

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 32

Independence, Missouri, May, 1955

Number 5

Dear Lord:

Help us, that love may control our thoughts and master our lives. Keep us strong and pure and true today. Grant us bigness of life that we may help others and bring them to thee. There is no fear in love. Perfect love casteth out fear. Fear hath torment. He that feareth hath not love. We pray, O God, for thy inspiring touch that we may be better people than we are. Grant that our lives may be such that we may make life richer for others. By this shall all men know that we are His disciples if we shall have love for one another. Teach us, O Lord, how to sing when the heart is burdened, that we may be able to carry our cross with a smile. O Lord, help us to be as a big brother to some one in need of help today, and always. Our loving Father, we thank thee that thou dost not require us to be strong before thou dost love us, but even when we are weak and fearful thou loved us and didst pour out thy love upon us. Each day may our lives show to those about us that we are responding to thy love.

We ask in the name of Jesus, who loves us and gave His life for us. Amen!

Written by John J. Davis, Logan, Ohio
February 27, 1946

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ZION'S ADVOCATE

Official Publication of the Church of Christ

Headquarters on the Temple Lot, Independence, Missouri

EDITOR: Archie F. Bell, Ava, Missouri.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS: Marion Surague, 424 East Walnut Street, Independence, Missouri; Lois Harris, 1920 South Osage, Independence, Missouri.

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EDITORIAL

The God of Heaven is still our God. We are fully convinced of that fact. If this were not so, the power of evil would not be trying so hard to overcome us. The evil one is the cause of all our persecutions, trials and tribulations.

It is quite evident that a new era is opening up, not only for the Lord's people but for the world as well. All indications are for the world to be faced with increased perplexities that will overtax its ability to solve. The task falls to the Lord's people to prepare the people to do the work designated by the Lord for Joseph, the son of Jacob, to do in the last days.

In the writings of Moses we find this statement: "Let the blessing come upon the head of Joseph, and upon the top of the head of him that was separated from his brethren. His glory is like the firstling of his bullock, and his horns are like the horns of unicorns; with them he shall push the people together to the ends of the earth: and they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manassah."

It must be remembered that Israel, in blessing the two sons of Joseph said: "Let my name be named on them". This caused them to be included in the family of Israel and become two of the Tribes. These two were the only sons of Joseph, therefore the tribe of Joseph would have to be extracts from these two sons.

The Lord indicated in the days of Nephi, that when the gospel was restored it would be to the Gentile. We also learn, from the prophecy of Zenos, that the Lord said He would graft tender twigs into the wild olive tree from the tame olive tree. Paul, in his writings, indicated that the Gentiles were the wild olive tree. We learn that Ephraim lost his identity among the Gentiles. This being the case, then, there is plenty of reason to believe there is an extract among the Gentiles here in America.

The Book of Mormon plainly states that the American Indian is a descendant of Manasseh. This, in the Book of Mormon, is called a planting. It will be necessary for an extract from this planting to be united with

an extract from Ephraim among the Gentiles and they together will be the beginning of the tribe of Joseph.

The gospel was restored to the Gentile back in 1830 and has been carried forth among them in this land to this day, and will continue to be. Now we have entered the era when it must be established among the Indian or Lamanite. In the words of Christ we find that the Gentile is to assist the Lamanite. One meaning of assist is: Cause to stand.

We must be instrumental in placing the tools of the gospel in their hands and help them to learn how to use these tools. We are building the house of the Lord, having received authority to do so, and should be working on the second story at the present. The tools for building the Kingdom of God have been in the hands of the Gentiles only, up until lately, but now the Lamanites must begin to share this work.

The Lord's ways are always orderly. We understand that His plans were prepared from the foundation of the world, not only for the redemption of His people but also for appointed times and people to be used in His great plan.

Israel had some knowledge of this when He blessed the two sons of Joseph. Moses expressed a broader knowledge than Israel did, when he pronounced the blessing upon Joseph. Part of the blessing is quoted above. We must be careful not to run before the Lord, that is: not to start an all out effort which is not in harmony with His plans.

It should be plain to us that our primary work, today, is to prepare the descendants of the two sons of Joseph, on this land, for the work which the Lord decreed that they should do together.

The prophet Zenos wrote concerning this last work for the Lord: "And it came to pass that the Lord of the vineyard sent His servant; and the servant went and did as the Lord had commanded him, and brought other servants; and they were few.

"And the Lord of the vineyard said unto them, go to, and labor in the vineyard, with your mights . . . and the Lord of the vineyard labored also with them; and they did obey the commandments of the Lord of the vineyard, in all things."

In the above we can see that there are more than one doing the work for the Lord. Jacob makes the statement that this is the "last time, that the servants of the Lord shall go forth in His power, to nourish and prune His vineyard."

When Christ was here on earth, He made a statement that fits in well with the prophecy of Zenos in the part we have referred to. It is: "And then shall the power of heaven come down among them; and I also will be in the midst, and then shall the work of the Father commence, at that day when this gospel shall be preached among the remnant of this people.

Verily, I say unto you, at that day shall the work of the Father commence among all the dispersed of my people; yea, even the tribes which have been lost."

It stands to reason that if this work is to be done by the descendants of Joseph through his two sons;

then they must be together when the Lord endues His servants with the power of Heaven. When they receive this enduement is the time when they will be positively identified as Ephraim and Manasseh in Joseph. Then, are they to push the people of the earth together. Then, will be fulfilled the statement of Christ wherein He says: "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations." Then is the time when the stone, cut out of the mountain without hands, will start to break the image to pieces with the word of God. And fragments of the population of these various nations will be gathered home to the land of their inheritance.

There is no time to be lost in idle disputes, contentions or discouragements. We must remember the words of Christ: "He that endureth unto the end, the same shall be saved."

Satan knows that his time is short and for that reason he will put forth his every effort to destroy as much of the Lord's work as he can. We must be careful that we do not let ourselves be used by him in this effort of destruction.

Satan will pit person against person, personality against personality and group against group. He will try to get us to see so much fault in our fellowman that we see nothing but fault in everything, knowing that if we do this thing, we may turn against everything that is good and thus destroy ourselves.

The thoughts which try to induce us to give up, come from evil. The thoughts which invite and entice us to do good and endure trials and tribulations, come from God.

"Choose you this day whom ye shall serve".

Mount up the heights of wisdom
And crush each error low
Hold back no word of knowledge
That human heart should know.
Be faithful to your mission
And the service of your Lord
And then a home in glory
Will be your great reward.

A. F. B.

REPORT OF THE 1955 CONFERENCE

Foreword

The standing instructions of the conference to the secretaries are to condense the minutes for publication and show only the "Affirmative Report" of those measures on which an affirmative vote carried. Complete copies of the minutes will be found in the hands of the General Church Secretary, General Church Recorder, Secretary of the Council of Twelve, Secretary of the Council of Bishops, and the Board of General Church Historians. These may be consulted for particulars.

Certain principles will be followed in making this condensed version of the minutes. Organization of the

conference is condensed. Opening and closing exercises are omitted, as well as the approval of the minutes. Ministerial reports are not shown and other reports not acted upon will be shown in brief if at all.

Reports of Auxiliaries which will be spread in full in other pages of the Advocate will carry only a note to that effect. Elections will show only the final result.

Motions and resolutions are to be shown in the form finally adopted. Movers and seconders of the original motions will be shown where possible.

