where your name might occur. By the time you read this, there will be about eight weeks to conference.

Forest E. Maley
General Church Secretary

NOTICE

At the Minister's Conference convened Wednesday, April 6, 1955 I propose to offer for adoption the following:

"Moved that any former action governing the convening date of conference be rescinded and that our rule hereafter be that the Ministers' Conference convene at 9:00 o'clock the first Monday in April each year, Independence, Missouri."

Failing the adoption of the above by the conference, I propose to offer the following for adoption:

"Moved that any former action governing the convening date of conference be rescinded and that our rule hereafter be that the Ministers' Conference convene at 9:00 o'clock the second Monday in June each year, Independence, Missouri."

Failing the adoption of the second matter, I propose to offer still another matter for adoption:

"Moved that any former action governing the convening date of conference be rescinded and that at each conference the Council of Twelve bring a recommendation to the body as to the time of convening the following year."

Respectfully,

Forest E. Maley

OUT OF THE MAIL SACK

Ticul, Noviembre 29 de 1954

Apostle Archie Bell.

Amabilísimo hermano:

Por la misericordia de Dios y gracia de nuestro Señor Jesucristo reciba bendiciones juntamente con toda la Iglesia de Cristo en Independence, Missouri.

Querido hermano dispensame porque voy a escribir una parte de la historia de mi vida.

Segun el servicio que tuvimos en las Iglesia de Cristo por ultima vez con nuestro queridísimo, hermano, Aposile Clarence L. Wheaton y su carinosa esposa Dona Angela, quienes nos dejo mucho recuerdo.

Ellos nos contaron como y que trabajo a que llagaron por primera vez a Yucatan y tambien nos contaron como una noche recibieron revelacion a Dios, que ellos tienen un trabajo que hacer en Yucatan y entonces tome palabra conte algo de lo que se acerca de ellos y concordo con la que ellos nos contaron, entonces ellos me dijeron: que yo escriba todo lo que les dije y mi testimonio tambien a la Iglesia de Cristo en Independence, Missouri.

Justamente en el ano, Julio 20 de 1947. Organizamos una pequena escuela que comenzamos entre dos, nuestro maestro fue un ministro presbiteriano.

Pero desgraciadamente en el ano, Enero 20 de 1950 resenti me mal proque yo padecia una hernia desde en la edad de 20 anos.

Pero cuando deje de asistir a la escuela ya somos muchos.

Cada vez en cuando voy a la escuela a visitar a mi maestro y a mis condicipulos y animandoles al estudio aunque yo no podia. Una ocasion estuvieron diciendome que yo siga de asistir a la escuela y les dije: no puedo porque siempre estoy enfermo, pero

uno de ellos me obsequio pesos para comprar me libro porque ya estaban estudiando Las Raices Latinas, pues para satisfacerles acepte de seguir.

En los fines del mismo ano en una tarde yo estaba muy triste sale para un paseo y llegando en las esquina del parque principal de Ticul en dicha esquina hay dos personas paradas y yo detuve alli y vi llegar junto a nosotros un americano y nos hablaba y no entendiamos su lenguaje, tampoco el nos entendia. Entonces me quede mas triste, mire al cielo y dije en mi misma? Dios mio estoy enfermo que hare? verdad yo puedo aprender un poco de Ingles pero no era suficiente para entenderme con este señor y yo quise dejarlo porque no podia. Por mas que quise desalentarme pero me parecia que hay alguien quien me alentaba otra vez, entonces dije; por segunda vez en mismo? Dios mio, yo no puedo pero no habra un hijo suyo que aprenda el Lenguaje Ingles y por medio de el podemos saber lo que queria decirnos este señor? Porque me parecia que hay alguien que me decia este señor hay algo bueno, nuevo y util que trae especialmente para vosotros. Despues de algun tiempo mande una carta a la Escuela Nacional de Los Angeles, California y el director de dicha escuela bondadasamente me contesto pero todo eso fue en vano porque no pude costiar mi estudio. Entonces una ocacion estaba yo solo con me maestro conte todo lo que yo ahnelaba acerca del estudio del Lenguaje Ingles y el me dijo: que sabia un poco y me ofrecio enseñarme. Y otra ocacion conte a Jose aquel condicipulo quien me ayudo para comprar me libro, todo lo que me dijo nuestro maestro entonces el lo acepto. Y asi quedo hasta que terminemos de Las Raices Griegas entonces cuando estuvimos en la ultima leccion el nos dijo que las clases ya estan terminadas. Y yo sali aparte y llame a Jose y le dije: era justo que invitemos a todos nuestros companeros para el estudio del Ingles. Todos se despedian el maestro y salian a la puerta y yo les invite para el estudio del Ingles y se sorprendieron. Y uno de ellos me dijo? Nos interesaria aprender el Ingles? y yo le conteste si jovencito mucho mas que tu eres tan tierno te aseguro que en poco tiempo puedes entenderte con la gente americano y yo no he logrado todavia, ensequida aquel jovencito hablo nuevamente y dijo: Estoy de acuerdo.

En el ano Junio 15 de 1951 comenzamos el estudio del Ingles y en los principios del ano de 1952 llegaron otra vez aquel americano con su esposa derepente aquel jovencito nos dijo: que ya habia hablado con aquellos señores. Y mas tarde aquel jovencito nos dijo que los señores americanos estan invitando para que les acompaña y que vaya con ellos a los Estados Unidos y nos dijo tambien como se llamaban aquellos y yo estuve animandole pero por su servicio militar no se pudo.

Entonces se ausentaron otra vez los señores fueron a su tierra.

En los ultimos del ano de 1952 volvio solo el señor entonces es cuando me dijo aquel jovencito que aquel señor le estaba animando para que vaya con el a los Estados Unidos y yo le alente hasta donde es posible una ocacion le dije al jovencito animate vaya con este señor y procura aprender todo lo que te van a enseñar y cuando vuelvas nos enseñaras lo que has aprendido. El 29 de Enero de 1953 es cuando salieron de Ticul para los Estados Unidos. Ahora, creo que casi to-

da la Iglesia de Cristo en Independence, Missouri concen aquel jovencito y aquel americano.

El norte americano que les digo es nuestro queridísimo Apostle hermano Clarence L. Wheaton y su distinguida esposa Dona Angela y el jovencito es nuestro carinoso hermano Fernando Ojeda.

