

# 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 37

Independence, Missouri, July, 1960

No. 7

## A Boy

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6.)

I took a piece of plastic clay  
And idly fashioned it one day;  
And as my fingers pressed it still  
It bent and yielded to my will.  
I came again when days were past  
The bit of clay was hard at last;  
My early impress it still bore  
And I could change its form no more.

You take a piece of living clay  
And gently form it day by day;  
Moulding with your power and art  
A young boy's soft and yielding heart.  
You come again when years are gone,  
It is a MAN you look upon  
Your early impress still he bore  
And you can change him nevermore!

—Author Unknown

## CONTENTS

Editorial .....	Page 98	Y. P. C. L. News .....	Page 110
Reunion Notices .....	Page 98	Helping Hand .....	Page 111
Missionary Reports .....	Page 99	What God Hath Joined .....	Page 112
News From Locals .....	Page 105	Referendum Notice .....	Page 112
Original Articles:		R. R. Robertson Passes On .....	Page 112
A Glance At History.....	Page 106		
Murals To Pictures .....	Page 108		

## ZION'S ADVOCATE

Official Publication of the Church of Christ

Headquarters on the Temple Lot, Independence, Missouri

EDITOR: Nicholas F. Denham, 4116 South Cottage, Independence, Missouri.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS: James A. Hedrick, 103 North 22nd Street, Blue Springs, Missouri; Lois Harris, 1920 South Osage, Independence, Missouri.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE BOARD OF PUBLICATION, Church of Christ (Temple Lot), Box 472, Independence, Missouri.

Second class postage paid at Independence, Missouri.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: One Year, \$1.50 In bundles of twelve or more, for missionary purposes, \$1.00. Canadian and all foreign rates, \$1.75.

Send all donations for the Temple Fund, the Storehouse, Consecrations, Tithes, Offerings, and subscriptions for the Advocate to: The Church of Christ, (Temple Lot), Box 472, Independence, Missouri

### EDITORIAL

On the fourth day of July in the year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty there appears the fiftieth star in the flag of the United States of America. Just one year ago there appeared the forty-ninth star. These recent changes accentuate the amazing rise of this nation to a major world power in the short space of less than one and one-half centuries; and in less than two centuries it stands in the place of leader of the free world.

The hand of God has been recognized from the beginning in its birth and development. How else could it fill its place in prophecy?

The amazing fact that thirteen small colonies could throw off the rule of their mother country and establish a nation which has grown to a population of 180 million in less than two hundred years is miraculous.

America's first mention in prophecy as Joseph's land was made by Jacob to Joseph in his blessing stating that he was to have a land separate and apart from his brethren. Moses in blessing the twelve tribes of Israel gave a blessing to Joseph's land. Isaiah also referred to the branches that went over the sea; he further states that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains or nations. Nephi, while he was yet in the land of Israel had this to say about Joseph's land: "And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld that the Gentiles who had gone forth out of captivity did humble themselves before the Lord, and the power of the Lord was with them; and I beheld that their mother Gentiles were gathered together upon the waters, and upon the land also, to battle against them; and I beheld that the power of God was with them; and also that the wrath of God was upon all those that were gathered together against them to battle. And I, Nephi, beheld that the Gentiles that had gone out of captivity were delivered by the power of God out of the hands of all other nations."

No better description of the birth of this nation could be given in so few words.

Thus we are made aware of God's great promises to this nation; but with these promises comes an obligation to serve Him or suffer His wrath as Israel has suffered for her disobedience according to the words of Christ which he spoke to the Nephites upon this land: "And after that ye were blessed, then fulfilleth the Father the covenant which he made with Abraham, saying, In thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed, unto the pouring out of the Holy Ghost through me upon the Gentiles, which blessing upon the Gentiles, shall make them mighty above all, unto the scattering of my people, O house of Israel: and they shall be a scourge unto the people of this land. Nevertheless, when they shall have received the fullness of my gospel, then if they shall harden their hearts against me, I will return their iniquities upon their own heads, saith the Father."

Let us carefully take stock and see if there is not a threat hanging over our nation today. We truly need to humble ourselves before God and serve Him lest we suffer His wrath.

### REUNION NOTICES

#### Wisconsin Reunion

Dear Saints:

We are writing to let all you Saints know that we are having our annual Wisconsin Reunion, at our church in Sparta, Wisc., on August 6th and 7th. We are also having the Dedication Services of our church building along with the reunion. We invite all to come who can. Those desiring a place to stay while they are here please write a letter to either Mrs. Viola Petrie, Route No. 1, Sparta, Wisc., or Isaac Brockman and we will make arrangements for a place for you to stay.

We are looking forward to a very good and spiritual time so we hope that all can come. Also we ask all the saints to pray for us all that this might be a great spiritual up-building to all of us. We are praying that the Lord will be with us both in spirit and power as He has in times past. So, we hope that all of you can be with us and enjoy the Spirit of God along with us.

Reunion Committee

Isaac Brockman  
John Davies  
Margie Cain

#### Missouri Reunion

The Missouri Reunion will be held at the G. R. Collins farm east of Independence at the same location as the 1957 reunion and will be sponsored by the two Independence locals. The date will be July 22, 23, and 24. All those desiring more information please contact either Elder Kenneth J. Smith, 209 South Chrysler, Independence, or Elder Marvin M. Case, 413 Walnut, Lee's Summit, Mo.

The Missouri Reunion Committee

#### Michigan Reunion

Welcome to the Michigan State Reunion of the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) at Flint, Michigan, August 13 and 14. For further information and for your comfort while attending the reunion, please get in touch with

Robert Eddy  
1128 E. Humphrey Avenue  
Flint 5, Michigan

## CONFERENCE MISSIONARY REPORTS

### Ministerial Report of Apostle William A. Sheldon

April 8, 1960

To the General Conference,  
Church of Christ,  
Greetings:

Having failed to keep an accurate account of my ministerial activities for the past year, I can only give a general report thereof.

Due largely to the financial condition of the church, and not desiring to overburden the general funds, I elected to remain on permanent employment to sustain my family.

Nevertheless, I feel that our efforts cannot be measured in terms of how far we have traveled, or even how many we have contacted with the Gospel message.

Having associated myself with the new and struggling local here in Independence, I have endeavored to encourage, warn and build the spiritual minds of our brothers and sisters there.

The Lord being our helper, we feel that there has been a goodly degree of success resulting not alone from my efforts but of each of my brethren associated in that work. We have seen young minds grow in comprehension and their desires quickened to the extent that there has been something like eight or nine baptisms. Older ones have taken new courage, and fellowship has increased in love.

Statistically, I can only say that I have baptized three, confirmed and assisted to confirm about as many. Other than that, I have preached when called upon frequently, administered to the sick on many occasions, and in every way possible, sought to be faithful in my ministry.

It is my intention to go into the missionary field in the coming year, and I hope to have your prayers that this may be realized, and that my ministry may prove fruitful.

In gospel bonds,

WILLIAM A. SHELDON

### Missionary Report of Apostle Arthur M. Smith

Independence, Missouri  
April 9, 1960

General Conference  
Church of Christ

I hereby submit my missionary report for the year of 1959 and 1960.

Immediately after Conference of last year we went to Kansas City and renewed our passport, and made inquiry as to obtaining passage over to Europe. We found it would be difficult to obtain passage very soon as all reservations on the boats were taken except the First Class, and these were so expensive we dare not take these. However, through our transportation agent Bro. Harris, we located a travel agency and left a standing order for any passage that might be available, and at as early date as possible.

We then returned home and went down into our missionary field down in Arkansas and Texas for a short time, but were soon home in time to catch the call from Bro. Harris that he had a passage on Holland American Lines if we wanted it. This was one of the smaller boats, and much slower than the lines we had hoped to go on, yet because of the difficulty of obtaining any passage before late in the season, we were very glad to avail ourselves of what the agency had to offer.

We left Kansas City the evening of May 26, going by way of the Greyhound Bus. We went by bus hoping by so doing to save some of the expense money which we had received. Two nights and a day on the bus proved to be a poor way to save expense money and left us very weary and tired when we reached New York, where we learned we still had to take a taxi across the river to Hoboken, New Jersey.

We sailed from Hoboken May 29 on the Statesdame. This is a new boat, very modern and safe, but much smaller than some of the other passenger boats. It was crowded with tourists, the great majority of which were of foreign birth. We were eight days on the water, landing in Southampton June 7; and we still had a tiresome journey before us by train, bus and taxicab before we reached the home of Bro. George Allen in Garden Village, Wales.

Here we found the little group waiting for us. They, knowing

the name of the boat on which we were to come, had found out the time it was to dock at Southampton, and so had gathered there at Bro. Allen's to welcome us back to Wales. It truly was a warm welcome we received, and because of the associations of the past it was a joy to be with them again, but there was some sorrow as we missed some who had gone on to their rest.

We found a great change in the conditions since our former visit three years before, or in 1956. In many ways these changes were for the best. They had abundance of food now and seemingly there was more money with which to purchase this food, but this was not really too great an advantage since the prices were higher in proportion if not in excess of the increase of wages earned.

We soon learned there was much change in other ways than in the matter of food and wages, for we found the people filled with fear and unrest, not only the fear of war, which was indeed constantly before them, but the fear of the economic change that was taking place, not only in Wales but in the whole of the British Isles.

The introduction of gas and oil for both domestic and commercial purposes had virtually destroyed one of the greatest exports of that country, and especially Wales. The great coal docks of Cardiff and Llanelly were falling to pieces while new warehouses were being built to store the imported products that were putting the mining industry out of business.

Besides this change in industry, this was election year and the candidates for the various offices, in the government and in the state, were shouting their various cures for Britain's troubles, which included the destruction of the atomic bomb, all armies and navies, with a very liberal broadside at the Western Powers. The closing of the many coal mines was filling the streets with the idle miners, many of whom were too old to find employment in new occupations.

All this filled the people with unrest, and definitely were not interested in what might be offered to them in the way of religious theology. Could we have offered them assurance of work and some degree of safety from the threatening storm of war clouds that hovered over the whole continent, we could have probably secured the interest of the people, but this we could not do.