Counted votes will show only on matters of a referendum nature. Motions lost, tabled, or otherwise unnecessary to the understanding of the report will be omitted.

Respectfully,

Forest E. Maley
Secretary to the Conference.

REPORT OF THE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

**Of the Ministers' Conference of the Church of Christ
(Temple Lot) In Session April 6, 1955 to April 14,
1955 on the Temple Lot, at Independence, Mo.**

April 6, 1955—10:00 A. M. Session

Apostle Archie F. Bell in charge assisted by Apostle Leon Yates.

The body organized the conference as follows:
Chairmanship: The Council of Twelve.

Secretary: Bro. Forest Maley.

Press Committee: Brethren Vance H. Harris, Wm. A. Sheldon, James M. Case.

Ushers: Bro. Jack Sprague with power to choose assistants.

Program for the Conference:

9:30 to 10:45 A. M. Prayer and devotional services.

11:00 to 12:00 A. M. Preaching except when otherwise provided.

2:00 to 4:00 P. M. Business Session.

4:30 to 5:30 P. M. School of the Ministry.

7:30 to 8:00 P. M. Song Service except when otherwise provided.

8:00 P. M. on to be preaching service unless changed by order of conference.

Meetings of the Committees, Quorums, or Council meetings should be held in the early morning hour as much as possible, that all may be at liberty to attend the regular meetings of the Conference. Should emergency arise, these rules may be changed by motion and vote of the body.

On recommendation from the Twelve the Young People's Christian League were allowed Friday evening for their social; the United Workers were granted Tuesday afternoon for their convention; the General Sunday School was given Saturday afternoon for its convention.

April 6, 1955—2:00 P. M. Session

Apostle Leon Yates in charge assisted by Apostle Wm. A. Sheldon.

Bro. Wm. F. Anderson moved to approve the recommendation of the Council of Twelve relative to Bro. Fernando Ojeda being set apart to the office of a Seventy, and that provision be made for the ordination at the sacrament service this coming Sunday morning. Seconded by Bro. B. C. Flint.

The above question was pending at the time of adjournment.

April 7, 1955—2:00 P. M. Session

Apostle Leon Yates in charge assisted by Apostle Wm. A. Sheldon.

Vote was called on the motion to approve the setting apart of Bro. Fernando Ojeda to the office of Seventy and provide ordination. Carried.

April 8, 1955—2:00 P. M. Session

Apostle Wm. A. Sheldon in charge assisted by Apostle Wm. F. Anderson.

The body considered the recommendation of the Twelve relative to the resignation of Apostle Don W. Housknecht. The matter follows:

Independence, Missouri
April 6, 1955

To the Conference of the
Church of Christ
Greetings;

In as much as there did come to the Council of Twelve through its Secretary, Apostle Archie F. Bell, a letter as of the date of August 31, 1954 from Apostle Don W. Housknecht, in which he expresses the wish "to be released from the Quorum of Twelve Apostles," and Whereas; All efforts made by members of the Council of Twelve since that date have failed to change his mind or attitude in regard to his resigning from the Council; and

Whereas; In a letter recently received as of March 31, 1955 he still feels it his "duty to resign;" therefore the Council of Twelve Apostles recommend that his resignation be now accepted and he be released from all further obligation and responsibility as an Apostle of the Church of Christ.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) Arthur M. Smith
Secretary of the
Council of Twelve

(Copy of his letter of August 31, 1954 attached hereto.)

Fenton, Michigan
August 31, 1954

Elder A. F. Bell
Ava, Missouri

Dear Brother:

Inasmuch as you are the acting secretary of the Quorum, I write this letter to you and ask that you take whatever steps that may be necessary to carry out the wishes expressed herein.

This letter is meant to be the official notice that I desire to be released from the Quorum of Twelve Apostles.

Therefore please accept my resignation from the office of an Apostle in this Church of Christ (TL), and from this date, August 31, 1954, I shall no more regard myself as holding this said office.

I realize that final acceptance of this resignation is in the hands of the General Conference, but please leave me out in any future business that is to be regarded by the members of the Apostles.

Will you please give notice through the Advocate, that I am no longer representing the Church of Christ in any official capacity, which will relieve me of necessity of writing so many letters, and thank you.

Please believe that my action is not without regrets, but after long debating with myself, I find it to be the best thing for all concerned.

This is final! No amount of persuading will change things, should there be those that would feel inclined to try. I am supposing that this letter or a copy of such will be given to the remaining members of the Quorum, as a notice to them of my action.

I am, sincerely yours,

(signed) Don W. Housknecht

Bro. Rolland Sprague moved that we approve the recommendation of the Quorum of Twelve with regard to the resignation of Don Housknecht. Seconded by Bro. B. C. Flint. Carried.

Bro. A. M. Smith inquired whether or not the Eldership of Bro. Housknecht was affected by this voting. The Chair ruled that it was not affected.

April 11, 1955—2:00 P. M. Session

Apostle Wm. F. Anderson in charge assisted by Apostle Leon A. Gould.

Election of Officers and Committees:

Business Manager and Secretary of Transportation:
Vance H. Harris.

General Church Secretary: Forest E. Maley.

General Church Recorder: James M. Case.

General Church Chorister: Metta Anderson.

Editor of Zion's Advocate: Archie F. Bell.

Associate Editors of Zion's Advocate: Lois Harris and Marion Sprague.

Dining Hall Committee: Sr. Minnie Smith with power to choose assistants.

Reception Committee: Nicholas F. Denham, James M. Case, Rolland D. Sprague.

Bro. LeRoy Wheaton moved that the reception com-

mittee be empowered to provide the little lapel identifications, and to see that the necessary parking signs are provided for, and the little stickers that go on the windshields of the cars, and also registration of the conference attendance. Seconded by Bro. Vance H. Harris. Carried.

Standing Boards and Committees:

Auditing Committee: James M. Case, re-elected for three years, the other members being Dorothy Denham (2) and Rolland D. Sprague (1).

Referendum Committee: Nicholas F. Denham re-elected for three years, the other members being Marion Sprague (2) and Ora Derry (1).

Relations Committee: Bro. Arthur M. Smith elected for three years, the other members being R. R. Robertson (2) and Leon A. Gould (1).

Board of General Church Historians: Archie F. Bell elected for three years, the other members being James M. Case (2) and Arthur M. Smith (1).

Library Board: Leslie P. Case elected for three years, the other members being Archie F. Bell (2) and James M. Case (1).

Building Committee:

Bro. Forest Maley moved that the Building Committee be dispensed with and their responsibilities be turned over to the General Bishopric. Seconded by Sr. Lois Harris. Carried.

Board of Publication: Leslie P. Case and Forest Maley elected for three years, the other members being The Business Manager as Chairman, James M. Case (2) and C. LeRoy Wheaton, Jr. (2).

Indian Relations Committee:

Bro. Clarence L. Wheaton moved that the committee on Indian Relations be abolished. Seconded by Bro. Charles Reed. Carried.

Bro. Clarence L. Wheaton moved to approve the Auditor's Report. Seconded by Bro. Wm. A. Sheldon. Carried. (See this report in full in other pages of the Zion's Advocate).

Bro. Clarence L. Wheaton moved to approve the report of the General Sunday School Association. Seconded by Bro. Eugene Gould. Carried. (See this report in full in other pages of the Zion's Advocate).