En el mes de Agosto del mismo ano es cuando volvieron a Ticul, Yucatan nuestros hermanos Wheaton con el hermano Fernando. Entonces Fernando nos platico algo de la Iglesia Restaurada de Cristo y entonces poco a poco estuvimos anunciando a otros, de eso una noche me encuentre con un amigo y le converse acerca del hermano Fernando que queriamos formar una Iglesia y al oirlo se sorprendio de gran manera y me pregunto como se llamaba dicha Iglesia y yo le conte que la Iglesia que queriamos formar se llamaba la Iglesia Restaurada de Cristo al mismo tiempo dijo: Yo quisiera hablar con Fernando para saber algo mas de lo que me dices pero no tengo confianza con el hermano Fernando. Entonces Fernando nos casa de Fernando.

Y no tardo de ver otra vez a aquel amigo y fuimos a la casa de Fernando y converso con el. Y ahora es uno de los ancianos de nuestra Iglesia de Cristo en Ticul. Es nuestro queridísimo hermano Francisco Castro.

Damos gracias a Dios que en el pueblo de Dzan vecino de Ticul ya esta terminada el templo. Y en Ticul ya esta organizada nuestra pequena Iglesia de Cristo a los cuales me eligieron para ser tesorero. El 15 de Agosto de este mismo ano fui bautizado en Progreso gracias a Dios que ahora pertenesco a la Iglesia de Cristo. Desde en aquel momento cuando recibí el bautismo me senti moralmente muy gozoso. Ahora procuro vivir una vida Cristiana.

Y todas estas cosas testifico que son ciertas y tambien creo que fue direccion de Dios. Y creo en la santa Biblia y el Libro de Mormon.

En el nombre de Dios reciba saludes y a toda la Iglesia de Cristo en Independence, Missouri.

Su hermano en parte de Cristo,
Cayetano Alfaro Contreras

Ticul, November 29, 1954

Apostle Archie Bell:
Dear brother,

By the mercy of God and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ receive the blessings jointly with all the Church of Christ in Independence, Missouri.

Dear brother, excuse me, because I am going to write a part of the story of my life.

According to the service that we had in the Church of Christ for the last time with our beloved brother Apostle Clarence L. Wheaton and his loving wife, Lady Angela, who left us many memories.

They told us how and with what work they came for the first time to Yucatan and also told us how one night they received a revelation of God that they had a work to do in Yucatan. And then I took word. I told some of that which I know about them and har-

monized with that which they told us. At that time they told me that I should write all that which I said to them and my testimony also to the Church of Christ in Independence, Missouri.

Just in the year, July 20, 1947: We organize a small school that commenced about 2:00. Our teacher was a Presbyterian minister.

But unfortunately in the year, January 20, 1950, I began to give way very badly because I suffered a hernia from the age of 20 years.

But when I ceased to be present at the school we were already many.

Each time when I go to the school to visit my teacher and my fellow students and encourage them at the study although I was not able. One occasion they were saying to me that I followed to be present at the school and I told them, "I am not able because I am always sick". But one of them offered me four pesos to buy my book because now they were studying Las Raices Latinas. Well, to satisfy them I accepted to attend.

In the end of the same year on an afternoon I was very sad. I went out for a walk and arriving in the corner of the principal park in Ticul. In said corner there were two persons halted and I stopped there and saw to arrive near us was an American. And we spoke and I did not understand his language, neither did he understand us. Then I remained more sad, looked to the heaven and said in myself, "My God, I am sick that I shall perform?" True, I was able to learn a little of English but it was not enough for me to understand this man and I wished to leave him because I was not able. For more that I wished to discourage me, but it seemed to me that there was some body who animated me another time. Then I said, for the second time in myself, "My God, I am not able, but do you not have a son who understands the English language and by him we be able to know that which this man wishes to say to us?" Because it seemed to me that there was someone who told me this man had something good, new and useful that he brought especially for us.

After a little time I sent a letter to the National School of Los Angeles, California and the director of that school bountifully answered me but all this was in vain because I was not able to pay the cost for my study. Then one occasion I was alone with my teacher I told him all that I (----) about the study of the English language and he told me he knew a little and offered to teach me. And another occasion I told Jose, that fellow student who helped me to buy my book, all that which our teacher had told me; then he accepted it. And thus it remained until we terminated Las Raices Griegas. Then when we were on the last lesson he told us that the classes were now ended. And I went aside and called Jose and said to him, "It would be just that we invite all our companions for the study of English." All were taking leave of the teacher and going to the door and I invited them for the study of English and surprised them. And one of them said to me, "You would interest us to study English?" And I answered, "Yes, young man, much more that you were so tender, I assure you that in a little time you will be able to learn with the American peo-

ple and I have not gained yet." Afterward that young man spoke anew and said, "I am of agreement."

In the month of June 15, 1951, we began the study of English and in the first of the year 1952 that American arrived with his wife. Suddenly that young man told us that now he had talked with those people.

And much later that young man told us that the Americans were inviting that he accompany them and that he go with them to the United States and he told us also how they were called and I was encouraging him, but because of his military service he was not able.

Then another time these people absented themselves and went to their land.

In the last of the year 1952 the man returned alone. At this time is when that young man told me that this man was encouraging him that he go with him to the United States and I encouraged him as far as where an occasion was possible. I told this young man, "Enliven yourself. Go with this man and get to learn all that they are going to teach you and when you return teach us that which you have learned." The 29th of January 1953 is when they left from Ticul for the United States.

Now I believe that almost all the Church of Christ in Independence, Missouri knows that young man and that American. The North American that we told you of is our dear Apostle Brother Clearence L. Wheaton and his distinguished wife, Lady Angela and the young man is our beloved brother Fernando Ojeda.

In the month of August of the same year is when our Brother Wheaton and Brother Fernando returned to Ticul. Then Fernando told us somewhat of the Restored Church of Christ and then little by little we had

announced to others of this. One night we met with a friend and conversed with him about brother Fernando, that we wished to form a church. And to hear this surprised him a great manner and he asked me how this said church was called and I answered him that the church which we wished to form was called the restored Church of Christ. At the same time he said, "I want to talk with Fernando to know more than that which you tell me. But I don't have the confidence like him." And I told him, "The day that you wish, we go to the house of Fernando".

And I was not slow to see that friend another time and we went to the house of Fernando and conversed with him. And now he is one of the Elders of our Church of Christ in Ticul. He is our dear brother Francisco Castro.

We give thanks to God that in the village of Dzan, neighbor of Ticul, now is finished the Temple. And in Ticul now is organized our small Church of Christ of the which they elected me to be treasurer. The 15 of August of this same year I was baptized in Progress. Thanks to God that now I belong to the Church of Christ. From that moment when I received baptism I felt morally very strong. Now I strive to live a Christian life.