Perhaps one incident may help to illustrate what we are trying to show in this report. The Church of England Chapel, at several places in the Ronda Valley, advertised over the radio as well as in the paper that they had secured a place for dancing in, or adjacent to the chapel, where those who so desired this entertainment could enjoy also the service. One Vicar stated he was glad there was at last eight chapels where this kind of entertainment could be had on Sunday evenings, either before or after the service.

So under these conditions we found our work very difficult. Once again we were able to locate some few more of the scattered sheep. We went to London where we had the names of some six or seven who had once been members of the Church. We were able to locate three of these; a mother and her two married daughters. The mother was still firm in the faith, though she scarcely knew where she really belonged; but the two daughters were indifferent. The others we were unable to locate. We located three others who had been baptized into the Church by Elder Crouch, but they were rather indifferent, and lived in a very difficult place to reach. Still Bro. Mason will continue to keep in touch with them. We also located a Teacher who has promised to become active if conditions should change in his employment so he can be free on Sunday.

I have never kept account of the miles I have traveled in the interest of the Church, neither the number of sermons or the administrations and blessings, but I have tried to fill every opportunity of service to my Lord and Master to the best of my ability. I baptized two, confirmed two and assisted to confirm two. We organized a small Sunday School in Garden Village, Wales which we hope may be the means of getting the parents of some of the children interested. Since coming home, we have received a fine letter from one of the mothers of these children that seems to indicate quite some interest.

We are still earnestly engaged in the service of the Lord and desire only that He will recognize the intent and purpose of my life, forgiving me my mistakes and errors, which I know are many.

We returned to the United States November 23, having been away on this mission six months.

Respectfully,

ARTHUR M. SMITH

### Ministerial Report of Elder Fernando Ojeda

Ticul, Yucatan, Mexico  
April 2, 1960

To the General Conference of the Church of Christ  
assembled together at Independence, Missouri:  
Greetings:

As one who was re-appointed at the Conference of last year to labor as a full time worker for this Church, and knowing the interest of the body in the work down here, where I have been laboring, I wish to add my brief report to the others of the ministry of the Church of Christ, who have also been chosen to devote time, energy and all other items so vital in the work.

Since returning home last year, in the first part of July, I engaged myself in contributing toward bringing our chapel here in Ticul to a completion. Thanks to our Heavenly Father and the whole-hearted co-operation of members in the States and some living down here, this humble chapel, which now bears the name of "La Iglesia de Cristo" (The Church of Christ) on the front, was dedicated with a beautiful service, which was very well attended by members of various places here in Yucatan and also by our Bro. Glenn Gill (who was here visiting with us then) on the 23rd of August, 1959.

Since the dedication of our building we have been having various kinds of activities within and without, such as classes in English for both children and adults, members and non-members, which classes have proven to be very effective in bringing the knowledge of the Gospel into the lives of those we contact. Some of those we contacted are now members of the Church for which we are so thankful to our God. We also have our Choir practicing once or twice during the week which serves well as a very good entertainment for both young and old, besides being spiritual occasions. The songs we learn are sung at special services that are held whenever the proper arrangements can be made and the money to rent a loud-speaker system raised. These sort of services are of a missionary purpose and they are also effective in bringing outsiders to, at least, a small comprehension of the joy we find in striving to follow the Narrow Path and the firm hope we have in the promises that the Lord has made to those who are faithful to Him unto the end. I also am engaged in the usual activities of any organized local and our services where the Gospel is preached, the sick administered to and the affairs of the Church here handled are conducted regularly three times in a week.

We find that the effort that is being made, with the participation of several individuals is yet inefficient. We have several groups of other religious people always trying to disrupt our work. Various methods are tried and we find that faith in the Lord and a good comprehension of what the Gospel consists of, besides understanding of the different points of view of these other groups are necessary to help us keep what we have gained and going forward as well.

We find it impractical to pat our opponents on the back and mingling with them without telling them which is the only way that leads into Eternal Life. Romanism, which is the strongest foe, is becoming more and more active. In our country it is against our Constitution that religion of any kind should be taught in public schools; yet, this great organization has managed to post hundreds of Roman Catholic trained teachers in our schools and the pictures of the virgin of Guadalupe, proclaimed and hailed Queen of Mexico and Empress of America, mother of God (one of them) are printed on the covers of the textbooks and other pertinent material which our church children have to buy. Now and then in their lessons, they are given an injection of the meaning of the Mass, the importance of confession, the need they have of carrying with them a little medal or strip of palm leaf in their pockets or between the pages of their books, palm leaf which has been sprinkled by the "father" with "holy" water on Easter Sunday or some relic that will "help" them in their hour of temptation or despair. Some of the most prominent Roman Catholics are getting into the most important places in our government and those who are most influential are working toward the complete elimination of those articles in our Constitution that are harmful to their greedy interests. In face of all these facts we solicit your prayers and your cooperation in helping bring the Gospel to a people who are striving hard to overcome poverty, the result of hundreds of years of foreign domination, ignorance and

pressure from those supposed to enforce the law, and a host of so-called "educators" who spend most of their time getting drunk or playing cards in gambling houses.

This year that has passed has given us the chance of bringing in some new members into the fold. We can only thank God and praise Him for this. We hope that this another year of activities which is about to commence for our Church will bring more joy yet, as a result of the work for the Lord. However, we need material in Spanish, pamphlets on truths about the Gospel and more efficiency from those of us who are engaged in this work, for we find that our faith is very weak and our capacity very limited, and that our humanness is a hindrance very often.

Should my re-appointment be considered again this year, I beg the body to give it very careful consideration, because past experiences have taught me that surety in such matters is vital. I desire to be a help and not a stumbling block in any of my brother's way.

May the Lord be with each and every one of you and may He guide you in all your deliberations is my prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

FERNANDO OJEDA C.

### Ministerial Report of Elder J. M. Case

Independence, Mo.  
April 7, 1960

To the Conference  
Of The Church of Christ  
Greetings:

I wish to report my ministerial activities for the year 1959 and 1960, as follows:

Sermons preached—30  
Served the Sacrament—10  
In charge of services—12  
Assisted in services—4  
Administered to the sick—34  
Assisted in administering to the sick—15  
Held one priesthood service  
Fireside discussions—13  
Taught Sunday School classes—8  
Blessing of babies—1  
Assisted in blessing of babies—1  
Preached one funeral  
Visited in St. Louis, Mo.—16 times  
Visited Noel, Mo.—2 times  
Visited Omaha, Nebraska—1  
Visited Oklahoma City, Okla.—1  
Visited Valley Center, Kansas—5  
Visited Valley Falls, Kansas—2  
Visited Houston, Mo.—2  
Visited Stewartsville, Mo.—2

I have traveled 23,387 miles this last year encouraging the saints and helping them everywhere that I could. We have several interested in the work, and attending quite regularly, and are looking forward to asking questions.

I would like to ask the Conference to continue my appointment of Missouri and Kansas for this coming year.

Your brother in Christ,

ELDER JAMES M. CASE  
of the Seventy

### Ministerial Report of Apostle C. L. Wheaton

17 Kiryat Moshe  
Petah Tikvah, Israel  
March 29, 1960

To the General Conference of the  
Church of Christ (Temple Lot),  
Independence, Missouri  
Greetings to each one of you

From the Holy Land, in our Lord Jesus Christ:

As your servant of the Council of Twelve Apostles who has for the past two years been assigned to labor in this part of the Lord's vineyard, I wish to make the following report of our activities and to relate to you the outlook for the future.

First of all I wish to affirm that at all times and under most difficult and trying experiences, my loving wife, Angela, has been my loyal helper and comfort, and without her companionship here the trials and discouragements we have passed through together could not have been endured. Many times, when I have felt that the situation was untenable, or when discouragement and dispondency made their inroads and I was tempted to forsake this field, it was her prayers and encouragement which inspired me to continue on, though at times her own heart was near the breaking point from homesickness and a longing to see our loved ones once more. We have both lost loved ones since coming here, and her mother, Sr. Marion Denham, is becoming quite aged and from last reports is failing in health.

I would like also, to pay tribute to the scores of members throughout the Church, who by correspondence have conveyed their words of inspiration and encouragement to us and upheld us by their prayers for the Lord to sustain and care for us in our labors to serve Him, as well as for their occasional contributions in the way of CARE packages and funds to assist us in our work. Even some of the widows, out of the goodness of their hearts voluntarily contributed to such work out of their meager incomes, because of their love for the Church and its heroic efforts to spread the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in this land. And like the widow who cast her mite into the treasury of the Temple (Mark 12:41-44; Luke 21:14), their act of devotion shall not go unnoticed by the Son of God. We therefore pray that the seed such contributions have helped us to sow here, will bring forth those results for which the angels of heaven shall be caused to shout for joy, and be in the kingdom of heaven, as bright stars in the crowns of those who thus assisted.

We are still here and have no regrets that we have endured all things for Christ among the unbelieving children of Israel with whom we labor daily, and if it be His will that we continue to carry on we are disposed to do so. However, Brothers and Sisters, we feel that you should be made aware of the circumstances under which we have labored from the first, and under which we would find it necessary to labor in the future.

We want you to be properly informed of the fact that it is forbidden for us to preach on the streets in Israel. That we can only discuss our religion by invitation in the homes of those who may be interested, and we find now, at this late date, that the Government is very much opposed even to that. We are absolutely forbidden in our circumstances, to have any other status than that of tourists, and we remain in the land now at the indulgence of the government.

One government official accused us of coming into the country under the guise of a tourist visa and taking advantage of their courtesy to spread our Church propaganda. Another official, however, after checking into the facts apologized for him in the name of the government. The facts are that we applied for temporary resident visas to do missionary work in Israel before coming here as their law requires, giving them all our credentials. After a long delay without an answer, the Israeli Consulate in Chicago advised us to come on a tourist visa and apply again at their headquarters in Jerusalem, which we did within five days after arrival. They have played a delaying game with us ever since. Every three months when we went in to get our tourist permits extended, each time asking for temporary resident permits to do missionary work, they made little aggravating difficulties for us, no doubt with the idea of wearing us down and causing us to voluntarily leave, their policy being to avoid causing animosity on the part of Americans if possible. So after holding our passports for extended periods without explanation, they would finally extend our tourists permits for another three months.