Bro. Clarence L. Wheaton moved that the report of the Auditing Committee be received and spread on the minutes. Seconded by Bro. Charles Reed. Carried.

The Auditing Committee Report follows:

Independence, Missouri
April 7, 1955

To the Church of Christ (Temple Lot)
Conference Assembled.

We, the Auditing Committee, report to the Conference of 1955 that we have obtained the auditor for the books of the Business Manager, and the books have been audited, and the report is in the hands of the Secretary to the Conference, also will be in the hands

of the Bishops.

Sincerely,

The Auditing Committee
(signed) Rolland D. Sprague
Dorothy Denham
James M. Case

Bro. LeRoy Wheaton moved as a matter incidental to the report of the Auditing Committee just received, in the way of instructing next year's committee; instruct them to turn the reports of the auditor over to the Business Manager for distribution. Seconded by Bro. Richard Wheaton. Carried.

Bro. William A. Sheldon moved to approve the report of the Building Committee. Seconded by Bro. Harvey Bell. Carried.

The report of the Building Committee follows:

April 11, 1955

To the General Conference Assembled
Church of Christ (Temple Lot)

During the past year, floor and foundation plans were drawn for the proposed vault, and the plans were submitted to the General Bishopric for their consideration. This was the only activity for the year.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) Vance H. Harris, Chairman
Richard A. Wheaton, Member
Harvey J. Bell, Member

Brother Clarence L. Wheaton moved that the whole matter of the vault and any other matter of building consideration by the Building Committee be referred to the Bishopric for their consideration and action. Seconded by Bro. A. M. Smith. Carried.

April 13, 1955—10:30 A. M. Session

Apostle Leon A. Gould in charge assisted by Apostle T. J. Jordan.

Bro. Wm. F. Anderson moved that when this conference adjourns, that it does so to meet on the 6th day of April, 1956. Seconded by Bro. A. M. Smith.

April 13, 1955—2:00 P. M. Session

Apostle Leon A. Gould in charge assisted by Apostle T. J. Jordan.

Consideration of the adjournment carried over from the previous meeting. Vote was called and the motion regarding adjournment carried.

Bro. Clarence L. Wheaton moved to approve the tentative budget made by the Joint Council. Seconded by Bro. Nicholas F. Denham. Carried.

The tentative budget follows:

Independence, Missouri
April 12, 1955

To the Conference of the
Church of Christ Assembled

Greetings:

In recent meetings of the Joint Council of the Council of Twelve Apostles and General Bishopric the following actions were taken to be recommended to the conference for your action.

1. We recommend that a printing plant, such as was considered by the Sunday School Association, be set up and that it be made a stewardship project.
2. We recommend that the allowance for dependent children be raised from \$15.00 per month to \$25.00 per month.
3. We also recommend the tentative budget, which is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) A. M. Smith
C. LeRoy Wheaton, Jr.
Secretaries of the
Joint Council

Proposed Budget

Family Allowance	\$13,500.00
Elder's Expense	
Regular	\$2,000.00
European Mission (Missionary in charge).....	1,200.00
Mexican Mission (Missionary in charge).....	1,200.00
Fernando Ojeda	440.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 4,840.00
Aid, General	900.00
Advocate	1,800.00
Tracts	1,000.00
General Maintenance	500.00
General Expense	500.00
Home for the Aged	10,000.00
Building and Maintenance	2,000.00
Yucatan School	1,000.00
	<hr/>
TOTAL.....	\$36,040.00

Bro. Wm. F. Anderson moved that we accept the offer of the General Sunday School Association, and that we instruct the Bishopric to take this matter (of the printing plant) under advisement with power to act. Seconded by Bro. LeRoy Wheaton. Carried.

The offer of the General Sunday School Association follows:

April 11, 1955

To the Church of Christ
Assembled in General Conference
Greetings:

The General Sunday School Association recommends to the Conference that we are willing to share with them the purchase of a Gestetner Duplicator up to 50 per cent of the cost.

Signed,
Lois Harris, Secretary
Leslie P. Case, Superintendent

Bro. Wm. F. Anderson moved to approve the Re-

order's corrected report. Seconded by Bro. LeRoy Wheaton. Carried.

The report of the General Church Recorder follows:

April 8, 1955
Independence, Missouri

To the Ministers' Conference
Church of Christ Assembled
Greetings:

As the recorder of the General Church I report the record for the year 1954 and 1955.

Those removed by death this last year.....	32
Those that withdrew this last year.....	13
Those added to the Church this last year.....	73

By Baptism	48
By Transfer	25

Membership last conference reported.....2,400

There were five found for the Records that have not been recorded before, making the total membership recorded to date, 2,428.

Number of children blessed and recorded this last year, 21.

Ordinations performed this last year:

Apostles	2
Elders, 3 plus 1 received by transfer, total.....	4
Priests	1

Locals organized:

Ticul, Yucatan, Mexico.

Sulphur Springs, Arkansas. Elder L. V. Aldridge, pastor.

McClelland, Iowa. Organized April 18, 1954. Elder Clyde Ellis, pastor.

Missions established:

Pustenich, Yucatan, Mexico.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) Elder James M. Case
General Church Recorder

April 14, 1955—10:30 A. M. Session

Apostle T. J. Jordan in charge assisted by Apostle Arthur M. Smith.

Bro. Richard A. Wheaton moved to concur in the recommendations of the Twelve on missionary appointments. Seconded by Bro. Rolland Sprague. Carried.

The recommendation on missionary appointments follows:

Independence, Missouri
April 11, 1955

To the Conference of the
Church of Christ
Greetings:

The Council of Twelve submits the following as the fields of appointment for the Conference year of 1955.

Apostle William F. Anderson—Indiana, Ohio, and

Ontario in Eastern Canada.

Apostle Leon A. Gould and Apostle Thomas J. Jordan—Western Canada and the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, North and South Dakota, Minnesota, and Iowa.

Apostle R. R. Robertson—Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee, North and South Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida.

Apostle B. C. Flint—Associated with Apostle William A. Sheldon in Wisconsin and Illinois.

Apostle Clarence L. Wheaton—Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico and the Republic of Mexico.

Apostle Leon Yates—Arizona, Utah, Nevada, California and Colorado.

Apostle Archie F. Bell—Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana and Kansas.

Apostle Wililam A. Sheldon—North Eastern States, Maine, New York, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Eastern Canada with the exception of Ontario; associated with Apostle A. M. Smith.

Apostle Arthur M. Smith—European Mission; Nebraska, Montana, and Wyoming; and associated with Apostle William A. Sheldon in Northeastern states of Maine, New York, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland; and Eastern Canada with the exception of Ontario.

Apostle Thomas E. Barton appointed to labor as Missionary at Large.

Because of conditions that do now exist in the state of Michigan, the Council of Twelve will have charge of this state, with full power and authority to send into this field, throughout the year, such of the Apostles as it may seem necessary.

The Council of Twelve further recommends to the Conference that Bishop John A. Sweem shall be appointed to labor in the Missionary field as the representative of the Council of Bishops.

We also recommend that Elder Fernando Ojeda shall be appointed to labor as a full time missionary in Yucatan, under the supervision of the Missionary in charge of the Republic of Mexico.