And all these things testify that we are certain and also I believe that we were directed of God. And I believe in the Holy Bible and the Book of Mormon.

In the name of God receive the greetings to all the Church of Christ.

Your brother on the side of Christ,

Cayetano Alfaro Contreras

HERE AND THERE AMONG THE YOUNG PEOPLE

Our first letter, from Lawrence, Kansas, is from a girl whom many of us know as "Collette". But she explains, "I changed my name to Clara Joe. Here it is getting colder every night. We haven't had any snow yet. My sister and I are doing fine. We are going to school, not working. I'm off the reservation. We are going to have a class party Thursday. I like my school here at Haskell. I wish I could go home for Christmas vacation. Tell everybody at Church that I said hello. I sure miss them a lot."

And a couple of girls from a new locality, Moore, Oklahoma: Marie Ledbetter writes, "I had to take a test today. It was in algebra, too. I will have to take the English test tomorrow." Betty does a little explaining and write further, "My sister, Marie, had to take a test this morning. So she isn't here to write now. A friend of mine and I both got exempted from semester tests . . . We have Bible study and prayers each morning and learn more about the gospel each day".

Most of the young people who wrote this month are going to school. Lovita Wentworth is the exception. She writes from Minneapolis, "Wondering why I'm in the cities? Well, it's this way. Rinkey, my other sister, was in a car accident last Friday night and is all bruised up. But, thank God, no broken bones, just bruises. The other kid that was with her was hit by another car and knocked 30 feet, and is in pretty rough shape. I'm down here taking care of her at present. Then I think I'll try and find work here. I've been hunting for work in Bemidji but there is none up there."

Joe Smith is going to classes in the army in Austria. "I am going to school in the day time, too. They are sending me to an instructor's course on how to give a class in the army. I guess they are trying to make me a teacher. I don't think it is very hard to do though. We just have to give our own lesson plan and then give the lesson. I am now a squad leader. I am in charge of five men. My squad is the gunnery crew. We call them "weapon squads". Sunday night four Austrian kids came to our barracks and sang Christmas carols in German and again tonight. They were sure cute. You would be surprised at their harmony. For kids they were great. They looked about 8-10 years. They sang parts, not the melody as we did as kids. You know the man who wrote Silent Night lived not far from here. He was an Austrian. He was buried here. We held our usual Sunday afternoon meeting yesterday. Although there are only five of us we enjoy our meeting. We study the principals of the gospel. Although we disagree on some things we still can enjoy our meetings".

Cecile Davis enjoyed her vacation from Nurse's training in St. Louis. "I sure enjoyed my Christmas and New Year. I had two weeks off and it sure felt

good after being away from home every day except Saturday afternoon and Sunday. We will get capped the seventeenth of February. I can hardly wait. It seems like I was behind on everything. We're getting caught up on our final tests now, also. Once you get behind it seems to take forever to get caught up. It was supposed to snow here today, but it hasn't yet. We had a very nice program for Christmas, consisting of reading from the Bible, giving out of gifts and preaching by Brother Nichols. It turned out nicer than expected as we usually plan a program with the Primary class taking part".

Jerry Mallory is in high school in Maple City, Michigan. "Sunday the 5th we had the gift of prophesy give to us through our pastor, Peter Price. He is my grandfather. The prophesy told us that if we would stay united that we would have many blessings. It also said that the older people should take more interest in the younger folks for it will be up to them to carry on His work".

And Wanda Adams is in high school in Flint, Michigan. "Our young people's class is putting on a Christmas play this next Sunday night (19th). We're going to have two scenes. One is a shepherd scene and the other is a manger scene with just Mary, Joseph and the child Jesus. Really they are just going to be pantomiming, while there is music in the background. I know it will turn out nice if we have that spirit of love within us that those people back in those days must have had. I've been quite busy with school these days. The days seem to be hurrying by so fast that one can't hardly keep up with them. Sometimes I wish I were out of school so bad because the other kids aren't like me, but I'm very thankful that God has given me a companion at school who is very wonderful and she helps me get through the days better though she may not know it. I mean it's not that there isn't some wonderful kids in the school, but they're of the world. Of course, I'm far from being perfect, in fact I think I'm at the lowest scale, but yet there's a difference between me and them. It's noticeable in church too. I'm always glad and happy to be with church people, they're the only people I can really have joy with because they too are different. I guess maybe that's what God meant about us being an odd people. Perhaps some day I'll be a little like God would want me".

Glenn Gill wrote during vacation in River Falls, Wisconsin. "The holiday vacation is now over and I've had my first day of classes. I was so rusty after two weeks of vacation that I could barely keep up to my geology lecture with my note taking today. My schedule is heavy with music courses this quarter—with classes in conducting, orchestration, harmony and violin as well as band and chorus and orchestra. Next quarter I'll probably start practice teaching science classes. Spring is a good season for that because I'll probably be able to conduct some field trips. My brothers and I were pretty much alone during vacation since our parents, 7 year old sister, Bonnie, and youngest brother, Charles, went to San Diego to visit Grandma Irene Yates and our several other relations in that city, all of whom showed them a very good and memorable time according to reports received. In addition to our regular farm chores my brother, John, and I did some painting at St. Bridget's Catholic School

here in River Falls. They have six great big class rooms for us to paint so we'll be at it during spring and summer vacations too. We had our Christmas program at the Minneapolis local on December 19. The program included some well done recitations and songs by the youngsters and not-so-youngsters. The Christmas story with colored slides and the Book of Mormon Christmas story. Accompaniment for singing and background music was provided by John on his accoridian. The program was recorded on Brother Maley's tape recorder".

Glenn, too, expresses the thoughts of the post-holiday season and with his thoughts let us close. "And so another 'holiday' season ends with its beautiful choral music on radio and T. V., etc., thoughtfulness, kindness, courtesy and religious inspiration, all of which for some unidentified reason diminish with the appearance of the new year and step back just a little too far in our minds for another year's rest."

Ella D. Engle

NEWS FROM LOCALS

St. Louis, Missouri

We had sacrament service on Sunday, December 5. Brother Sheldon and Brother Bell were here to visit us. They assisted Brother Nichols and Brother Shankle with sacrament. Brother Shanks was back this morning. Sister Shanks was not feeling too well, so she did not come.

Sister Shanks was here for the afternoon service. Brother Sheldon was our speaker. He spoke about the higher ground. He quoted the refrain of the song, "Higher Ground". He spoke from St. John 5:39-44. He also said, "You must have peace in your soul before you can have peace in your spirit. You must always do things that please the Father before you can have peace in your soul".