When we applied as usual the first of March of this year and encountered the same delays only worse, wanting to hold our **passports for two or three months**, we decided to have a show-down. For the first time, we were told who the top officials dealing with this matter were, and immediately presented ourselves to the Minister of Interior, of the Department of Immigration and Registration. He adroitly tried to evade the issue, but finally directed us to the Minister of Christian Religious Affairs, of whom we had never before heard. At their request we gave them information on our Church, including the Book of Mormon, the Articles of

Faith and Practice, and a number of pamphlets, explaining in approximately a two-hour interview, the tenets and faith of our Church. We were told by him they could not issue us permits to do missionary work in Israel, that they had too many Christians in Israel now, that they allow only the Christian Churches here, who were established here at the time Israel became a State. We inquired as to the meaning of the statement in their Constitution that they have religious freedom. He very frankly answered, that to Jews freedom of religion does not mean proselyting and letting each individual make a choice of the religion he prefers as in the United States. But to a Jew, freedom of religion in Israel, means that each Christian Church has freedom with the confines of its own Christian Community, on its own premises, and that they want no Christian proselyting among the Jews. They insist on keeping the "status quo." He informed us that there was no police or security reasons against us and they did not want to consider us "presona non grata" because that might cause our Church people to refuse to come to Israel as tourists (which they are anxious for). So he said the best he could offer us was a sort of compromise of four month's extension, one month of which has passed, to give us time to arrange our affairs to leave, and that he would so recommend to the Board which passes on such things. And we are now only awaiting their written reply to our request which should reach us next week. In other words they would extend our permits to July 31, 1960, the two-year limit beyond which tourists permits are not extended. At the end of that time we would be subject to deportation if we tried to continue to engage in church work.

We find from talking with the Christian group here, that Israel is curtailing their activity even within their own communities, refusing to allow teachers to be brought in for their established schools, and other helpers needed in their work, from abroad. When Billy Graham was here recently he, with the prestige and backing of the whole Protestant world, financially and otherwise, was not allowed to speak (for any price) in any hall except Christian Church assembly halls, which were very, very inadequate for the great crowds who came to hear him, overflowing into the courtyards with loudspeaking facilities, though they were mostly Jews. Of course, those doors are closed to us.

The renting of a hall has been prohibitive from a cost standpoint, even if we could have persuaded them to rent to us (which of course they would not), as doing so would subject the Jewish owners to very harsh treatment. Within the last year or so they have raised the price of advertising Christian services so high that no Christian Church advertises meetings. Any Jew who leans toward Christianity in any sense is looked down upon.

I looked into the possibility of opening up a reading room, where I could encourage and arouse interest in the literature of the Church of Christ, etc., and thus have an opportunity to reach the inquiring minds, but found we would have to pay "key money" for even a small store room, and that in an area which is not very accessible, but that would have cost us between one and two thousand dollars at the outset. Then too there would have been the rent to pay. And Jews would have bypassed it as soon as word got around that there was Christian influence there, as has happened many times in our experiences here. So we discarded this idea as not being feasible.

Under the above conditions, we have had no alternative but to confine our efforts to engaging in private discussions, and talking to every one who would listen or accept our literature to read, combing this little country from one end to another (a country which is not as large as the state of New Jersey, and whose greatest distance, from Metula in the Northern Galilee to Eilat on the Red Sea, is about equal to the distance between Kansas City and St. Louis), seeking those who would listen to our message.

For a moment let us here digress from the main purpose of our report. Have a look at your maps of the state of New Jersey, as compared with the rest of the United States, and you will see that it is indeed a very small area. You will realize that we could not have traveled extensively to do "sightseeing" as some of our critics in the Church have accused us. In reality many of the most important incidents of Bible history happened right over the spots where other important incidents had happened before. For instance at Hatzor, in Northern Galilee, which we must pass on the

way to Metula, has an archaeological history of 21 civilizations and conquests, one right over the other, and covering a period of many, many centuries. This place was conquered by Joshua and later fortified by Solomon. Where the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness of Zin (Numbers 27:12-14), was not much larger than Jackson County, and a desert at that. Many places we have described to our brothers and sisters through the Advocate, or in our private correspondence, only because we would like for you to share the thrill of standing on such spots, and describing them thus, was as near as we could come to bringing these experiences to you, are right around us or on our way to fill appointments. Some of those who longed to hear of our experiences and see our pictures of the Holy Land have already passed on to their reward, and ere we return home, others may have also been denied this privilege likewise. Yet our good intentions along this line have been sadly misconstrued and referred to as "sightseeing" and as our having a "big time on a paid vacation by the Church." Many of these places are right on our way to town to Jerusalem, or some other center of our activities, or a stone's throw off the road on the way to some place we were required to go anyhow. Would you, for one instant hesitate, to stop for a few moments to meditate and perhaps take a picture of so historical a spot? Even Dr. Graham, in his speech at Nazareth, expressed shock and amazement that the very things he was preaching about "happened right outside this hall," or in other words he had not realized that the country of the Bible was so small that he was standing on the very spot where some of the Biblical incidents had actually happened. He is later coming for a month's stay to specifically photograph these sacred places. Would you, having thrilled to such experiences, feel that you should lock such things up in your hearts, only to be revealed to your children, as we have been counselled? We write thus to explain, and if possible to justify, our refraining from writing of such experiences to our church publications more often. Many times at such stops, we have the opportunity to explain the Book of Mormon and distribute church literature. But enough of that.

We have been certain from past experiences that one of the most convincing approaches we can make in presenting the story of the Restoration, to those who do not believe the Bible contains the word of God or do not want to accept the prophecies as face value, is by the use of archaeological data and legendary history of the ancient civilizations of Middle America and its comparisons with the ancient cultures of the Middle East, Egypt, and especially of Palestine.

We have found enthusiastic interest here in the Book of Mormon as a record of the remnant of Joseph which has a wonderful appeal wherever we have gone. We were kept quite busy for a long time with lectures on the subject, illustrating with our slides the evidences among the ancient Americans that they had had the gospel among them, and of the appearance of Christ to them. Mostly, however, we were not invited again when they realized that an acceptance of the Book of Mormon meant also an acceptance of Christ; although there were usually some who did not seem adverse even to that, until they had had an opportunity to talk it over with friends or their Rabbi. Then their enthusiasm was invariably dampened. It would be difficult to enumerate the many times we have anticipated new openings, and even the possibility of conversions among the Jews, only to be foiled and treated with aloofness later. Which we were unable until now to explain.

A number of times an appointment to speak to a gathering had all been arranged except the setting of a definite date (their enthusiasm still keen, even though they knew that the Book of Mormon taught that Christ was the true Messiah and that he had visited America after the resurrection), but they would ask for time to "consult some influential friend" whom they were anxious to have present and wanted to set a date especially to suit them, or some other excuse; that would be the end of the arrangement, no explanation—nothing! Although at all times our address and a convenient neighbor's telephone number has been available and known to them.

At the last conference in our report by tape recorder, which was later transcribed and printed in the Advocate for June, 1959 we called attention to an invitation we had received from one of the Kibbutzim (co-operative agricultural projects), to come and spend a

few days with them and show a series of our slides on Mexico and the Book of Mormon. One of their members with whom we had become acquainted, and who was very much interested in our beliefs on Sewardship, as well as the Book of Mormon, invited us. After the first lecture at this kibbutz in which I quoted from the prophets of the Old Testament, explaining the fulfillment of them, showing the definite cultural link between the Middle East, Egypt, and Ancient America, and comparing the striking likeness and background of Quetzal-coatl, the bearded white god of the ancient Mayas, with that of Christ, the son of a rabbi wanted to discuss the matter with us in a friendly manner, which we did. This was before a number of Jews who had assembled at a private home. After presenting some of his views on my discourse in which I met his argument with Old Testament Scripture and literal translations from the Hebrew, he admitted before those present that I had stumped him, and that he could not further meet the issue. Afterward it was reported they could talk of nothing else in the dining hall or wherever they met for days after, which delighted our friend who had issued the invitation, but it finally led to heated arguments between themselves and we were told that it was against the policy of the kibbutz to get into religious controversies. The last time I lectured there, with the intention of following up with still further evidences from the Scripture, supporting our claims that the prophets had foretold that Jesus Christ was the Son of God and Messiah and that there would be a Restoration of the gospel in these last days, etc., I was asked just to give a travelogue, and leave out the religious angles, so my enthusiasm cooled also. I have not felt that it was my mission to just entertain people with travelogues, but it is my mission to teach them the way of eternal life.

On another occasion, at a historical site where a group of forty or fifty were present, I was asked the usual questions asked of tourists and visitors which resulted in my telling them that I was a representative of the Church of Christ, and soon we had most of the group gathered around us, and they too began asking questions of me. As a result, for more than half an hour I talked to a mixed group of people from many parts of the world on the gospel, and we received invitations from several to visit them if we came their way. One party of three were from Switzerland. The man who originally engaged me in conversation became so interested that he wanted some literature and the Book of Mormon. These I was glad to furnish him, as we carry literature for that purpose with us on such trips. He is a Jew from Haifa, and we are looking forward to a visit with shortly. This is an example of our "sightseeing" experiences. And wherever we go we have found similar opportunities, perhaps with just a couple, or sometimes a whole group. But each such opportunity we make use of to testify of the Son of God and of his being the true Messiah.

We have distributed literature from one end of Israel to the other, have held numerous discussions with individuals and groups, either at public gatherings or in their homes. Sometimes they profess to believe the prophecies, until I show them by their own prophets that Christ fulfilled them, and then they turn away, saying, "Well, I don't believe the prophets." Neither did their forefathers.

I wrote to both the President and Prime Minister of Israel, sending them literature and requesting a personal audience with them. They had both professed interest in tracing the descendants of Joseph, which seems to be a very absorbing subject among the Jews. We had hoped that in this way we could interest them in the message of the Book of Mormon. Aside from a courteous acknowledgment from their respective secretaries nothing has come of it.