Respectfully,
(signed) Arthur M. Smith
Sec'y. for the Council
of Twelve

April 14, 1955—2:00 P. M. Session

Apostle Arthur M. Smith in charge assisted by Apostle B. C. Flint.

Brother Clarence L. Wheaton moved a resolution to form an Archeological and Visual Aid Committee (as will follow.) Seconded by Bro. L. V. Aldridge. Carried.

The resolution as finally amended and adopted follows:

A Resolution to provide for an Archeological and Visual Aid Committee in the Church of Christ.

Preamble: Whereas, there is a growing interest in the study of archeology in the Americas, as supporting evidence of the Book of Mormon, in the Church of Christ,

Therefore be it resolved, that this 1955 conference of the Church of Christ, (Temple Lot), looks with favor upon such a department in the Church, to be designated as the Archeological and Visual Aid Committee of the Church of Christ.

And it is further resolved, that to further such study, we do hereby appoint a permanent committee of six members to serve, two for three years, two for two years and two for one year; two to be elected or re-elected each year.

And it is further provided that such committee shall be empowered to receive funds which shall be held by the General Bishopric under separate account for this purpose, and receive slides, books, and other archeological materials for the use of such committee, and be the custodian of the same, and shall classify, index, and prepare the same for use by our missionaries, as evidence of the divine authenticity of the Book of Mormon.

Archeological and Visual Aid Committee:—Fernando Ojeda (3), L. V. Aldridge (3), Clarence L. Wheaton (2), Archie F. Bell (2), E. J. McIndoo (1), Forest E. Maley (1). The numbers indicate the number of conference years to serve.

Bro. Richard A. Wheaton moved to approve the report of the United Workers. Seconded by Bro. Nicholas F. Denham. Carried.

(The Report of the United Workers will be spread in full in other pages of the Zion's Advocate).

Brother Richard A. Wheaton moved to approve the Financial Report of the General Bishopric and spread it upon the minutes. Seconded by Bro. Leon Yates. Carried.

The Financial Report follows:

Independence, Missouri
April 12, 1955

To the Conference of the
Church of Christ Assembled
Greetings:

The General Bishopric submit the following report regarding our financial activities during the past Conference year.

Our receipts were as follows:

Tithes		\$17,834.82
Offerings	\$ 510.85	
Consecrations	16.00	
Mexican Mission	73.00	
Vault	373.50	
Temple Fund	150.00	
Storehouse	3.50	
		<hr/>
		\$ 1,126.85
Advocate Subscriptions	338.09	
Dining Hall Funds	245.36	

Books and Tracts	740.42
Total Receipts.....	\$20,285.54

This amount shows a gain of \$167.28 over the previous year's receipts in contrast to the fact that in September 1954 we were about 23 per cent below the previous year.

Our expenditures were as follows:

Family Allowances	\$ 9,510.00
Elder's Expenses	3,985.78
Aid	523.39
Advocate:	
Printing	\$1,524.00
Postage	12.33
Supplies	66.98
	\$ 1,603.31
Dining Hall	374.67
Books and Tracts	840.10
Vault Doors and Frame.....	60.00
General Church Expense	443.09
General Office Expense	467.70

Total Expenditures\$17,808.84

This amount is \$2,507.63 less than for the previous year. This gain is accountable for the reason that the histories were printed in the previous year and more tracts were printed than this year.

Actually our receipts and expenditures totals were approximately the same as last year when all factors were considered.

Our bank balance and cash on hand in the General Fund as of March 15, 1954 was \$5,555.65 and our balance of March 15, 1955 is \$7,882.35 showing a net gain of \$2,326.70.

The Auditor's report will show further break down of some of the various funds.

We are sure that all of us can be well pleased with the progress made this year.

We have recommended a tentative budget for the coming year with several recommendations to the Joint Council which will come as a Joint Council action.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) C. LeRoy Wheaton, Jr.
Sec'y. Gen. Bishopric

Bro. Wm. F. Anderson moved to approve the recommendation of the Joint Council on the General Church Representative in the General Church Office, and Caretaker. Seconded by Bro. LeRoy Wheaton. Carried.

The recommendation of the Joint Council on General Church Representative follows:

Independence, Missouri
April 12, 1955

To the Conference of the
Church of Christ Assembled
Greetings:

In a meeting of the Joint Council of Twelve and General Bishopric on April 12, 1955 they voted to recommend to the conference that Bro. J. Maynard Case

be placed in the General Church Office as General Church Representative for the coming year.

They also recommend that Bro. J. Maynard Case be placed in as Caretaker for the general church for the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) A. M. Smith
C. LeRoy Wheaton, Jr.
Secretaries of the Joint Council

Bro. LeRoy Wheaton moved to approve this document coming from the Joint Council relative to regulating the General Church Representative. Seconded by Bro. Richard A. Wheaton. Carried.

The Regulations for the General Church Representative follows:

Independence, Missouri
April 12, 1955

To the Conference of the
Church of Christ Assembled
Greetings:

At the meeting of the Joint Council meeting of the Council of Twelve Apostles and General Bishopric we voted to recommend to the conference for their approval the following:

Duties of the General Church Representative in the General Church Office.

Whereas the Church by conference resolution adopted, April 12, 1946, (see Advocate for May, 1946, page 77) provisions for a "Church Representative in the General Church Office" and,

Whereas, there is no record of a rule or regulation governing the activities of said Representative, therefore be it recommended that the following regulations should be adopted.

1. It shall be his duty to meet all visitors during office hours, who come to the General Church Office on the Temple Lot seeking information, as follows:

(a) On our doctrine, and explain the same in accord with the Bible and Book of Mormon, the Articles of Faith and General Conference enactments; personal opinions should be stated as such.

(b) On our history, and be so informed as to be able to correctly represent it in accord with the accepted views of the Church of Christ and in harmony with the "Outline History of the Church of Christ."

(c) Concerning literature, tracts, etc., issued to the General Office by the Board of Publications and distribute same to the public as circumstances may warrant.

2. Handling of the mail received by him.

(a) All mail, except such as pertains to the temporal affairs shall be turned over to him by the Business Manager, for distribution to the departments or individuals to whom it should be assigned, without him taking the liberty to carry on a correspondence touching the same, except it be personally addressed to him in relation to a board, office or committee on which he serves. This shall in no wise conflict with

the provisions for the Business Manager, as provided in the Bill No. 4 of the 1942 referendum enacted at the Special Conference of November 16, 1942, as found in the Supplement to Zion's Advocate, for December 1942.

(b) In his official correspondence, the representative of the Church shall request that mail be sent to the Church post office box.

(c) All official correspondence pertaining to the Administrative Missionary activities shall be referred to the Missionary in charge of the field which is affected.

A copy of all correspondence, if designated as official from "General Representative" shall be filed with the Missionary in charge of the field affected or with the Secretary of the Council of Twelve, if it be of general interest.

(d) In all correspondence dealing with doctrinal questions, he shall answer in accord with section 1 (a).

(e) All funds received in the mail shall be turned over to the Business Manager of the General Bishopric for the necessary correspondence related thereto. He shall issue a Bishop's agent receipt for all funds received from visitors to the office. He shall discourage the practice of members sending funds to him but shall instruct them to send them to the Business Manager in harmony with conference action.

(f) All correspondence pertaining to the Administration of Temporal Affairs in the Church shall be referred to the Secretary of the General Bishopric.