Brother Bell was the speaker of our evening service. He spoke on, "He that endureth to the end, the same, shall be saved". He told how the Christians were killed because they believed in Christ and how so many workers of Christ depended upon Him to help them with the plan He wanted carried out. You have to have courage and faith and work for the Lord, before you can have any chance of being with God. If you do not do these things, you may never be with God. He quoted mostly from Matt. chapters 13 and 24. Brother Bell and Brother Sheldon are leaving tomorrow, December 6.

We are very glad both of them came and we all enjoyed seeing them once again and having them with us. We hope they will come back soon.

Brother Shanks informed me on December 12, that he was very sorry he could not attend the meeting at Houston on November 20, because his wife's sister-in-law was very ill and they had to go to Des Moines, Iowa. He met Brother Bell when he came back. Brother Bell informed him that there will be a meeting on March 5. Brother Shanks will attend that meeting.

Next Sunday will be election of officers for Sunday School and Church. Also on December 25 we will

have service at 9:30. At 10:30 we will give out our gifts.

Brother Nichols was the speaker of the morning, December 12. He spoke on "The Bread of Life". He quoted from St. John 21, verses 24 and 25. Acts, chapters 1 and 2. He asked, "What do we desire in Christ". He also told us that if we are worthy of knowledge we will have it.

On December 19, we had election of Sunday School officers. Brother Clark was elected as superintendent of Sunday School. Arthur Childress is our new assistant. Sister Frey is secretary. Joyce Thompson is assistant. Wayne Shankle was elected treasurer.

After Sunday School election we had church election. Brother Nichols was again elected as Pastor. Sister Shankle was again elected as church secretary.

Sister Ida Davis, Brother Nichols and Arthur Childress were appointed as auditors of the books.

On Christmas Day, we held service at 9:30 A. M. Sister Frey read from Luke 2, verses 1 to 20. Sister Cecile Davis read a poem entitled, "Is There a Real Santa Claus". Brother Nichols gave our Christmas sermon. He read that man cannot live by bread alone. He quoted from Matthew 1, verses 18 to 25. Also Matthew 2, verses 1 to 11.

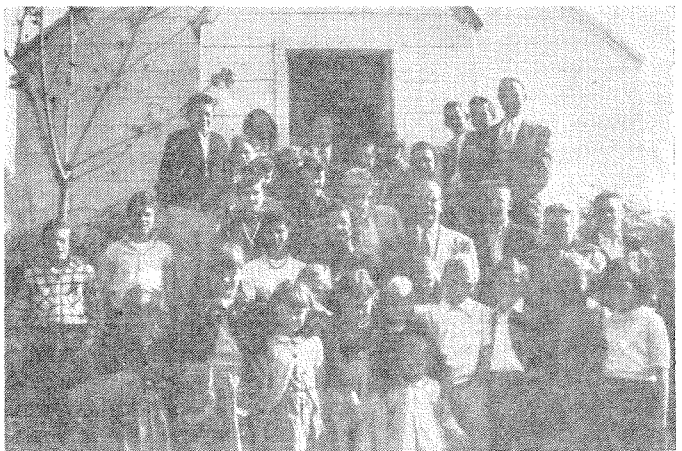
After the sermon we gave out our gifts.

Brother Shankle was our speaker on December 26. He spoke on the "Salvation the Christ Child Brought to the World." He quoted from Luke 2, verses 8-12; also, St. John 3, verses 1-6. He said, "The Lord came to save the world not to destroy it".

Brother Wallace was here to visit us.

Edith Frey, Reporter.

St. Louis Local



Brief History of Church

The Church of Christ local was organized on Tuesday evening, October 17, 1939. They had a total of 13 present. Elder Robert A. McClain was chosen as the first pastor.

The Church of Christ members purchased a lot on Clairmont Drive in Ferguson, Missouri, for the purpose of erecting a church building. While they were wait-

ing for the building to be erected they met in each other's homes.

On July 12, 1942, they held Sunday School and Church for the first time in the new church building. There were 18 present. The men of the church donated their time to build on the church. The women made some of the meals.

We now have a total of 35 members.

Ava Visiting, Oloha

We had our annual business meeting Sunday, January 9, 1955. For Sunday School Superintendent, Alex Smith; Assistant Superintendent, Jack Bell; Secretary and Treasurer, Estella Smith; Pianist, Alvina Bell; Librarian, Verl Smith. For Church: Pastor, Harvey Bell; Assistant Pastor, Alex Smith; Secretary and Treasurer, Alvina Bell; Pianist, Darlene Smith; Librarian, Verl Smith; Reporter, Jack Bell.

There were some visitors from Independence in Ava during the holiday season. They were, Warren and Fern Sarratt, Cliff and Ella Engle, Alice Fawn Hooker, and Delores Bell.

Sunday, January 2, was our regular Sacrament Service, with Alex Smith and Archie Bell in charge.

December 29 we had a nice snow, a little late for Christmas but the moisture still came in handy. January 10 we got another snow, about five inches deep.

Jack Bell

Maple City, Michigan

The Maple City, Michigan branch has made a good start toward working together for the cause of Christ, with the start of the New Year. We were all very much pleased with the results of our annual business meeting, which was conducted in a manner which showed real Christian fellowship between those in charge, and the voting members. Elder Peter Price was assisted by Brother Ernie Premo, whom we considered a very able assistant.

Our much beloved Brother Peter Price was re-elected as the pastor for the ensuing year, with Brother Otto Polack as his assistant.

Brother Premo was elected priest of the branch.

Brother Harold Polack was appointed teacher of the branch, due to the absence of my son, Alan Scott, who is now a Private First Class in the Army Security Agency; having taken a twenty-three weeks course in the Signal Corps, at Camp Gordon, Ga. He is now stationed at Fort Devens, Mass., and he had the pleasure of the meeting with the saints at Cranston, Rhode Island, last Sunday. We received a very nice letter from Sister Burlingame, wife of the pastor of the Cranston branch; and I would like to request the prayers of the saints in behalf of their son, that God might heal him of his affliction, if He sees fit. He has a tumor which has completely enveloped the rectum. Let us all unite in prayer in his behalf.

Brother Ed. Mallory was chosen deacon of the branch; Brother Premo as treasurer; Brother H. Polack as secretary; and Brethren O. Polack, H. Polack, E. Premo, Fred Trumbull, Don Trumbull, Ed. Mallory, and Lowell Scott were chosen as the building committee.

Sisters Sylvia Mallory, Thelma Polack, and Ann Polack, who is not as yet a member of the church, but we have hopes she will soon be, were chosen as the program committee.