We arranged with a representative of the Hebrew University, to place certain material, concerning our Church, Book of Mormon, Church History, etc., in the University Reference Library, to be used in their "Course of Comparative Religions." Some of these books dealing with the archaeology of the Book of Mormon, though not published by our Church (for we have no such literature as yet) were included in the list. They welcomed such an opportunity to acquire these books for their study course. To implement their offer, I enclosed a joint letter to the Council of Twelve and the General Bishopric, a request for them, under date of April 22, 1959 (which was duplicated and sent to each member of these respective Councils) including a complete list of the books requested, telling where

those not printed by the church could be purchased, and the purpose for which we wanted to use them. To this date, March 29, 1960, I have had no official reply from these brethren as to what disposal they had made of my request. Months later in a round about way I received word that, after a period of waiting to hear from the Twelve this request had been referred to the Board of Publications by the Bishopric. But again it was held up. In the meantime, to save embarrassment to myself and the church, I had finally stopped seeing this gentleman at the University, because the question of these books invariably came up and I hesitated to tell him my request had been ignored. After several months had elapsed, at my request our son, LeRoy, sent us a few copies of the Book of Mormon, which we received December 10, 1959. The last we heard, and that was not official, was that the Board of Publications had turned down our request, concerning books not published by the Church (Bibles and Books of Mormon are not published by the Church either) though they were willing to send the rest, but they never did. The question therefore arises: since when has the Board of Publications usurped to themselves the right to sit in judgment in such a manner on the activities of members of the Twelve who are given responsibilities by conference action to administer the affairs in the fields appointed them? Also, who is better advised as to the need in such fields, then the servant of the church in that field, who is on the ground, and by prayer and the discernment of the spirit, sees the opportunity of advancing his efforts to the advantage of the Church? At this University are many young Jews, who are not satisfied with orthodox Jewery, and peoples from many parts of the world, even far away Japan, who come here to learn. At the meetings of Billy Graham, two-thirds of the audience were Jews, many of them young University men, wearing the "Kepah" (religious skull cap of the Jews) of their religion which shows they have an interest in aspects of religion rooted in the Bible other than their own. We are dependent as a Church on the publishers of other churches and organizations for Bibles, Books of Mormon, Doctrines and Covenants, Church Histories, etc., and many other books used in the study and promulgation of the gospel, such as archaeological works and others by authors not of the Church of Christ. The time is now past, at least for the present, for us to carry out this promise, as we will possibly be leaving Israel before they can reach us.

In looking back over our files, after writing the above paragraph, we find that our original request for these books was made to the Secretary of the Council of Twelve on March 19, 1959 in our report to the Twelve, in which I explained in detail my purposes in this request, and told them that "these books will require a possible appropriation of \$50.00 for books other than our own publications, and the cost of shipping them to me for that purpose." (See page three, paragraph three of that letter.) Thus a year has elapsed with no answer from other than our son to this request. Why?

We have, since being in Israel, put out a treatise on the God-head question, and the Jews have not as yet attempted to refute it. Many copies have gone with Jews and other tourists to other countries, and some we have mailed to members of the Church in the States. So far we have never received one critical letter from those of our brethren to whom they have been sent, rather I have some very comforting letters of commendation. We are now working long hours on still another, "The Sealed Book of Isaiah", embodying prophecy, archaeological data, and traditional accounts preserved among the American Indians, as you have heard me use for years in the pulpits of the Church. In order to print it here in Israel, we are economizing in every conceivable way, trying to save enough to do so and have it for use before we leave this field.

In November and December we made a short trip to Egypt, where we aroused considerable interest in the Book of Mormon and the archaeological proofs of a connection between the cultures of Egypt and the ancient inhabitants of Middle America, and received a very warm invitation from the officials of the archaeological department to return and lecture on the subject, since, though we did not divulge the fact, our funds would not permit us to remain longer at that time. This trip was made with our own personal funds and contributions from all our children as Christmas gifts.

When we have crossed the border at Christmas and Easter we have had many opportunities of telling our message to people who

have come to the Holy Place from all over the world. Some of the literature we have distributed here has found its way back to places in the United States, and we have several invitations to visit these people when we return home. Some of the Jews we thus met in Israel live in New York and have asked us to come to their homes and visit them on our return also.

On the Jordan side of the border we became acquainted with the Protestant minister who has charge of the Garden Tomb, who is very humble and sincere. When I told him of our belief in the Book of Mormon, we noted a slight coolness toward us. But for some reason we liked his spirit and told him we would like to attend a service he was conducting for his own flock. He rather hesitated but asked, "Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God?" I assured him that we did, and gave him some literature on the subject, offering him a copy of the Book of Mormon. But he said he had one, had read it, and had no use for it. Surprised, I asked if I might see his copy. When he brought it out, it was not the Book of Mormon, but the Inspired Version of the Bible. When I informed him that it was not published by our Church, that the Church of Christ was committed to the King James Version and explained some of the teachings of the Book of Mormon, he wanted to read it and we gave him a copy, along with several other tracts. We were then welcomed to his meetings and asked to take part. He will be our host on the Mt. of Olives, while we are in Jordan, during the Easter Season in April.

This may seem a very lengthy report to some of you, yet we been asked to give a progress report. We regret that we cannot recount to you conversions, healings, etc., or be able to hold out to you encouragement that conditions will change by our continued stay in this land at this time. We have had many testimonies that it was God's will that we should come, among them, the complete healing of Angela of a serious affliction of at least twenty years standing, just prior to our leaving the States. While our appointment was for three years, we have had no communication from any one that the Lord was in any way the author of the stipulation that it should be for three years. We have had many evidences of God's nearness to us while here. We realize that God may have intended only that we bear witness to this nation that they might be without excuse. For our commission is to go into all the world to preach the gospel. We have diligently labored long, weary hours, sowing the seed and bearing testimony in as efficient a manner as we are capable of, perhaps as Paul said to the Corinthians, "For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel; not with wisdom of words, less the cross of Christ should be made of none effect." (I Cor. 1:17). We feel that all that we can do at present here has been done; and unless there should be divine intervention, that we should start home.

On February 8 we wrote the Council of Twelve, through our Secretary, and informed them of the situation here, so far as we had the information then. We told them of a very warm invitation, since renewed, from the membership in Wales to come among them for a season on our way home. We requested the Twelve to authorize the Bishopric to furnish us the funds for such passage via ship to Italy or France and then across Europe by car, as that would be more economical than going all the way by boat from this point, because of an excursion rate between Israel and France or Italy. In this way it will cost very little, if any more to go by way of Wales than to go directly home from here. Perhaps before this reaches you, we may hear from the Twelve, as speedy action is necessary for us to have time to wind up our affairs and be away by the time required. If not, I therefore respectfully request that the Conference instruct the Bishopric to provide funds, stipulated in my request to the Council of Twelve, at our disposal at once. As an alternative to this request in regard to Wales, I respectfully ask that the Conference forthwith instruct the Bishopric to provide us with means for passage directly back to our home in the States. We pray that you will not delay in taking care of this urgent matter early in the conference.

It is our earnest prayer that the conference will be well attended, and that the spirit of peace and love shall be the crowning characteristic in all who may be privileged to come. It has been our constant prayer for weeks that this conference shall be one of progress, and that all those forces that would further divide and

confuse us shall be held in restraint, so that we as a remnant of the Lord's Latter Day kingdom may go forward to great victories for Christ in the Future. Angela joins me in this hope.

Most sincerely your servant in Christ,  
CLARENCE L. WHEATON  
Member of the Council of Twelve  
and Missionary to the Holy Land.

17 Kiryat Moshe  
Petah Tikva, Israel  
April 6, 1960

To the General Conference  
Church of Christ (Temple Lot)  
Independence, Missouri  
Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We greet you on this day, April 6, 1960, from the Holy Land, where the faith of our fathers was given birth so long ago. To us this is a memorable day, and one which we would have enjoyed sharing with you and all the church at this time.

In mind's eye, we visualize the activities of each of you as you thus gather together, at the appointed hour today. It is now 11:40 a. m. in Israel and 2:40 a. m. there in Independence, where you are assembled. Thus, while we have spent a busy morning writing and meditating upon those things which may befall us in the future, most of you are still resting in preparation for the activities of a new day. Others, troubled in mind and spirit with concern for the cause of Zion and the welfare of the Church, may be, even as we in times past, engaged in prayer or in a restless night of wakeful waiting.

So, it is that our hearts and our thoughts go out to you across the seas, wishing that we too could be among those who shall thus assemble, and mingling our prayers and voices with yours, labor to establish the righteousness of God, and to bring to the Church of Christ that degree of unity and peace that the Master desires us to share and enjoy together.

By the time this short message shall reach you, the conference will be well on the way of dealing with the many problems which lie before it. The hearts of some may well be broken, while others may find solace in prayer and faith that a better day may soon dawn for all of us. It is our prayer that the contentions and divisions of former years will have been restrained, and with the Spirit's help you have moved forward with clearer vision a little nearer to the work God has for us to accomplish.

From the enclosed you will learn that we are not discouraged nor bereft of the Spirit to direct us. Seemingly every other approach to the hearts of these people has been closed, so we have felt inspired of the Lord to send this message to the chief of state in this land, as the Lord in an early revelation to the church commanded us to do, i.e.:

"Let them importune at the feet of the judge; and if he heed them not, let them importune at the feet of the governor; and if the governor heed them not, let them importune at the feet of the president; and if the president heed them not, then will the Lord arise and come forth out of his hiding place, and in his fury vex the nation, and in his hot displeasure, and in his fierce anger, in his time, will cut off these wicked, unfaithful, and unjust stewards, and appoint them their portion among hypocrites and unbelievers; even in outer darkness, where there is weeping, and wailing, and gnashing of teeth. Pray ye, therefore, that their ears may be opened unto your cries, that I may be merciful unto them, that these things may not come upon them. What I have said unto you, must needs be, that all men may be left without excuse; that wise men and rulers may hear and know that which they have never considered; that I may proceed to bring to pass my act, my strange act, and perform my work, my strange work. That men may discern between the righteous and the wicked, saith your God." (D.C. 98:12).