3. He shall be the custodian of the General Office, but the management of the office shall be under the Business Manager, in harmony with conference action. (Manager as used above is one who controls or directs the movements or workings of the office).

(a) The Business Manager, General Church Secretary, Recorder, Secretary of the Council of Twelve, and the Secretary of the General Bishopric shall be granted access to the office with keys.

4. He is to maintain at all times a missionary atmosphere in the General Office as his primary objective.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) A. M. Smith
C. LeRoy Wheaton, Jr.
Secretaries of the
Joint Council

Bro. LeRoy Wheaton moved that we adopt this recommendation (from the Joint Council) on missionary expenses. Seconded by Bro. Nicholas F. Denham. Carried.

The recommendation of the Joint Council on missionary expenses follows as finally amended and adopted:

Independence, Missouri
April 13, 1955

To the Conference
Of the Church of Christ
Greetings:

Whereas; there have been injustices, hardships,

and inequalities in the manner in which missionaries have hitherto been provided their personal subsistence and travel expenses, due to circumstances over which they have no control;

Therefore; be it resolved that the Joint Council of the Twelve Apostles and the General Bishopric recommend to the General Conference for their approval as a rule or regulation governing this situation:

1. That the General Bishopric may issue to each missionary under General Conference appointment, and who receives an allowance for his family, an official receipt book, for the purpose of receipting every person who shall place in his hands, funds for tithes, offerings or special donations.

2. That all such funds, other than funds for personal use, shall, upon being received be turned over to the General Bishopric with a duplicate copy of such a receipt to be credited on their books to the donor. If donor desires to remain anonymous, it shall be so stated to the Bishopric and so entered upon their books.

3. That Missionaries shall be provided an Expense Drawing Account by the Bishopric, whereby their just wants and needs for subsistence and travel expenses shall be provided for. The drawing account shall be issued by the General Bishopric as requested from time to time as needed by the missionary.

4. That missionaries thus appointed shall make a regular monthly report of their missionary expenditures to the General Bishopric.

5. That in cases of emergency arising from sickness, accident, or other causes, they shall make their needs known to the General Bishopric, who in turn may provide them relief so far as it may be possible.

6. All solicitation for funds in the church, regardless for what purpose, and the funds so collected, shall be reported to the General Bishopric, and that we recommend to all our people to come forward with their tithes, offerings and consecrations to assist to further our General Missionary activities and to take care of the poor, needy, sick and that the work may arise as time passes.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) A. M. Smith
C. LeRoy Wheaton, Jr.
Secretaries of the
Joint Council

Bro. Rolland Sprague moved to refer the approving of the minutes of the sessions which remained unapproved at the end of the conference to the Council of Twelve to approve at their convenience. Seconded by Bro. LeRoy Wheaton. Carried.

Bro. Nicholas F. Denham moved to adjourn to April 6, (1956) at 10:00 A. M. Seconded by Bro. B. C. Flint. Carried.

* * * *

The above and foregoing is the report of the affirmative action of the Ministers' Conference of the Church of Christ, Temple Lot for 1955. To Sr. Ella Engle and to

Bro. Nicholas Denham I owe much for their able and valued assistance in compiling this record.

Respectfully,

Forest E. Maley
Secretary of the Conference

**Report of the
General Sunday School Association**

April 9, 1955

To the Church of Christ
Assembled in General Conference
Greetings:

The General Sunday School Association met in assembly at 2:00 P. M. with the Chairman, Bro. Leslie Case in charge.

Treasurer's report shows a balance of \$762.12.

Officers for the coming year were elected as follows:

Superintendent, Bro. Leslie Case.

Assistant Superintendent and Treasurer, Bro. Roland Sprague.

Secretary, Sr. Lois Harris.

It was the action of the body that instead of electing a new quarterly committee each year, that we elect a committee of five with a rotating term of office with the two members receiving the highest vote serving three years, the two receiving the next highest vote serving two years and the one receiving the next vote to serve one year, these to elect their own chairman.

Committee is as follows:

Bro. Robert Maley (3).

Bro. Robert C. Case (3).

Sr. Lois Harris (2).

Sr. Marion Sprague (2).

Sr. Ora Derry (1).

The motion carried that the General Sunday School Association recommend to the conference that we are willing to share with them the purchase of a Gestetner duplicator up to 50 per cent of the cost.

The body moved to contribute \$50.00 toward the purchase of the church building at Noel, Missouri.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Harris, Secretary
Leslie P. Case, Superintendent

**Report of the United Workers
General Organization
Business Session**

April 12, 1955

To the Conference Assembled

Greetings:

The General United Workers' Organization met in assembly at 2:00 P. M. with the Chairman, Sr. Minnie Smith in charge.

The reports of the Secretary and Treasurer were read and accepted. The Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$26.62. The collection from this meeting was \$5.35 making a total balance of \$31.97.

Written reports from Wyandotte, Michigan, and Independence, Mo., were received and read. We enjoyed the oral reports from Sr. Frances Yates of Phoenix, Arizona and Sr. Evelyn Huff of Morgantown, West Virginia.

Officers for the coming year were chosen as follows:

Chairman, Sr. Minnie Smith.

Assistant Chairman, Sr. Katherine Moyer.

Secretary, Sr. Lois Harris.

Treasurer, Sr. Bertha Case.

Member at large, Sr. Frances Yates.

The following recommendation was read for the action of the organization:

We recommend to this organization that each local Vacation Bible School be under the supervision of the Local Sunday School teachers, Superintendent, and Pastor instead of under the supervision of this organization as they been to this time.

The motion that we comply with the recommendation carried.

In order to clarify a misunderstanding as to why we were saving pennies during the past year the resolution was passed that our pennies saved in the little boxes go into the Old Folks Home Fund. The penny packages yielded approximately \$62.00 for this fund.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Harris, Secretary
Minnie Smith, Chairman

**CHURCH OF CHRIST
REPORT ON EXAMINATION
MARCH 15, 1955**

The General Bishopric
and

The Ministers' Conference,
Church of Christ,
Temple Lot,
Independence, Missouri

At the request of your Auditing Committee, consisting of Mr. R. D. Sprague, Mrs. Dorothy Denham and Mr. J. M. Case, I have made an examination of the books of account of the Church of Christ, (maintained by Mr. Nicholas F. Denham, Business Manager until April 12, 1954, and by his successor Mr. Vance H. Harris) for the twelve months from March 16, 1954 to March 15, 1955 and present herewith my report including the following statements:

EXHIBIT A

CHURCH OF CHRIST
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES AND FUND EQUITIES
FOR YEAR ENDED MARCH 15, 1955

	Total Funds	General Fund	Mexican Mission	Store-house	Vault Fund	Temple Fund
RECEIPTS:						
Tithing	\$17,834.82	\$17,834.82				
Offerings	1,126.85	526.85	\$ 73.00	\$3.50	\$373.50	\$ 150.00
Advocate Subscriptions	338.09	338.09				
Dining Hall	245.36	245.36				
Books and Tracts	740.42	740.42				
Total Receipts	<u>\$20,285.54</u>	<u>\$19,685.54</u>	<u>\$ 73.00</u>	<u>\$3.50</u>	<u>\$373.50</u>	<u>\$ 150.00</u>
EXPENDITURES:						
Family Allowances—Schedule 1	\$ 9,510.00	\$ 9,510.00				
Elders' Expenses—Regular	835.00	835.00				
European Mission—A. M. Smith	1,225.00	1,225.00				
Mexican Mission:						
C. L. Wheaton, Sr.	\$1,202.80					
F. Ojeda	300.00	1,502.80				
Mexican Mission Aid	423.78	39.98	\$ 383.80			
Aid—General	523.39	523.39				
Advocate Printing, Postage, Etc.	1,603.31	1,603.31				
Dining Hall	374.67	374.67				
Books and Tracts	840.10	840.10				
Vault Door and Frame	60.00				\$ 60.00	
General Church Expenses:						
Maintenance of Temple Lot	\$ 281.15					
Maintenance of Building	15.54					
Secretary's Supplies	61.40					
Flowers	20.00					
Equipment	65.00	443.09	443.09			
General Office Expenses:						
Telephone	\$ 83.43					
Stationery, Postage, etc.	131.95					
Fidelity Bond	12.50					
Audit	50.00					
Equipment	189.82	467.70	467.70			
Total Expenditures	<u>\$17,808.84</u>	<u>\$17,365.04</u>	<u>\$ 383.80</u>	<u>\$3.50</u>	<u>\$ 60.00</u>	<u>\$</u>
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OR (EXPENDITURES)	<u>\$ 2,476.70</u>	<u>\$ 2,320.50</u>	<u>\$(310.80)</u>	<u>\$3.50</u>	<u>\$313.50</u>	<u>\$ 150.00</u>
CASH BALANCES—MARCH 15, 1954:						
General Fund	5,555.65	5,239.85	310.80	5.00		
Temple Fund	2,289.86					2,289.86
CASH IN BANK—MARCH 15, 1955:						
General Fund	\$7,882.35	\$ 7,560.35	\$	\$8.50	\$313.50	\$2,439.86
Temple Fund	2,439.86					
	<u>\$10,322.21</u>					
OTHER ASSETS (nominal carrying values):						
Land—Temple Lot	\$ 1.00					
Land—Stark Acres	1.00					
Equipment	3.00	5.00	5.00			
FUND EQUITIES—MARCH 15, 1955	<u>\$10,327.21</u>	<u>\$ 7,565.35</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$8.50</u>	<u>\$313.50</u>	<u>\$2,439.86</u>

Exhibit A Statement of Cash Receipts, Expenditures and Fund Equities for year ended March 15, 1955.

Schedule 1 Family Allowances for year ended March 15, 1955.

These statements are subject to the following comments.

**Cash Receipts, Expenditures and Fund Equities—
Exhibit A**

The verification of cash receipts was confined to comparing the data on the stubs of receipts issued by the Business Manager during the period under review, with the corresponding entries in the cash book and tracing deposits of equivalent totals to the bank statements.

All disbursements were by checks which contained information regarding the nature of the disbursements. Thus each check, when endorsed by the payee, constituted a receipt for the purposes indicated thereon.

The checks were signed jointly by the Business Manager and the Secretary of the Bishopric. Verification consisted of examining the checks paid by the bank and comparing them with the cash book entries. Invoices were also examined and covered most of the expenditures except those of such nature as obviously would not be supported by invoices.

The cash receipts from all sources other than Temple Fund contributions, were deposited in a single account with the First National Bank of Independence, Missouri.

Expenditures for the Advocate and the Dining Hall activities were in excess of the receipts for these purposes by \$1,265.22 and \$129.31 respectively. Purchases of Books and Tracts were \$99.68 in excess of receipts from sales, etc. I am informed that an inventory of unsold books was taken at the close of the year. If this practice is continued it will be possible to determine more accurately the net results of operating the book and tract department.

General Fund contributions for the year exceeded the expenditures by \$2,320.50. Expenditures for the Mexican Mission exceeded the contributions by \$350.78 of which amount \$310.80 was from Mexican Mission Funds on hand at the beginning of the year, the remainder of \$39.98 being considered a disbursement of the General Fund. Storehouse Fund contributions of \$3.50 were received and there were no disbursements for this fund. Vault Fund contributions of \$373.50 were received and \$60.00 was expended for a vault door and frame, leaving a balance of \$313.50 remaining in the Fund.

Temple Fund contributions were \$150.00. There were no disbursements from this fund, the present balance being \$2,439.86.

In addition to the cash balances shown, the only other assets recorded on the books are real estate and equipment at nominal values.

The books are kept on the cash basis and there were no recorded liabilities at March 15, 1955. We were informed by the Business Manager that he knows of no unpaid bills.

The Fund Equities at March 15, 1955 are shown on the last line of Exhibit A.

General

Fire and extended coverage insurance is carried in the amount of \$2,500.00 on the building and \$500.00 on the contents. A fidelity bond of \$5,000.00 is carried on the Business Manager.

The books were well kept and full co-operation was accorded me by the Business Manager and the Auditing Committee.

I shall be glad to furnish any additional information that may be required.

Amos E. Allen
Certified Public Accountant

Independence, Missouri
April 6, 1955

SCHEDULE 1

CHURCH OF CHRIST FAMILY ALLOWANCES YEAR ENDED MARCH 15, 1955

Anderson, William F.....	\$ 960.00
Bell, A. F.	640.00
Case, J. M.....	960.00
Flint, B. C.....	960.00
Gould, L. A.....	960.00
Housknecht, D. W.....	560.00
Jordan, T. J.	720.00
McIndoo, D. E.....	160.00
Robertson, R. R.....	960.00
Sheldon, Wm. A.....	550.00
Smith, A. M.....	960.00
Wheaton, C. L., Sr.....	960.00
Yates, J. E.....	160.00
Total to Exhibit A.....	\$9,510.00

OUT OF THE MAIL SACK

Newaygo, Michigan, R2

Brothers and Sisters, Greetings:

I wish to tell you something about how I was taught the tenth chapter of St. John when I belonged to another church many years ago.

I will tell of only a few verses that we were studying one night a week at a time. We discussed the sheepfold as found in the first verse. Each one had a different idea as to what it was and how it was built, but mostly how it was built. Some said it was a barn, others said it was an inclosure made of wire, or poles, or stones such as corrals are built. They had it built of material things, not spiritual.

They did know who the shepherd was but not the sheep. They thought that the sheep were those that are kept in corrals or barns. That is in the second verse.

Now the third verse. The porter was just some hired man, servant or slave who looked after the sheep at night while the shepherd rested. Notice, I said shepherds instead of shepherd. They said that this porter was taking care of three or four flocks of sheep for as many shepherds.

Now the next two verses, and that is as far as I will write on what they believed. They said that each shepherd had a certain call and by the tone of his voice each flock would follow its own shepherd and would naturally be afraid of strangers. Oh, how far can the blind lead the blind and how deep is the ditch they both will fall into.

When I went to this old school house on these week-day nights and twice on Sundays, I had to go past a log cabin on the corner at the crossroads. One of the Church of Christ ministers lived there and also had meetings there once on Sunday afternoon and once in the week, sometimes more, that is if we gathered there to feed on the true gospel which he had brought

to those of us who were willing to learn. He was sent here in answer to my prayers that God would give knowledge to those other ministers who were teaching us what they believed instead of what it really teaches in the Bible. God sent him instead.