Our business meeting was postponed for a week, because of illness in various families. We enjoyed a potluck supper, previous to the meeting, and many who were not members, participated, and stayed for the meeting. We thought; how wonderful it would be, if the saints were as willing to partake of the spiritual blessings, as they are to partake of the material blessings.

Our Sunday school business meeting will have convened before this communication reaches you, so we will report on that at a later date.

We are pleased to have the assistance of Brother Premo and family, and we hope they will become permanent members, for they would be greatly missed, if they were to leave. By the way, we forgot to say that Brother Premo was elected chorister, and I, L. Scott, as organist, and S. Mallory as librarian.

Lucinda Scott, Reporter

Independence Diary

Brother Clarence L. Wheaton returned from the missionary field shortly before the Christmas holidays, and was our speaker on the morning of December 19. St. John 15:1-6, 12-27 was the Scripture that was chosen. These verses tell of the love between Christ and His followers in the parable of the vine; also, they tell of the office of the Apostles. Brother Wheaton told us of many of his experiences in Mexico. The membership of the church is growing ever greater there and the church building is almost too small. Even though the people there undergo many persecutions, the church is constantly growing. Persecution does not lessen the effect of the Gospel.

Brother Wheaton entered the hospital on December 19 for an operation. He is now recuperating at home. Another one of our missionaries, Brother B. C. Flint recently returned home from his second hospitalization for an operation after his return from the field. He is also recuperating at his home.

At the evening service of December 19, Brother Joseph F. Yates was the speaker. His Scripture was from Isaiah 7:10-14 and 9:2-7, which foretells the coming of Christ as a babe. These prophecies were uttered 700 years before Christ was born. It should give us the strength to believe in the written word. The ministry does not feel inadequate when they know they have the books to unfold some of the mysteries of God. With this written word, we can defend against infidelity. Man does not create things; he merely finds how to harness God's wonders. It is possible that a man could make a chemically perfect egg, but it would not hatch because God had not breathed into it his approving stamp of life.

Another point Brother Yates brought out was the good done by other churches. We dare not be so narrow as to ignore this. One-third of the whole earth's population is of the Christian faith, in which there is much good. Could we not do a lot of harm to our fellow man—just because we feel we have something superior—to wound them by not being tolerant? We do not have to compromise with the truth, but we must be tolerant with error. Although the Father has shown forth His works in our Church, we have been short. Obedience and understanding of His will, will bring us closer to His blessings. Nothing comes forth but through the unfolding of time. Time is the most important element. This new year that is coming should bring aspirations in us to get closer to perfection. Men that were here last year have gone on ahead to claim the treasures they laid up "where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt." St. Matthew 6:20. Our past deeds are locked in a vault—we can never change them. The probation is extended to us now. If we let the time for good pass on, that moment never returns. There is something that holds us in the narrow way, however; that is the kind hand of God.

The annual Sunday School Christmas program was held in the Church on Thursday evening, December 23. Each Sunday School class gave a special musical number, after which the Christmas story was shown on slides while the Superintendent, Brother Forest Moley, told the story. Treats were given to the children after the program.

The Scripture reading used by Brother William Sheldon in his morning sermon of December 26, was Isaiah 40:1-11. In speaking of the second coming of Christ, he made a comparison between the coming to earth of the baby in Bethlehem and His second advent. The Jews did not accept Christ because He did not come in power and great glory to them. They were looking for a king to establish principalities and power. These prophecies of His coming have come through the power of God. Matthew 24 and Luke 21 tell of His second coming, which shall be observed by all men. "For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For wheresoever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together." St. Matthew 24:27-28. Wherever we are, if we are among the righteous, we shall be called out to a place reserved by God to escape the tribulations to come. "O all ye that are spared, because ye were more righteous than they, will ye not now return unto me, and repent of your sins, and be converted, that I may heal you?" III Nephi 5:41. The Lord is calling us to escape these tribulations. "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods." St. Matthew 24:44-47.

Brother Kenneth J. Smith used the parable of the ten virgins, found in St. Matthew 25:1-13, for his Scripture reading in the evening service of December 26. The spirits of intolerance and greed are responsible for wars and the breaking up of many friendships; but at this peculiar period of the year these spirits are at a

low ebb. In their place, comes the sweet story of the birth of Christ and the spirit of giving. We should take this spirit and see how it is applied to our lives. We have responsibilities in the peculiar position we are in, in the restoration. The spirit of intolerance is insidious in its power to destroy friendships of people and nations. This season of the year we find something in its place upon which we can build—the story of Christ, preaching peace and good will to all men. What of the vast work that lies ahead? Can it be accomplished by increasing the spirit that will force us apart? Christians are agreed to a large extent on the birth of the Saviour and His life and physical death. If we can show each other where our intolerance lies, how far can we go toward exercising the spirit of Christmas twelve months of the year? We have before us a year of progress if we will but exercise the spirit of Christmas instead of that of intolerance. May our lamps be trimmed so that our lights will shine bright and may our vessels be full to the brim.

The morning service of January 2 was devoted to our regular monthly Sacrament Service with our pastor, Brother Leslie Case, in charge. Brother J. M. Case assisted in the service; he read from IV Nephi 29, which tells the results of the divisions in the church. He also read from St. John 6:44-71, wherein Christ declares to mankind: "I am that bread of life. . . . Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you."

Speaking at the evening service of January 2 was Brother LeRoy Wheaton.

"Praise ye the Lord! 'tis good to raise your hearts and voices in his praise;

His nature and his words unite to make this duty your delight."

—No. 27—Saints' Hymnal

There are many reasons why we should want to serve God, sing His praise, and walk in His way. It is not enough to fear God. We should serve Him because we love to serve Him. "Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as He is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. We love him, because He first loved us." I John 4:17-19. We cannot know and understand Him without loving Him; we cannot love Him without striving to obey Him. Paul speaks of our running the race so Satan will not lead us away. We must overcome evil, not necessarily because we fear punishment, but because He loves us and we love Him. As is recorded in Jeremiah 9:23-26, we displease the Lord because we do not acknowledge that He provides everything around us. If, having sinned, we repent, we will bring joy to heaven; repent not because of fear but to bring joy to Him. The tree spoken of in I Nephi 3:45, is the love of God. "Yea, it is the love of God, which sheddeth itself abroad in the hearts of the children of men, wherefore it is the most desirable above all things." I Nephi 3:64. If we can come to an understanding of His love, we will be able to serve Him better. Who could fail to love and serve this merciful God who "preparast a table before me in the presence of mine enemies? The Scriptures contain all the many wonderful things that are prom-

ised to those who serve Him. Is it not worthwhile to put forth our greatest effort in the year ahead to serve our God?