Therefore, having made an appeal to the Interior Department, the Minister of Religious Affairs, and other governmental bureaus of Israel, and also a previous letter to Prime Minister Ben-Gurion, we feel that we have about exhausted our means to receive any kind of a

hearing here in Israel at this time. It is therefore our humble lot to stand still and see the salvation of the Lord.

What our future in this land may be we are not prepared to say, except that due to the fact we have not heard from our brethren of the Twelve and the Bishopric relative to our appeal for financial assistance to book passage from this land to Wales or home, as we stated to them, so that we could book passage this last March, it may be some time before we can leave here as a result of passage, except to Europe, not having been booked for several months ahead, and the only way for us would be if someone at the last moment should cancel their passage as is sometimes done.

Our passports have been returned without any provision of extending our permits to remain here. Such permits are already one month overdue. Our request is still before the board which makes final disposal of them. The Minister of Religious Affairs told us frankly that he was recommending that they be not extended for us to continue missionary activities longer. This information we have conveyed to you, and it is our hope that we shall soon have a favorable answer. It is not pleasant to be kept under the strain we have been under almost from the beginning of our arrival here in Israel.

If we are required by the Church to remain here longer than July, which we doubt very much if we will be permitted to do, we will be compelled to pay several hundred dollars for duty, insurance and other charges as we did last year. These costs we tried to avoid a year ago, and again this past winter, for we feel that the Church has been to enough cost already in keeping us here, and that we should not be held to blame for not properly informing all concerned.

Pray for us that we may remain steadfast, and do all things as the Lord would have us do. He alone, is our only sure salvation, and in Him we trust that the way will be opened for us to return to home and loved ones before too long.

Most sincerely,

CLARENCE AND ANGELA WHEATON

17 Kiryat Moshe  
Petah Tikva, Israel  
April 6, 1960

The Honorable  
Mr. David Ben-Gurion  
Prime Minister of the  
State of Israel

Dear Mr. Ben-Gurion:

Some time ago (September 28, 1959), I addressed a communication to you relative to my purposes in Israel, and expressed a desire for a personal discussion of several interesting subjects with you.

In answer I received a very courteous reply from your secretary, Tiqvah Issacharoff, acknowledging this communication as well as the literature which was enclosed with it.

However, to date, I have received no reply to my request for an audience with you, and wish by this means to renew the same, as it may be that I, with my beloved wife, Angela, will soon be returning to my native home in the United States of America.

I wish to state again that my purpose in thus having such an audience is to discuss topics which are close to the heart of both of us, that is, the wanderings of the children of Israel and especially the posterity of Joseph, who was separated from his brethren, that we may have the benefit of your esteemed opinions. We also wish to present to you a book which is a gift from the Church I represent.

Therefore, Mr. Ben-Gurion, I come to you again, as the "Voice of One Crying," crying:

Thus saith the Lord GOD:

Hear O Israel, and the house of Judah, the Lord your GOD is One, and beside Him there is no other. Therefore, Hear me O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the Lord your GOD, so shall he be ye established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.

Therefore, I say unto you, through my servant, as one crying, The Lord our GOD is One—one in purpose, and determination; single in mind, and from olden time spoke to your fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and made a covenant with them that through their seed all the nations of the earth would be blessed. Therefore, my son, David Ben-Gurion, I am pleased with your efforts for peace



among the nations in your time, but must counsel you, that to accomplish this end you and the children of Israel, your companions in this land must do it my way, and not by the expediency of men, for I have decreed through my servants the prophets, the destiny of Israel, and my word shall not return to me void, but shall accomplish what I please, and make the thing where unto I sent it prosper.

Behold, if ye would be instrumental in establishing the peace of Israel, and her continued prosperity, ye must do it according to the words which I have spoken in times past, and which I renew again to you through the Voice I have sent among you.

Yea, behold, from ancient times, I covenanted with my servant Jacob that I would raise up one from Judah, even Shiloh, the Prince of Peace, to whom the nations of the earth would be gathered. Again I spoke through my servant Moses, that I would raise up a Prophet from thy midst, who would be greater than he, and to Isaiah, when he gave the sign to Ahaz, that I, the Lord, would establish the peace of Israel with this sign, that a virgin would conceive and bear a son who would be called Emanuel, and in that day, I would bring upon the Jews, and upon their father's house, days that had not come, even from the day that Ephraim departed from Judah, yea, even greater than the sorrows of Assyria. And to my servant Jeremiah, I spoke and said, that of the seed of David, I would raise up a righteous Branch, and to Micah, that he would be born in Bethlehem of Judea; yet for all this your forefathers at Jerusalem rejected the Holy One of Israel, even mine Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, the true Messiah, and by the false testimony of the corrupt politicians of the Jews of that day, condemned Him to the death of a criminal upon a Roman cross, with the result that this culminating sin of Israel, brought about their end as a nation and their dispersal among the nations of the earth, to suffer even as Israel had suffered at the hands of the Amorites when Achan coveted the Babylonish garments and wedge of gold and hid them in the floor of his tent. Thus have my people suffered because of the blindness of their minds and hardness of their hearts. Yet for all this, they did not learn obedience.

Therefore, I say unto you, that if ye would establish the peace of Israel, ye must do it in my way, for I have hissed to the four corners of the earth for my people to return to the land of their inheritance after their long night of sorrow is about over, and be as a people prepared for the coming of their Messiah not lowly, and riding up on an ass, or the foal of an ass, as He did at Jerusalem, but as the King of Israel, in the clouds of great glory, with power and great judgment, and with justice in his hands, which were pierced by cruel nails as he hung upon the accursed tree, that he might suffer and show his love for his friends, Israel, and bring salvation and eternal life to the world from the curse of a broken law, that they may be redeemed and returned to my presence in this world and in the world to come.

Hearken ye therefore, my son, and ye children of Judah, for I have set my hand the second time in harmony with my words to your prophets, to recover you, and give you the opportunity in these last days to keep my covenants and be the light to all the world that I have destined you to be. For the day is not far distant when He, mine Only Begotten, shall stand again upon the Mount of Olives and ye shall know him, yea, even from the least to the greatest among you, by the wounds in his hands, and his pierced side, which were made in the house of his friends.

Repent ye therefore, and be converted and have your sins washed away. Humble yourself in mighty prayer and fasting, and I will make known to you those things for which ye yearn, and for which ye seek in the writings of the sages, for there is no secret that is hid from mine eyes, and no knowledge, which I can not impart if ye seek me in faith and righteousness.

Trouble is upon the earth, such as the world has never known, and shall become more intense as time shall pass. They cry for peace when there shall be no peace till all my decrees have been fulfilled, and the Messiah shall come to gather his elect from among all nations to reign with him on earth a thousand years before the end shall come.

Thus saith the Lord God Jehovah, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and who spake with Moses from the burning bush in the wilderness. Amen.

I wish to state, Mr. Ben-Gurion, that this message from the Eternal, was given to me the morning of April 3, 1960, as I was preparing to attend a Christian service in Jaffa. By the Spirit's urge, I was not permitted to leave the house till I had committed this communication to writing. It is therefore my humble prayer that you shall not treat it lightly, nor cast it aside, for troublous times are ahead for the world, and Israel, if she will arise to the opportunity, will play a major role in the trend of events that are to come. May I therefore, have the privilege of meeting you personally? Of shaking your hand, as one of the noble men of this age, before leaving your goodly land, perhaps forever? I hope so.

Most sincerely,  
CLARENCE L. WHEATON, of the  
Council of Twelve Apostles,  
of the Church of Christ

## NEWS FROM LOCALS

### Collins, Missouri

We had a nice program on Easter Sunday with 42 persons present. The children and older ones all took part with songs, pieces, and reading poems. Bro. Joseph Yates and his two sisters, Evalina Campbell and Ruth Willard from Arizona, all gave very interesting talks. Bro. R. R. Robertson's sermon fully completed the day's celebration of the wonderful event of our Savior's resurrection and we believe that all felt satisfied and edified as our Brother presented his message in humility and love, and it was received in the same manner. We enjoyed having Bro. and Sr. Robertson and Srs. Campbell and Willard with us.

We were happy to welcome Bro. and Sr. Leon Yates back with us again and it was a treat to see the pictures, and hear the voices of our dear brothers and sisters of the far south Yucatan. They have become beautiful singers, and the recorded testimony of a brother there was so encouraging to hear.

Bro. and Sr. Wendell Yates's little daughter, Winda Lynn, was blessed by her grandfather, Bro. Joseph Yates. He was assisted by Bro. Leon Yates.

Mother's Day, we were happy to have Bro. and Sr. Richard Wheaton and family and Sr. Wheaton's sister and family with us. Their twin girls, Karma and Konie, sang a nice song that helped our program of pieces and songs by the children and some adults which was followed by a nice talk from Bro. Joseph Yates, after which Bro. Wheaton's sermon gave full tribute to the mothers of our land.

We have also had some wonderful sermons by Bro. Archie Bell, Bro. Leon Yates, and Bro. Joseph Yates. So many good things were presented to us that it is hard to decide which to tell you about. The story of the talents was explained to us and we were made to realize how important it is to use the one or ones that we have to help in God's work and in our lives, and it is well to be continually reminded of this as one can't stand still but either must go forward or backward, and if one seeks first the Kingdom of Heaven then one will be going forward.

The inventions of the earth are not sufficient for our happiness without the gospel of Christ. The time will never come when there is a better place to anchor one's life than in the Gospel of Christ. That is the only way to acquire happiness. There would be no purpose in life for man without the opportunity to choose either good or evil. Evil is one of the most powerful forces

(Continued on Page 109)

## ORIGINAL ARTICLES

**NOTE: We solicit articles for this department written in an affirmative manner. An affirmative article is one in which a belief, or an opinion, is expressed, and evidences presented to support that belief. CONTRIBUTIONS ARE THE OPINION OF THE AUTHOR AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE TEACHINGS OF THE CHURCH OR THE OPINIONS OF THE EDITORIAL STAFF.**

### A GLANCE AT HISTORY

By Leon A. Gould

When Joseph Smith was assassinated on June 27, 1844, there existed in the state of Illinois, in the vicinity of Woodford County, four branches of the church originally organized by Joseph Smith on April 6, 1830. These were the Bloomington, Half Moon Prairie, Eagle Creek and Crow Creek Branches. After the death of the prophet, the saints at Nauvoo were scattered far and wide; but the four branches named above maintained their local organizations and followed none of the men who arose claiming to be the successors to Joseph Smith. Their ministry, ordained prior to the death of the prophet, continued to function; and the four locals eventually united under the leadership of Granville Hedrick, whom they chose as their presiding elder.