This one Sunday morning I had gone to Sunday School at the school house as usual, but I was not satisfied with what I was being taught at all. So on the way home I stopped in at the cabin and this Church of Christ minister was standing by the front door talking to some other people. I walked up to him and asked him who the porter was and I didn't even tell him where we were studying, he knew.

He made me answer my own question by asking me another. He asked me who came out of the wilderness eating locusts and honey and I answered John the Baptist. And then I knew who the porter was instead of a servant, hired man or slave.

I also told him what they had said about the sheepfold and the sheep. He asked me who I thought the shepherd was and I told him that Jesus Christ was. He said, "If John the Baptist was the porter and Christ the shepherd, who were the sheep?" I said they must be the followers of Christ and he said that I was right. He then asked me what the sheepfold was. If it was a gathering place for the sheep, just what place was it? I had to think, there, but came up with the right answer; and he said I was right. It is the Church of Christ.

Those people that were there had come to an all-day meeting. There were quite a few there from different parts of the state of Michigan. When I started asking the minister these questions they stopped talking and one could have heard a pin drop. They wanted to hear what one spiritual hungry soul was seeking after. I went on home one happy woman, and you have guessed it that I didn't miss the afternoon meeting either.

I left the other church right after that when they voted down my question and said, "It didn't amount to much."

My question was, "Does the Bible speak of the American Indian? If so, where is it found?"

No one could find it so it was voted down. It was my turn but my question was never answered. But we won't go into that.

Just one year later I was baptized into the Church of Christ and I don't regret one moment of it either. That was nearly sixteen years ago. There have been trials for me too but I am happy to be your sister in the only true gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As ever your sister in the Gospel,

Sister Dorothy Howe

Minneapolis, Minnesota

The annual business meeting was held January 16, 1955. The officers took over their posts. It was suggested that we have a young people's meeting some evening as well as Sunday morning. It was later decided to have it Sunday evening.

Brother Anderson and Brother Sheldon were here in Minneapolis the week previous to our business meeting and spoke to us by tape recording. They spoke jointly on our personal responsibility toward our fellow man, in that we must be spiritually higher than our neighbor in order to have a righteous living example to offer him.

They also expressed our shortcomings as messengers of the gospel. We, of the Church of Christ, have such a great potential and the way is more accessible than ever.

We have had many inspiring services through January and February. Of general importance in our services has been the good example we should set for others to see. Also the responsibility that is ours, how we personally utilize our gift of the gospel and our abilities toward righteousness in daily life.

While here the last week in January Brother Jordan visited several homes, spoke to us Sunday and organized a prayer meeting Thursday. Sunday he addressed us about prayer, the road of life, and whom we shall serve.

Brother Jordan returned again the first of March and Brother Sheldon accompanied him. Brother Sheldon spoke to us the evening of the second and we were happy to see so many there.

On the following Sunday we had a very spiritual three meeting day. In the morning we had sacrament service. In the afternoon we had preaching service with Brother Jordan speaking. Then in the evening Brother Sheldon offered us an inspirational sermon on the second coming of Christ and various ways in which it applies to us.

After the sermon Brother Jordan proclaimed a revelation he had by night vision that Glenn Gill was called to the ministry as an elder and that yours truly was called as a priest. He also referred to other revelations.

John Raymond Gill, Reporter

NEWS FROM LOCALS



Columbus, Ohio

We are very happy to report the condition of the Columbus Local. Last Sunday, March 13, proved to

be a day of rejoicing for members of the Columbus Local, for there were nine precious souls added to the fold, five of them were baptized and four were added by transfer. We did our baptizing in the baptismal font in the Advent Christian Church on East Avenue in Columbus, Ohio then the confirmation service took place in the home of our pastor, Elder Fred C. Welsh at 2575 Findley Avenue. There was a little boy blessed, too, making a total of ten altogether. We believe this makes a total membership of forty counting little, big, and all; but we are very much pleased to report that we are just getting started for we hear of many others who will come with us just as soon as they can arrange to do so.

We hope this will get to be one of the largest branches the Church of Christ has. At least we hope so, so we look with great anticipation of this really materializing which we hope it really does.

You will please notice I have sent you a photo we took after services were over last Sunday. They were taken by our young Brother Frederick Welsh, Jr., but of course this only represents just a few of the membership here. This photo was taken at Broad and Burgess Streets where the hall is where we meet. You can really see that our young brother knows his stuff owing to the way this picture looks.

We think Brother Frederick should be commended very highly for making this nice photo. May we pay tribute to him for making it. Thanks loads Brother Frederick for this service you have rendered for the Lord. May you have God's richest blessing is the prayer of your brothers and sisters in Christ. There is one bad feature concerning it however, and that is your picture of yourself is absent. You should have been in the picture with the rest of the group.

We are still contemplating on buying a large lot, and building us a nice new church on it.

Here is a schedule of church activities: Sunday School, 9:30 A. M., William E. Welsh, Superintendent; Preaching Service, 10:30 A. M., Fred C. Welsh, Pastor. These services are conducted every Sunday. On Wednesday evenings, prayer meetings are conducted at the home of our pastor, Elder Fred C. Welsh at 2575 Findley Avenue. All meetings are very spiritual and uplifting. We ask prayers of all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Marion D. Gross, Reporter

St. Louis, Missouri

On March 6, we had sacrament services. We had many good testimonies. Brother Shanks went to Huston yesterday for the reunion committee meeting. He should return today.

Brother Nichols spoke on March 10. He spoke on the life of Christ. He spoke of His disciples and how they became servants of the Lord. He told how Paul was struck down and of Paul's son Timothy. He also spoke of Moses and the burning bush and of Moses leading the children of Israel out of bondage and of how the Red Sea was opened.

We had two new people at Sunday School and Church. They were Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Acree. We are very happy to have them with us and hope they keep coming back.

Brother Shankle spoke the morning of March 20. His text was on: We'll be rewarded according to our works. Brother Alton Shankle used his chart to bring out his points. He spoke of the Sermon on the Mount. He also spoke of the two resurrections. He spoke of Lazarus and how he had no knowledge of the Bible and how Christ explained to him about being baptized and why he should be baptized.

We had a visitor from Florida. He was Mr. Manning.

After Sunday School on March 27, we had an election for our representative to the reunion planning committee for next year. Brother Lawrence Nichols was elected.

Brother Nichols was the speaker of the morning. He spoke on Christ's teachings. He used the first chapter of Mark about Jesus' early ministry. Also, from Romans, 12th chapter, 1-12 verses.

Edith Frey, Reporter

Independence Diary

"God is Love" was the subject of the sermon by Bro. Vance Harris on the morning of March 13. In the commandments, the first and greatest is: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." St. Matthew 22:37. "Whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. . . . I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning." I John 2:5-7. Adam and Eve had God in perfection, but they did not retain Him because of wickedness. However, he showed that he loved them because he gave them the ability to make their own living and the things to live by. We have instructions, writings, experiences, prophecies, etc., to lead us on. It is now up to us.

In the evening sermon of March 13, Brother Kenneth Smith told us why he was thankful for the Gospel. It has filled a void in life that might have been empty and has given new understanding of life. It is the light and hope of the future. The Gospel will continue and go out to all the world. The hope rests on the people of God as they pray to Him for these things to come to pass. Let us not be like the son in the parable who stayed at home, and forgot that love encompasses all. St. Luke 15:11-32.