In the morning service of January 9, Brother William F. Anderson referred to Isaiah 21:11. "Watchman, what of the night?" Have we thought very much of this "night" when we shall be called to stand before the tribunal of God? There is nothing in this life that is so important as where and how we will spend eternity. The restoration has become more or less careless and to some extent unconcerned about the things eternal. Just how much are we interested? Now is the time we are called upon to make ready for the Son of God. He will come and receive those who will be watching. The Master said: "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." St. Matthew 24:44. The time will come when Satan will be bound for a thousand years. During that time you and I, if we are worthy, will be allowed to live with our Master. In St. Matthew 25, we read of the five wise and the five foolish virgins. Which group do we want to be with—the wise or the foolish? "Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing." St. Matthew 25:46. It is necessary for the people of the Lord to make themselves ready for His coming. There is no other way but to work together for the upbuilding of a righteous group. Do we want to be accepted with the wise into the great millennium?

St. Luke 12 was the Scripture used by Brother Richard Wheaton in the evening service of January 9. To seek the Kingdom of God, we must be righteous or free from wrong. "And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life." St. Mark 10:29-30. We may say we do not see the fulfillment of this promise. Yet can we say that our lot has not been increased since we began to obey the commands? Have we not found a more dependable thing to rely on in our gospel association than in association with worldly friends? He has fulfilled the promise to the degree to which we have complied with the commands. The most prized possession promised is not temporal, but "in the world to come eternal life". This is the jewel we seek across this journey of life. A greater contentment will come from our waiting for God to reward us as He sees fit. Matthew 6: 24 states: "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon." The Master's purpose in stating this was so that people might make their choice early of which they shall serve. St. Matthew 15 outlines some of the things we must be aware of so that we may not be doing evil in the sight of the Lord. God has placed a natural instinct of trust in small children toward adults. Our faith and trust should be toward Him as this small child's faith. Those who know nothing of the Gospel are as little children also; if they place their trust in us to show them the way, we are responsible. Deuteronomy 5 and 6 are directed just as much at us as they were to the people to whom they were spoken. "Hear,

O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep, and do them."

Brother Marvin and Sister Edith Case are the happy parents of a new baby born January 15. The little fellow has been named Gerald Marvin. He is little brother to John Martin who was two in December. The boys are grandsons of Brother and Sister Harvey J. Bell of Ava, Missouri, and Brother and Sister J. M. Case of Independence.

Enid E. Bell, Reporter

Y. P. C. L. NEWS

From Independence

At our Church History study on December 16, we finished chapter 10 in the Outline History and then we somehow managed to get off onto the subject of the second coming of Christ. Although we many times discuss things that do not directly pertain to the history, all of our discussions concern the gospel and we all gain from them.

The week before Christmas was a busy one for us. On Tuesday evening, December 21, we went caroling to several of the homes of the church people and especially those who had been unable to attend church because of illness or age. After that we gathered at the home of Brother and Sister William Sheldon for refreshments of hot cocoa and doughnuts. After that we all got warm we played several games before going home.

On Wednesday night, December 22, after prayer meeting a few of the young people met downstairs to help in sacking candy which was to be a treat for the small children at the Sunday School Christmas Program. We all had a good time sacking and sampling the candy and what might have been work turned out to be a lot of fun.

At the Sunday School Christmas program, on Thursday, December 23, which was the Christmas story told in song, the young people as a group supplied one of the songs and although we were handicapped by having a few members absent we did a pretty good job and enjoyed doing it.

On December 30, we had another class in Parliamentary Procedure. We reviewed the different types of motions and then discussed their contents and purposes.

On January 6, at our first Church History class of the new year, we studied chapter 12 and part of chapter 13 in the Outline History.

We had our January social on the 13th. We met in the basement of the church and had what we call a "chalk talk". We took turns drawing illustrations on the blackboard of scriptural stories of characters and the others were to guess what each illustration represented.

In the December, 1954, issue of the Advocate I gave the address of Mr. Robert Hose. I have been informed that it was the wrong address. I am very sorry and

following is the correction. I am sure that his wife would like to be included in your letters.

Mr and Mrs. Robert Hose
1736 Bayard Avenue
Dundock 22, Maryland

I hope that through this year we may all have many experiences in the church together and that we may all make many new friends that altogether we may make a spiritual growth and be an aid to Christ and His church.

Mary Lois Harris, Reporter

PORTION OF SERMON

By LeRoy Wheaton

We have heard in our Sacrament and prayer services and on every hand we hear that we ourselves are beggars before the throne of God. And, we need to be mindful that our responsibility is not to question how the people got into the circumstances they are, but the question before us is now that they are in a circumstance of need and how much help do they need? How great can my assistance be? Those are the questions that are before us. Those are the questions which concern us, and let God be the judge of these other things.

Mosiah 2:36-39, "And now, if God, who has created you, on whom you are dependant for your lives, and for all that ye have and are, doth grant unto you whatsoever ye ask that is right, in faith, believing that ye shall receive, O then, how had ye ought to impart of the substance that ye have, one to another? And if ye judge the man who putteth up his petition to you for your substance, that he perish not, and condemn him, how much more just will be your condemnation, for withholding your substance, which doth not belong to you, but to God, to whom also, your life belongeth; And yet ye put up no petition, nor repent of the thing which thou hast done."

I would like to get a little away from that particular thought for a moment, of the need of those that are poor, and those that stand in need of a physical substance, and go back to a thought which I had touched upon briefly before. I would like to call your attention to the twenty-fourth chapter of Matthew, something that Christ said, which applies to our day, and to my mind, lays upon us a certain responsibility.

I think that you are familiar with the first portion of this chapter in which Christ has been asked the question concerning the latter days, and the end, and what will be the signs of those things, and he has made, among other things, this portion of an answer.

Matthew 24:14, "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

I would like to refer you to a few verses from the 10th chapter of Romans, and connect up with the above reading a thought which is expressed by Paul, in writing to the Romans.

Romans 10:13-15, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall

they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

Bear in mind that we live in the latter days. In fact, how near to the last days, we are not sure; but we are getting closer and closer. It is not far off, we can be assured of that, because of the things that are transpiring around us in the world. And Christ said, "this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness"; and Paul says, how can they hear unless it is preached and how can they preach unless they are sent?

We are hearing some announcements concerning the efforts being put forth by Brother Sheldon to go into the missionary field, which is a good effort, and which is an effort which we should be behind one hundred per cent. We would not have enough missionaries in the field, to preach the gospel to the ends of the world, if we had every man, woman and child in the Church in the field, which is not practical, at all. But if we had them all out, we would not have enough. So, we need everyone we can get in the field. We need to be sending missionaries out, but there is an article that is in the December Advocate, by the Business Manager, Brother Harris, and he makes this statement: "You will notice that our tithes and offerings received for this period", and that was up until September, "have been 23 per cent less than for the same period last year, while our expenditures have been approximately the same as last year."