On April 24, 1864, a revelation came through Granville Hedrick to these saints in Illinois which reads as follows:

"Hear, O ye people, and hearken to the counsel of your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who are call by My name and keep My commandments, you who have sought to know My will concerning My people, who have professed My name, and entered into the new and everlasting covenant to keep all the counsels and commandments of the only true and living God; hear, then, these things which are revealed unto you by the power of His holy Spirit; prepare, O ye people, yourselves in all things, that you may be ready to gather together upon the consecrated land which I have appointed and dedicated by My servant, Joseph Smith, and the first Elders of My church, in Jackson County, State of Missouri, for the gathering together of My saints, that they might be assembled in the day of My chastening hand, when your Lord will pour out His wrath and indignation upon the ungodly. And in as much as My church and people have been driven and scattered, therefore take counsel of Me, your Lord and director, who says unto you: prepare yourselves and be ready against the appointed time which I have set and prepared for you, that you may return in the year A.D. 1867, which time the Lord, by your prayers and faithfulness in all things, will open and prepare a way before you that you may begin to gather at that time."—Truth Teller, vol. 1, No. 1, p. 4.

The Lord did not say this to the Reorganized Church, nor to the Utah Church which was building a city at Salt Lake, Utah, although they both had more members and more money than the Church of Christ people in Illinois, which was the smallest and poorest of the three churches; but he said it to this small group because they were seeking to know his "will concerning My people" and had scattered into a "new and everlasting covenant to keep all the counsels and com-

mandments of the only true and living God," who were so poor they couldn't buy all the temple lots at once (the city had divided the temple ground into city lots), but worked and saved a number of years in order to buy them all, which cost a total of \$1,175, and took them ten years to acquire them all.

But the Lord didn't speak to the Utah Church to go back and buy the lots, nor to the Reorganized Church—but to the smallest and poorest one of the three.

That is the way the Lord has worked in the past. Christ said to his Church at Jerusalem, which was the smallest and poorest church at that time:

"Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."—Luke 12:32.

There were many great and rich nations at the time God chose the Israelitish nation, to put His name there, and to be a "holy people unto the Lord thy God"; but he chose the smallest of all people, as we read:

"For thou art a holy people unto the Lord thy God; the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth. The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because you were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people." Deuteronomy 7:6, 7.

So the Lord does not choose a people or a church because they are a multitude in number, or have great wealth, and fancy churches, and great temples with spires reaching up into heaven, or because of great auditoriums to invite the world to see. He chooses people of faith, having a willingness to keep his commandments, though few in number, and poor in this world's goods. So He chose the little remnant of the Old Church which remained in Illinois, after all the rest had fled, to go back to Independence and become possessors of the sacred Temple Lot. He chose the fewest of all who were keeping his commandments, not the wealthy groups of the Restoration, who were able to build costly churches and temples elsewhere.

The Reorganization even warned against their going back, in this language:

"We should caution all our readers against going back to that land before God commands his saints to go there, by his prophet Joseph. If any go there before that time, they may expect the judgments of God will come upon them."—True Latter Day Saints' Herald, August 15, 1864, page 49.

But the little Church of Christ remnant in Illinois, used the three years the Lord gave them to "prepare . . . yourselves in all things," to go back there; and in the dead of winter, 1867, a caravan of covered wagons traveled across Illinois and Missouri, arriving at Independence, Missouri, in February, 1867, and the first General Council of the Church of Christ, after the ex-

dus, was called in Jackson County, Missouri, on the 3rd day of Mach, A.D., 1867.

When the portion of the church that went with Brigham Young to Utah began, in 1852, to teach publicly, eight years after Joseph Smith's death, the foul doctrine of polygamy, the little remnant of the Church of Christ in Illinois, published the following declaration dated March 5, 1857, ten years before they went back to Missouri:

"STATE OF ILLINOIS, March 5, 1857  
"A DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE AND  
SEPARATION

By the Faithful Members of the Church of Jesus Christ

Therefore for the love of God the Eternal Father, and for the love of the truth, which has come through Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, to whom be all praise and honor:

We the Elders and members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in the (State of Illinois) who have often assembled in conference, for the last four years at different times and in many places, and also have declared our independence and separation from all those apostate and polluted characters who teach and practice polygamy, called the spiritual wife system or anything like unto it—we do hereby repeat our declaration again and order the same to be printed by our agent or agents; declaring that we have no fellowship in union or association with any such person or persons who teach or practice the doctrine of polygamy under any system whatever or anything like unto it."—Outline History of the Church of Christ, page 104.

It seems to us that it was significant that after they made this declaration of independence from all who taught polygamy that the Lord chose them to go back to Independence and buy up the temple lots.

And thus the Church of Christ become owners in fee simple of the sacred Temple Lot, which had been dedicated by Joseph Smith and others on August 3, 1831, and who laid marker stones to indicate the corners of the temple building itself; and the Church of Christ still holds this sacred spot free of incumbrance.

A remarkable thing is the fidelity with which this little band of saints carried out the instructions to prepare, and to go at the precise time appointed.

Had the commandments been given through the Seer of Palmyra all been heeded with the same fidelity, what a different story would have been written from 1830 on. But the great sin of the Restoration was to treat lightly the things given for their welfare, and as a result they reaped the whirlwind, having been rebuked for their folly, as we read:

"And your minds in times past have been darkened because of unbelief, and because you have treated lightly the things you have received, which vanity and unbelief hath brought the whole church under condemnation. And this condemnation resteth upon the children of Zion, even all; and they shall remain under this condemnation until they repent and remember the new covenant, even the Book of Mormon and the former commandments which I have given them, not only to say, but to do according to that which is written, that they may bring forth fruit for their Father's

kingdom, otherwise there remaineth a scourge and a judgment to be poured out upon the children of Zion; for, shall the children of the Kingdom pollute My holy land? Verily, I say unto you, Nay."  
—Doctrine and Covenants 83:8.

The children of the kingdom polluted their inheritances by continually saying, but never doing the things contained in the "new covenant, even the Book of Mormon and the former commandments"—the commandments up to September, 1832. Are the children of the kingdom now saying and never doing? Before you answer, better read the "new covenant, even the Book of Mormon" where it contains the 4th Book of Nephi, the first 24 verses covering a period of two hundred years, in either the Authorized Version, or the Utah Edition. If we are like that people, we are not only saying or reading the words of Christ, but doing them, and are not polluting our inheritances; but then read the next six or seven verses,, and if we are becoming like unto them, we are not doing, though we may be saying or reading Christ's commandments, and are polluting our inheritances and subject to an overflowing scourge, which will surely come.

But remember this, the Church of Christ must keep the commandments of God, not merely have them in possession to say or repeat, or lose the blessing given her of possessing the Temple Lot—not because of obedience in keeping the commandment to gather to Independence, but because of disobedience in falling away into lethargy, and ceasing to do His commandments, thus polluting our inheritances.

We have a momentous decision to make, to live as the people did in those first 24 verses, having a heaven on earth for two hundred years, or as they did in the next six verses, and suffer the wo and condemnation that comes as a result of disobedience.

Are the things of the world too much to give up in order to receive the things of God? Look at the Jews of Iraq who are leaving all their riches to flee to Jerusalem at the rate of 8 to 10 thousand a month, and arriving in Jerusalem dead broke. Thirty thousand families alone left \$436,000,000 in property, taking only the small pittance allowed by the Iraq Government—about 60 pounds of personal baggage, and about \$240 in money.

"Leaving this wealth doesn't seem to disturb the incoming Iraqi immigrant. Some kiss the soil. Others kneel in prayer."

Are we so wedded to our TV that we can't take time to consider our plight, and make preparations for a gathering? If we are, expect the deluge! As you see the clouds darkening the horizon, you may be able to cut loose from the TV, and make a last minute run for it.

Remember, just as the little church at Jerusalem, to whom Christ said, "Fear not little flock", etc., went into apostasy in 570 A.D. and ceased to exist; just as the nation that was chosen of the Lord, that were the fewest of all people, went into transgression, rejected Christ and crucified him, and were driven out of Palestine and scattered in all the world to remain for hundreds of years; just as the Church of Christ in these last days went into folly, becoming proud and boastful, and were driven out of Nauvoo after 1844. So the Church of Christ on the Temple Lot may become slothful and lose the blessing given her, even the Temple

Lot—by forgetting the commandments of God, and running after the things the world seeks after, unlawful divorce, adultery, picture shows, pleasures and games unrestricted, wasting precious time watching television when they should be studying the scriptures, and remembering their prayers—for instance like hundreds are doing, watching television four hours every night, and forgetting their family worship, and their evening prayers, until the things of the world become their sole desire—doing those things will cause God to withdraw from them, and they will become like the world, dead spiritually, and have no desire to keep the commandments of God. Doing these things the Church of Christ on the Temple Lot can become like the world, and lose everything, both in this life and the life to come. John the beloved disciple wrote as follows:

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof; but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever."—I John 2:15, 16, 17. "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world; and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?" I John 5:3-5.

If we really believe that Jesus is the Son of God, then we will do everything that he tells us to do; and doing everything he tells us to do we overcome the world.

### MURALS TO PICTURES TO GRAPHS

By Forest E. Maley

Above the rocky knoll the sky is black with the clouds of the gathering storm. The wind is beginning to rise. Thrust up from the earth, stark against this ominous promise of approaching violence, a timber stands—about the size of a small telephone pole. Crosswise near the top of this timber a second shorter one is fastened, like the shoulder piece of a giant scarecrow.