Brother T. J. Jordan, of Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, brought us, in the morning service of March 20, some basic views of that individual who died on Calvary that we might live. He was born in a humble place, but soon was about His Father's business. He realized his mission. Do we realize our mission in the world? Consider the child—perfect faith in parental care is shown. We must become as this in faith to

enter the kingdom of Heaven. After Christ's short ministry, he was finally crucified for our sins. On the cross, he uttered these words, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Are we big enough to forgive as He did? Let us make a determination to generate righteousness. God can hold back all dissenting powers. "Choose you this day whom ye will serve." Joshua 24:15.

Occupying in the evening hour of March 20 was Brother William A. Sheldon. The restored Gospel has brought truth and light; the men who preach have had the promise of the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. From the time of John the Baptist, we find the Disciples preaching baptism and repentance. This is a strict law. We cannot tamper with it or change it. Even though we have been baptized, have we been born again—put on new life, pure and holy? Joel made reference to multitudes in the valley of decision. He was speaking of a true valley and a decisive battle. Can we not refer to the world of today as the "multitudes" and are we not in a "valley of decision"? Let us do something about this valley of decision. "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live." Deuteronomy 30:19.

On Thursday evening, March 24, the local church gathered at the home of Brother and Sister James (Jack) Martin to bid them good-bye. Brother and Sister Martin and their three children have moved to Marietta, Georgia, where he was transferred by his employer, an aircraft company. We all hope that they will like their new home, but we miss having them in our congregation.

"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: for everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened." St. Matthew 7:7-8. This was the Scripture lesson used by Brother Arthur Smith in the morning service of March 27. It is not uncommon to find people of today believing that if they knock it shall be opened to them; but these people have been like the Pharisees of old. They have taught the law, but failed to keep it themselves. The world in general is feeling its way in the dark; but, if our faith is grounded on the written promises, we will have comfort and safety to be led in the light. There is no place of protection for us—under the shadow of the wings of God Almighty. "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

March 27 was the day of our monthly all-day meeting, so a covered dish dinner was served in the church. In the afternoon, a large number of people gathered to hear a panel discussion. This was an experimental service, and turned out very well. Brother Forest Maley was the discussion leader with six of our members composing the panel. "And I gave my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all things that are done under heaven: this sore travail hath God given to the sons of man to be exercised therewith." Ecclesiastes 1:13. This Scripture lesson introduced a discussion on the mental processes of the individual in relation to his spiritual advancement.

This discussion seemed to be an enjoyable event and we hope to have more of them.

Brother Archie Bell, of Ava, Missouri, was the speaker in the evening service of March 27. "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." St. John 14:2. This was explained to mean that in the family of the Lord are many manor houses. We can now become a part of that family by being baptized (adopted) into it. Our school is here on earth to prepare us for the future. "And I rejoice in the day when my mortal shall put on immortality, and shall stand before him: then shall I see his face with pleasure, and he will say unto me, Come unto me ye blessed, there is a place prepared for you in the mansions of my Father." Enos 1:46.

The morning of April 3 was Sacrament Service. The Scripture lesson was I Corinthians 10:1-21. "Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of the devils: ye cannot be partaker's of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils." (verse 21). Also in this meeting, Julie Ann Maley, infant daughter of Brother Forest and Sister Irene Maley, was blessed by her father and Brother Archie Bell.

In the evening service of April 3, Brother Clarence L. Wheaton described the last week of Christ on earth. He brought to us the thought of how we might spend the time if we knew we had only a few days left to live.

Sunday, April 10, was given over to Conference services: however, one item of local interest was taken care of. This was the blessing of Gerald Marvin Case, the infant son of Brother Marvin and Sister Edith Case, by his two grandfathers, Brother J. M. Case and Brother Harvey J. Bell.

Our speaker of the morning service of April 17 was Bro. Fernando Ojeda of Ticul, Yucatan. St. John 8:31-32 was the Scripture lesson. "Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." He told us of the great power of Satan that works in Mexico against the church; and that men who do not have Christ cannot love their fellow men.

Brother Leon Yates, of Phoenix, Arizona, was the speaker of the evening service of April 17. St. Matthew 12:38-40 tells of the people clamoring for a sign. We should have enough evidence to believe without a sign. What more do we want besides the sign of the fulfilled prophecies? When things are so plain, man cannot go around under a crust of indifference. "Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it." The Acts 7:53. We also received the law this way, and we are safer not to fight. "Woe to the rebellious children, saith the Lord, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin." Isaiah 30:1.

Enid Bell, Reporter.

Y. P. C. L. NEWS

From Independence

March 17, we all met for our regular Church History class. We spent the evening presenting questions to be considered by the group. Each was to look up the answer and bring it to the next history class. We also talked some about the prophecies concerning Jerusalem. We read Zechariah 2:1-4 and Isaiah 29:9-18.

We held our social on March 24. As the church was having a farewell get together in honor of Brother and Sister Jack Martin, the young people first went to the Martin home to bid them good-bye and then went to the home of one of our group, Jack Sprague, and had a weiner roast. Before the evening was over it began to snow and we finally had to take refuge in the house. We all had a good time in association as we always do.

The Thursday evening before conference, March 31, the young people met at the church equipped with buckets and mop rags and expended some of their energy scrubbing floors and woodwork. After we finished our work, we were served ice cream by our foreman, Sister Minnie Smith. We accomplished much and had a good time doing it.

Because of conference activities we did not meet on either April 7 or 14, but on the night of April 8 we held our conference social. We went to the acreage home of Brother and Sister Leslie Case. An outdoor supper was served to all and then as all conference visitors, young and old, had been invited there was provision made for games for the small children and the young people while the older folks visited in the house. There were quite a few present many of which were out of town visitors. We greatly enjoyed having all the visitors and we hope that they all had a good time.

Mary Lois Harris

PASTORAL

To Members and Friends
of the Church of Christ (Temple Lot)
Greeting:

Having been appointed to labor as Missionary in charge of Ohio, Indiana, and Ontario, I make this appeal for the help of all, that we might make an effort to get the gospel to as many as possible. We are called to be workers together with God and there rests upon all a responsibility that only the individual can lift.

Paul in his appeal to the church at Rome, said "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth,—for therein is the righteousness of God revealed". Rom. 1:15-17. We claim to have the gospel restored. Are we willing to help to get the truth to those who would be willing or wish to hear?

Jesus said, "Let your light shine before men, that they might see your good works."

Are you willing to open your home and invite neighbors and friends to come and hear the message we have for them?

"Come now and let us reason together," Isaiah 1:18. Please help in any way possible.

Sincerely,

Wm. F. Anderson
619 South Crysler
Independence, Missouri

REUNIONS

Colorado - Arizona

A reunion will be held at Grand Junction, Colorado, on June 4, 5 and 6. All those who plan on coming, please write as soon as possible in order that we might be able to make the proper preparations and be able to advise you on what equipment it will be necessary to bring.

Please write to:

Marvin E. Ely
Route 4
Grand Junction, Colorado

"The outlook of American Christianity often looks . . . rather earthward, expecting the fulfillment of God's Kingdom here on earth—one might even say, expecting its realization in the U. S. A."

Norway Bishop, Eivind Berggrav 1953)

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 Association Treasurer, Church of Christ (Temple Lot), Box 472, Independence, Missouri.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPPLIES

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Wee Mites, Picture Stories to color, 5 sets, 1 to 13 ea.....	\$.15
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