Yet, we have a missionary that, in spite of that, is willing to move out and go out into the field, and leave into your and my care his family and his family's needs. The needs of such as these is the thing that I would like to bring to your attention.

I said awhile ago, I do not know how many of you pay tithes. I do not know how many of you make any amount of offerings. I could find out. I have never desired to find out. I think it was in 1950 that the Church, at the recommendation of the Bishops, adopted what was called a clarification of our stand on tithing. The stand then taken, as it has been somewhat vaguely made before, was that tithing was one-tenth of one's income. It is kind of hard to say increase in these days, because we work, most of us, in the cities and receive a salary, which is an income. We are not farmers and our income is not derived from the increase from our flocks and our crops. So, the tenth of our increase has to be figured in a little different way.

We said that it could be, or that we recommended it be one-tenth of one's income, less the cost of making that income.

We further defined the cost of making that income to exclude the cost of living expenses, that is; a home, clothing and food. These should come out of your nine-tenths.

Taxes should come out, that is income taxes, because that is one cost of making your income that the

government takes right from the beginning?

Social Security comes out, too. Of course, at such time as you would receive back benefits from Social Security, and are still in the mood to pay tithing, and felt a responsibility, that would be the time that that particular portion of your income would be tithed.

Bear in mind that this is a recommendation and there is no one that I know that is out measuring up to see if you come up to it, nor do I think that any of the Bishops have any desire to do so. I would like to give you an opportunity to make your own inventory of your own circumstances based upon the needs of those that we know of in the Church, and these that I have mentioned here are just some of the cases of need, and I want to mention some of the others.

There is another question that sometimes comes up and I would like to refer to chapter thirteen of Matthew. It is rather a lengthy reading. We will begin with verse twenty-four. Christ is speaking a parable.

"The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: And in the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn."

Then he goes ahead and gives another parable. Later on after the multitude had left, the disciples came and talked with him and they asked him, what did you mean by this parable of the tares of the field? Christ answered,

"He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one; The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels. As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be a wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear."

We hear this question many times, and I would like for us to consider it in the light of the things which Christ has said about the parable of the tares. It was not very long ago that this particular question came up before the Bishops and one individual was reported to have said, "Well, if this is the way the money is going to be spent, if it is going to be used there (naming a certain mission), I am not going to pay any more tithing." I will just report to you that I have heard those that have said just the opposite, "Well, if they

are not going to use more money there, I will send my money there and not send in any tithing."

And others have said, "Well, I just don't like the way he conducts his missionary activities, I am going to withhold my tithing. I am going to withhold any offerings to the Church. I am going to let them see how they can get along without them."

I would like for us to consider this, that even as Jacob (in the book of Mormon) reminds us that we are all sinners, we all fall short, we all have our faults and imperfections, we all, at times, use poor judgment. But I believe the most of us, if not everyone, that are members of the Church of Christ, and I say it that way, not because I think that anyone is dishonest, but because that leaves it open. I like to believe, and I try to believe, and I work towards that end that everyone is honest in their effort to discharge their responsibilities, that at times we each fall short.

At times we err, but bear this in mind, that if the lord of the harvest, at any time, sees that we are a detriment to the work, He can take us out so we will not hinder the work, but that as long as He feels that we have that within us which He can use, let Him be the judge. Let us abide by the counsel of the prophets. By the counsel of the servants of God of old, to place our tithes and offerings into the storehouse. Let God judge, let God lead those that are responsible, to see that it goes where it is needed, where it can best be used.

There are many needs that we have. Here a few years ago, we recommended, and the Church approved, a home for the aged. A means of taking care of those, who have come to a stage in life where they are no longer able to care for themselves. Many, some who regularly attend the services, are way up in years and still able to take care of themselves. But all are not in such circumstances. There are those who need constant care. There are those who, in order to get that care, are in isolated places, far away from any members of the Church.

I remember, not so very long ago, of hearing through Brother Nicholas Denham a report, rather I read a letter that came to him from one of the children of Sister Skinner who lives in Ogden, Utah, in a rest home. This sister was asking when it would be possible that she could come back here and be closer to the saints, that if it was at all possible that there would be a home in the near future that she could come to, because she wanted to be where she could hear the gospel. She wanted to be where she could have the Sacrament, where she could have associations with the brothers and sisters in the faith. And yet, she is hundreds of miles away. Because we have not yet found a way to supply all the needs that we have. There are these new brothers and sisters in Yucatan. As one brother writes in the Advocate, you can tell by his letter that he is overjoyed with the news of the gospel which he has so recently found. And he is just one of hundreds of thousands in that part of the country.

I believe it was a year ago last reunion time, long about August a year ago, Brother Sheldon spoke of the time when the gospel would be carried to the house of Israel, to the Jews. And we have that responsibility

as a church. We cannot carry it out now because we have not the means to support a missionary and sustain him any length of time among those people.

Some of the far away places in the world that I can think of are India and China on the opposite sides of the globe from us. It has been about three years ago that I read a letter from a man that had been contacted by Brother James Yates. He was wondering when our conference was held, asking a little more about the Church of Christ. You cannot do much preaching by letter. He wanted to see somebody and talk to them.

We could hardly even send a missionary that far, let alone sustain him any length of time there. But there is a pleading cry from the far places of the world, that you and I can help to supply. We can help release these captives that have been held down. All that are captives of Satan. And that is our responsibility.

I would like to ask those that are young in the church, I know there are many, soon you are going to be out on your own, if we are not already. Out of school, out working, consider these things when you get a job. Start an early habit in life that will pay you dividends, not necessarily in dollars and cents, but in friends such as Brother Yam, Brother Camul, and Brother Ojeda. Friends, loved ones. It will pay you dividends in that the Lord will look after you and make those things which you have more useful in your hands. And you will be able to do as much for the forwarding of the work of Jesus Christ in these days as the missionaries who are out in the far places of the world.

There is a saying which was quite prevalent during the Second World War which might at first seem not to apply too well and yet consider it a moment. It went something like this, speaking of those who bought bonds as "the man behind the man behind the gun".

We, here at home, with our tithes and our offerings can be the brothers and sisters that are behind the missionaries that are out in the field.