Spiked to this rude frame, arms outstretched as a bird in flight, hangs a nearly naked human form; a ring of thorny brambles upon its sagging head. A sudden gust of wind flutters the scant garment. All else is still, in death.

Throughout the civilized world few people will fail to recognize the picture of the crucifix execution of the one being in the whole world who did not deserve to die. Two thousand years ago the Roman government commonly executed many criminals by this needlessly harsh atrocity of crucifixion. In spite of its wide use in those days, crucifixion has come today to signify only the death of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Why? Has it ever "wondered" you?

A Madison Avenue ad man would say, "Advertising. Advertising."

True. True. The image of the Christ upon the cross has been repeated hundreds of thousands of times over the years by adherents of the Christian faith in their literature, their musical compositions and by the arts of painting, sculpture and architecture. People every-

where therefore immediately recognize this symbol and remember the story that goes with it.

What was originally intended to have been the expeditious and ignominious end of a troublesome itinerant Jewish innovator has turned out to be the grand triumph of all time—a matter of profound significance to believing Christians. Historically irrefragable, this great event wraps up in one package a visual expression of the core of Christian doctrine and the general "cussedness" of men whose political and religious systems are jeopardized.

Religious movements—especially Christian ones—have gone to considerable trouble to use many means to express their concepts of the Divine and to record those things considered important. Shut off from the unquiet world, robed monks toiled lifetimes to preserve in beautifully illuminated books the Holy Scripture, expecting no reward. The old masters of the music world vied with each other to produce tremendous musical settings for the religious doings of their day. Tormented by illness and pain, one of the most memorable painters of all time suffered day after day high on his scaffold to portray visual concepts of theology inside the dome of a famous church. Doubtless some went a little overboard in their efforts and many have lost the vision of the original founders of their faith. The important thing, however, was that they were using every means at hand to advance what they believed to be a righteous cause.

Are we in this day made of lesser stuff?

Our technology is different today, of course. Books and all sorts of printed material become the ready vehicle of the creative writer. Thousands of copies of almost any publication are but the matter of a short time. It seems we have more advanced types of "scaffolds" on which, if we choose, medical science can help us suffer more comfortably than the ancient worthies.

The Restoration movement once was prolific in both the expressions of the spoken and printed word while it was yet young. Those who put words and music together formed many never-to-be-forgotten hymns.

On the other hand, not much was done those days by people with a gift for graphic expression—other than to provide us pictures of a few buildings, reconstructions of isolated events, and a smattering of bearded men in baggy pants, standing stock still in a pose.

The loss is ours.

Not too much observation will make one aware that the Restoration music department over the last thirty or forty years has produced few things of note. Worse yet, it doesn't take letters twenty feet tall to tell that those in the Restoration who have the gift of graphic expression have left a tremendous vacuum unfilled.

The first requisite of a sketcher, painter, etc., before technique is considered, is to have something fit to express. The present concepts of modern art make it more and more plain that the graduating art student has little or nothing to say. There seem to be forces at feverish work intent on proving that there is nothing to be said in art, except for a few Freudian nightmares. The current rash of impressionistic art is a case in point.

There also is a tendency among the international communists, gleefully followed by the "pinkos" and self-styled intellectuals, to requalify even the very

meaning of the words of our language and their use. Experimentalists in our music room seem equally bent on disqualifying our concepts of beauty in our music. Some wear crew-cut hair, some long.

Right down the middle of all this dissonant patch of underbrush a new straight path waits to be cut. Now, as never before, is the time to pose for all people to see the image of those things which are right and good; memorable and spiritually significant.

This is the "long suit" of the artist—by lines, color shape to convey the idea not subject to equivocating interpretation by those who wish to disqualify and confuse our concepts of our relation to each other, to beauty, to history, and to God.

Where better to express these noble things visually and graphically and permanently than those in places where we usually gather for the hearing of those things we hold sacred and vital?

It is not here intended to precipitate a landslide of activity which might provide carloads of statuary and imagery which would lead to what we would consider in others to be idol worship. Nevertheless, there is no need to junk the whole pictorial medium of expression on the grounds of possible harm. Those centers of religious activity need never be cluttered sideshows or museums of all classes of art. At the same time the church has no call to be a vast, sterile, lifeless austere mausoleum where one feels forbidden to have a joyous thought for fear of being damned throughout all eternity. There will never be a time when good taste and discriminating choices will not bear fruit.

While the imagery of many religions is much used as objects of veneration, the higher use of graphic expression is for instruction and memorialization. Where better to place them than on the wide and high areas of blank wall for which religious institutions are so noted?

Where better to pictorially record actual events and actual people who are to be seen having actual experience in connection with their religion; people whose hair is not always perfectly groomed; who do not stand parade ground straight; who might even have mud on their shoes; who (though Saints) remain believable human beings?

Where better indeed to show by unmistakable line and color the truth which we regard as sacred and life-making?

To those engaged in creative work there is no satisfaction greater than the knowledge that with their God-given eyes and hands something of lasting worth has been produced which will lead others closer to beauty and truth. Can the Church provide outlet of expression for those God has placed within its midst who have the gift to both gladden our hearts, please the eye and instruct our minds at the same stroke? Will not such a thing be a benefit to all?

Think—the next time you see a large blank wall. What could be placed there to make it useful to the mind? To the soul?

Speeches on the spiritual life fade from memory almost as the words cease to echo. The same is true of music, which is gone with the last reverberation of sound. True, these can be preserved by written word and by written musical score. But the sound of the voice has ceased and the notes have no life on paper.

That additional illusive something which was there for only a fleeting moment is gone.

Not so the work of the artist. It remains as long as the surface shall last on which it was placed by their hands. Unlike the camera, the artist knowingly emphasizes the key, the significant thing; and at the same time leaves something of himself or herself.

How long shall it be, then, until the whole religious, civilized world shall recognize and know the significance of a picture of a stack of sheets of gold metal fastened together on one side with rings like a loose-leaf notebook?

How much longer until the world knows what is meant by a picture of four hands being placed on a human head?

How much longer still until is well known the meaning of a picture of a boy rapt in a vision of two bright beings in the air above him?

A man by name of Frieberg has already done some pioneering in this field with a few pictorial representations from the Book of Mormon which the Restoration regards as a companion to the Bible. But that is a mere scratch. There is boundless opportunity for numberless others who also have something to say with their hands through lines and color for God.

A vast area remains to be covered for charts to depict relationships in our understanding of God's truths and purposes. Great things remain to be done in depicting current and recently past history. The Book of Mormon still is virtually a sealed book pictorially while the Bible is profusely illustrated.

Who among you, then, will step forward and leave their imprint on work of the Kingdom of God?

### NEWS FROM LOCALS

(Continued from Page 105)

on earth and if it isn't a reality, righteousness isn't a reality. Man must continually act for himself.

It is well that we are reminded of the prophecies that are yet to be fulfilled for as we see them coming to pass our faith will be increased and we will want to live better lives to be prepared for whatever happens.

Bro. James Martin, one of our aged members, has passed on to his reward and most of our group attended his funeral at Humansville which was in charge of Bro. Joseph Yates and Bro. Archie Bell.

This local is anxiously looking forward to having a larger place in which to meet and we are praying that God will help us to have what we need.

Sr. L. M. Sarratt, Reporter

### Black River Falls and Sparta, Wisconsin

Hello, Advocate readers. Much has happened in the two months of April and May and we presume each local has been just as busy, as we have been in this part of Wisconsin.

We began the month, April 3, with a Sacrament Service, which always seems to start the month right.

Wednesday, April 6, the Sparta people came and we met at Sr. Edith Eddy's and measured and cut our new drapes for the church. Then we divided them among ourselves and in that way we each had a hand in the finished product.

There is a new baby in our local. A fine boy was born April 16 to Bro. and Sr. Leo Clifton.

We all had the privilege of having Bro. and Sr. Robertson with us. Bro. and Sr. Davies and daughter came from Madison and spent the day. Also we had two new faces in our midst, Sr. Evelina Campbell and Sr. Ruth Willard from Arizona. We were happy to see these sisters, since they go to the same church as Sr. Dorothy Wilson and Bro. and Sr. John Jones in Phoenix. Sr. Wilson and Sr. Jones are daughters of Bro. and Sr. Charles Eddy. We can't begin to tell you how we enjoyed seeing the dear old friends of the gospel and making some new ones.

April 27 brought a surge of spring fever and the Black River Falls and Sparta people combined efforts and cleaned the church grounds.

Again, we began our month (May) with a Sacrament Service. Bro. Gill is especially busy this month, but he still puts forth that effort to be with us.

We have changed our plans for dedicating the church. We feel we should combine it with our reunion in August. We wish to extend a welcome to everyone.

At this time we are sorry to report that Sr. Babcock is not well and has been confined in bed. We pray that her recovery is soon.

May 20, we held a rummage and bake sale in Black River Falls. Again Sparta and Black River Falls combined efforts to make it a success and with God's blessings it was. We would also like to extend a thank you to the people in Milwaukee who donated clothing for our sale, and everything sold very nicely. We plan another one in the fall at Sparta.

Over Memorial week end we had Bro. and Sr. William Sheldon and family with us. Naturally we put Bro. Sheldon to good use and enjoyed hearing him.

I (Beverly Hesse) would like to take this opportunity to bid my loved ones in the gospel farewell, for I'm moving to a new community (Shawano, Wis.) where we haven't any of our church members. I pray I shall not stray from that old path I know to be true. Please pray for me and mine. Always our prayers.

Beverly Hesse and Isaac Brockman, Reporters

#### East Independence Local

The East Independence Local met and held their annual business meeting May 17. This meeting was important to us because we not only elected our officers for the next year, but also elected a planning committee to draw up plans for the new church.

The officers elected are as follows:

Pastor—Kenneth Smith

Secretary—Orlea Premo

Treasurer—William Anderson, Jr.

Chorister—June Smith

Pianist—Edna Smith

Librarian—Charles Premo

Reunion Committee—Orville Rupe and Pastor

Reporter—Doris Sheldon

Board of Trustees—Kenneth Smith, William A. Sheldon, William Anderson, Jr.

Building Committee—William Nast, James Rupe, William Anderson, Jr.

This report is to bring you up to date on the activities of our Local. Since being organized, there have been nine baptisms, and prospects of more in the near future.

Sunday is a full day, with Sunday School and preaching in the morning, and in the evening, we have a Book of Mormon study class and preaching. Wednesday night is prayer service night. These services are a strength to all that attend them.

We are badly in need of a larger place to worship. The lot for this local has been purchased and if the Lord is willing, we may soon be able to begin our new church. We all feel that the Lord has blessed us so far, and our prayers are that He will continue to do so.

There is much I could write about, but because of the limited space in the Advocate, I will just have to wait until next month.

Our desire is that the Lord will bless each Local according to its needs, and that all together we may accomplish His work. Doris Sheldon, Reporter

#### Y. P. C. L. NEWS

The young people ended the month of April by meeting at the church on April 24 and holding a study class with our chairman, Bro. Harold Gill, in charge. Our discussion was centered around the life span of man. We came to the conclusion that because of the shortness of our lives we must be ready at any and all times in case our calling to the great beyond should come, meaning no last minute chance for repentance.

Most of the meetings of May were held as discussion periods on our governing by-laws. The young people felt they weren't as up-to-date as they should be, so we undertook the project of reading and discussing each item separately that it might be carefully considered before suggesting changes. After we had revised our by-laws as we felt necessary, we presented them to an advisory committee of five elders—consisting of Brethren Vance Harris, LeRoy Wheaton, Nicholas Denham, Rolland Sprague, and Forest Maley—who looked over our revised copy, presented any suggestions they had, and then turned the copy back to our group. We again went over our by-laws considering the suggestions and after discussion of them, we adopted our by-laws as revised with some of the suggestions, on June 11. We feel we undertook a very important project, but I feel sure that the group would agree, when I say we were directed by the Lord.

On Saturday, May 28, the young people went swimming. It was a most refreshing activity for the warm day. We were fortunate to have Sr. Delores Bell from Houston, Mo., Sr. Marcia Bryant from Cowgill, Mo., and Bro. Glenn Gill from Sparta, Wis., with us.

Bro. and Sr. James Hedrick welcomed the young people to their home on Sunday, May 29, at which time we assisted the Hedricks in assembling some Sunday School material. After we finished, Caroline served refreshments of cake and lemonade.

June 2, 4, and the afternoon of the 5th were spent at the church in song practice in preparation for the church service of June 5, which was in charge of the Y.P.C.L. At this service we read a few poems and corresponding scriptures, and sang songs which were sung as specials or by the congregation. Sr. Martha Harris took charge of the music.

As a fund raising project on June 11 the young people held a paper drive. It was a big success and we feel we also did our friends a favor by disposing of their old papers.

Margret Harris, Reporter

# THE HELPING HAND

This column is for the benefit of the Sunday School work.

Contributions of interest, study helps and programs for the advancement of Sunday Schools are solicited.  
Material will be reviewed and edited.

## TIME IS VALUABLE

By Leslie P. Case

When we start training our children we usually expect to have at least 18 and possibly more years to do it in. This seems long enough to avoid any rush or urgency in the matter. Let us figure a little closer. The first year is spent in feeding and nurturing the child so it can stand on its feet and merely start repeating a minimum of words. This year is not completely lost if we lay a good foundation upon which to build. During the next few years the world begins to open up. The child learns words with which to think. He also learns to understand dangers and pleasures, the most important of which are perhaps patience and long-suffering. You may think of many more items of learning of which right and wrong should be found.

Many children are still having trouble with their speech at 5 or 6 years of age. At this age they enter elementary school. Now we parents have competition that is greater than many may realize. Our children go to school to teachers that have been schooled and trained to impress students that they know the facts. Many of us parents are not certain in our training, orders and rules. The child soon gets the idea that the teacher knows more than mother and dad. Even play-mates' desires often overrule our regulations.

At the best then we have them for about six wakeful hours a day besides Saturday and Sunday. Our years with them are cut short. By the time they are in their teens they have begun to do a lot of thinking for themselves, which they should. Our teaching and training is still shorter.

We actually have little more than the first six years to train our children to place their trust or faith not only in their parents but also in God. By example as well as words we can teach them not to put their trust in the arm of flesh, but that they have a God who hears their voice as well as us and with better understanding. True, they should have learned by the assurance we can give them to confide in their parents. In our answers we should remember as Daniel did, that we have a God who gives the interpretations. Here he was speaking of dreams, however, it seems well to use this example for anything we wish to know. "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." (James 1:5).

The better we build the foundation years the longer we will have to train and teach our children. The child who has learned to respect his parents will also respect others as well as the God of all wisdom. When He gave the commandment to children, "Honour thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee," it was more than just sound counsel. We are told that when the people of this country no longer worship the God of this

land they will be swept off. As we add up obedience and honour to parents, plus respect for elders and others, plus love and obedience to God, multiplied by the love of God for us, the result equals many days upon the promised land.

Time is valuable. There can be no price placed upon each minute. Many parents spend most if not all of their time seeking money that they might give their children what they call the advantages of life. Yet in so doing they let someone else care for the children in those foundation years. Grandmother, a neighbor, or a baby sitter often build the character of the children that they themselves must learn to use and build upon. Letting someone else take care of our children until they are old enough to care for themselves is a dangerous thing. The scriptures tell us that righteousness is the white garments we will wear in the kingdom of heaven. All the new clothes, toys, and so-called advantages money can buy will not place one white thread upon the backs of our children, but the good teaching of a God-fearing parent, faith toward God and obedience to Him will.

God has placed in the church for our benefit the ministry, helps and governments. All of these working together with the parents will give the child the material with which to build a Christ-like life. If we with our children are found within the walls of the church at every opportunity, they will have a better environment in which to build their life and the mortar of the Spirit of God with which to put it together. We will find going on to perfection an easier job and a happy one.

Did you every try looking for a needle in a haystack? Without the benefits considered here, seeking righteousness is just that hard. The world is full of churches, theories, and doctrines to provide an easier way than through one straight gate and narrow way to everlasting life. Such theories as "buying forgiveness," "impossibility of living righteously so Christ took care of everything," "life is so uncertain that it is better to get the pleasures of the world while the opportunity is here" are some examples of teachings that children and adults face in the world today. These ideas versus the statement of Christ "for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness" (Matt. 3:15) must be faced daily.

We might think there is nothing to worry about. If we take history as our teacher we have but to count the children of yesterday and adults of today in the church. If we can still rest easy then time is not very valuable to us.

Given the chance to prove His worth  
To those that He would leave on earth,  
Jesus did not ask for time,  
But, laid his life upon the line.

Submitted by Harry S. Tordoff

**WHAT GOD HAS JOINED**

Gladioli adorned the altar and the Spirit of God filled our hearts as the stately strains of Lohengrin's Wedding March, as a haunting breath of spring, as music from the harp of God, rolled and echoed through the little church and the coterie of the bridal party moved down the aisle followed by the bride, Irene Vlahakis, on the arm of her father.

To stand at the altar of the Lord and watch a scene of such recurring, transcending beauty transpiring before your eyes, and in addition to be the father of the groom and besides all this, to be in the service of the Master, a tool in the hands of God, performing a holy sacrament as old as Adam and Eve, brings a beauty, an a joy, a sense of fulfilling and a peace that passes all understanding; for is not man at this time fulfilling his destiny, living the life ordained from the beginning? As the earth brings forth fruit in its season, as the birds fly south in the winter, as the sunflower turns to the sun, so must man turn to his Creator if he is to find full joy and happiness. A man in a life of sin, separated from his God, is as a plant with out the sun. They both become sickly and die; for in God we live and move and have our being. To love God and to love one another were we designed, for this is the whole duty of man. We can no more turn from this our nature and live a life of contentment and joy than can a fish take to the land or a horse become as a seal.

And so Harvey E. Seibel and Irene Vlahakis were united by the Spirit of God in the consecrated bonds of matrimony on the 14th of March amid about 60 friends and relatives. Following the ceremony a reception was held at the Town and Country in Las Cruces attended by an equal number. Immediately after the newly-weds went for a day to the beautiful pine-crowned and snow-covered Cloud Croft 90 miles distant. The groom is employed at White Sands Missile Range. The young folks will make their home in Las Cruces.

The bride is a convert to the Church of Christ having recently accepted the restored gospel. We all pray that the new home will have the blessings of God to be with them all the days of their life.

Submitted by Elder Harvey Seibel

**NOTICE**

It is possible that many of the members of the church did not receive a copy of the 1960 Referendum in the recent mailing.

There is still time.

If you are a member of the church and did not receive a Referendum, write, wire or phone the General Church Recorder and one will be sent at once. Or if you know of some member of the church who did not or is not likely to have received a Referendum, send in their name and address to the Recorder.

Ballots must be in an envelope postmarked not later than midnight July 31, to be counted.

Address the Recorder at Box 472, Independence, Mo.

Respectfully,  
The Referendum Committee  
Ora Derry  
James A. Hedrick  
Forest E. Maley

Mrs. Neils Poulson  
817 East Pierce Street  
Council Bluffs, Iowa

**R. R. ROBERTSON PASSES ON**

Word has been received of the death of Bro. R. R. Robertson in Tennessee. We hope to have the obituary for the next issue of the Advocate. We extend deepest sympathy to Sr. Robertson and the family.

The Editors

**CHURCH OF CHRIST PUBLICATIONS**

Send all orders to: Church of Christ (Temple Lot), Box 472, Independence, Missouri.

	Price Each
Book of Commandments—Paper Cover.....	\$1.00
Book of Commandments—Leatherette .....	\$1.25
Outline Church History .....	\$2.00
Book of Mormon—Missionary Edition .....	\$1.25
Also Available at .....	5 for \$5.00
Book of Mormon—Cloth Binding .....	\$2.50
Book of Commandments Controversy Reviewed.....	\$1.00

There are a few Books of Mormon available in Morocco leather binding. Please write for price.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

**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.

	Price Each
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
History and Religion—chart.....	1.50