You know Malachi was a prophet that lived about 397 B. C. You might say that he spoke under the Mosaic dispensation, and he spoke of tithes and offerings. And some might say, "How does that apply to me because Christ fulfilled the old covenant?" But Christ in fulfilling the old covenant did not do away with it nor with all the things that were contained therein. But he did do away with many of the outward ordinances and sacrificial things that were in the church in Moses' day. But when he came here, upon this continent and spoke to the Nephites and the Lamanites, he asked them if they had certain things written. And he said that the Father had spoken to Malachi and it was wisdom that they should have the words of Malachi as they had been given. Beginning with verse eleven of chapter eleven of III Nephi on page 668, we find these words which Christ spoke unto that people.

"Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse, for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the

tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in my house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the fields, saith the Lord of hosts. And all nations shall call you blessed, for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the Lord of hosts. Your words have been stout against me, saith the Lord. Yet ye say, What have we spoken against thee? Ye have said, It is vain to serve God, and what doth it profit that we have kept his ordinances, and that we have walked mournfully before the Lord of hosts? And now we call the proud happy, yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, them that tempt God are even delivered.

"Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another, and the Lord hearkened, and heard; and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name. And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them as a man spareth his own son that serveth him. Then shall ye return and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God, and him that serveth him not. For behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble; and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

"But unto you that fear my name, shall the Son of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth and grow up as calves of the stall. And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of hosts. Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you Elijah, the prophet, before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord; And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse."

And so, Christ, Himself, has asked us that we give our tithes into the church. As I say, let us make inventory if we are tithe payers, and I am inclined to believe most of us are. Let us check the offering column. Let us see if our particular wants are as important as the needs of those around us and scattered around the world. Let us see how thankful we are that we have heard the gospel and how great is our desire to share it with another. How great is our desire to see more missionaries in the field? How great is our desire to see those like Sister Skinner be in a place where they can be near church people?

And perchance the Lord will—I know he will rebuke the devourer for our sakes. And he will increase our talents, he will increase our income, he will increase the use that we can put that income to, to such an extent that we can not possibly contain it ourselves, if we keep using it as God gives it to us.

May God bless us.

RECIPE FOR HAPPINESS

Stir together equal parts of Honest Labor, Fairness, Courage and Common Sense. Add plenty of Pep and Determination. Flavor with Tolerance and Charity. Moisten well with the Milk of Human Kindness. Boil over a hot fire of Ambition and Enthusiasm. Skim off all Selfishness, Unfairness, Pessimism and Discontent. Serve daily to yourself and fellow men.

—Selected

NOTICE TO MISSOURI, ARKANSAS AND LOUISIANA

Brother Archie F. Bell of Ava, Missouri; Brother John Sween of Hamilton, Missouri; Brother Paul Mercer of Houston, Missouri; Brother Alex Smith of Ava Missouri; and Brother Leslie Case of Independence, Missouri met in Houston, Mo. at the Oak Hill Church at 4:00 P. M. November 30, 1954 to make plans for the 1955 Reunion. Since Brother Bell's field is made up of these three states, the Missouri Reunion was changed to The Missouri, Arkansas, and Louisiana District Reunion.

As we met we chose the above name until such time as the field might be changed. Plans were set up for a permanent reunion committee and sub-committees. The Missionary in Charge of this field shall be the Chairman. Each Local in the field is to elect a delegate on or before April first of each year to take office at the close of the reunion that year.

We favored a camp meeting though we have not chosen a place for the 1955 Reunion. We will meet again on the 5th of March at the Oak Hill Church in Houston, Missouri at 1:00 P. M., to consider the invitations in the light of the available funds at that time. July 15th, 16th, and 17th were set aside with the possibility of adding more time to this if the committee so desires.

We will have a notice in the April Advocate of further plans.

Respectfully,

Leslie P. Case, Secretary

OBITUARIES

Mrs. Agnes Myers

Mrs. Agnes Myers was born at Holstein, Ontario, Canada, March 28, 1871. She passed from this life Sunday, January 2, 1955 in the hospital in Regina, Saskatchewan. She came west to Saskatchewan in 1918 residing at Viceroy. She moved to Regina in 1933 and has been a resident of this city until the time of her death.

She leaves to mourn her passing a daughter, Mrs. Jean McInnis, residing at 820 Cameron Street and a daughter, Mrs. I. M. Holmes, residing in Wesley, Massachusetts, U. S. A.; also, a number of grandchildren and great grandchildren and a sister, Mrs. Annie Cameron, of Kitchener, Ontario.

She was a faithful member of The Church of Christ, true to the covenant she made to her Lord in the waters

of baptism many years ago. Thus another faithful soul has gone to the Paradise of God, there to await the morn of the first resurrection of the dead.

Services were held from The Church of Christ in Viceroy, Sask. The funeral was in charge of the Speers Funeral Home of Regina. Services in the church and at the grave were in charge of Elders W. F. Jordan and T. J. Jordan.

Cora Goodenough Dokey

Cora Goodenough daughter of Heman and Amanda Churchill Goodenough, was born May 9th, 1866 in Volinia, Cass County, Michigan. She was united in marriage to Edward Touchatt September 26, 1889. To this union two children were born who died in infancy.

In August 7, 1904 she was baptized in the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, by E. J. Goodenough.

In 1927 she transferred to the Church of Christ (Temple Lot). Mr. Touchatt passed away in March, 1936, and in 1940 Mrs. Touchatt was united in marriage to Jessie Dokey. She passed away December 14, 1954 at Dowagiac, Michigan. She is survived by her husband, Jessie Dokey, and one sister, Verna G. Goodenough, and a host of friends.

Funeral services were held at the Lions Funeral Home December 17, in charge of Elder Benjamin J. Bowman. Burial was in the Rose Hill Cemetery at Nicholesville, Michigan.

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.

Send ALL remittances for the Sunday School Association to: General Sunday School Ass'n. Treasurer, Church of Christ (Temple Lot), Box 472, Independence, Missouri.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPPLIES

	Price Each
Wee Mites, Picture Stories to color, 5 sets, 1 to 13 ea.....	\$ 15
Primary, Vol. 1, No. 1, Childhood of Jesus.....	.20
Primary, Vol. 1, No. 2, Jesus' Ministry.....	.20
Primary, Vol 1, No. 3, Jesus' Ministry, cont.....	.20
Primary, Vol 1, No. 4, Life of Jesus.....	.20
Junior, Vol 1, No. 1, Principles of the Gospel.....	.20
Junior, Vol. 1, No. 2, God's Revelments to Mankind20
Junior, Vol. 1, No. 3, Fruits of the Spirit.....	.20
Junior, Vol 1, No. 4, Sermon on the Mount.....	.20