

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 the power of the Holy Ghost;" 1 Nephi 3:187

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A Message of Christmas

By Apostle B. C. Flint

Ring out ye bells! this Christmas morn,
For unto us the Christ was born.
He came not here alone to die, but
To mankind repentance cry.

"Adam fell that man might be,"
And Christ arose to set him free.
In him alone is power to save,
His messages goes beyond the grave.

Then ring ye bells! this message sweet,
'Til through all ages it will greet,
On earth, in hell, and everywhere,
ALL men will in these blessings share.

Then Hail! all Hail! the angels sing
To all mankind this message bring,
That to this sphere of woe and pain
Our blessed Christ will come again.

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Editorial . . .

THE PRINCE OF PEACE

Among the worthy names given to Christ through Isaiah in prophecy was the name "Prince of Peace" (Isa. 9:6). Abinadi also prophesied of Christ and called him the "founder of peace" (Mos. 8:51). In confirmation of these prophecies, the "hosts of heaven" gave this declaration to the shepherds near Bethlehem when Christ was born: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men" (Luke 2:14).

Although most Christians observe the holiday known throughout the world as Christmas, it is questionable how many associate the word peace with the sacred event of Christ's birth. It is also questionable how many understand the true meaning of peace as it is used in the scriptures. As a for instance, we quote the statement Christ made to his twelve apostles: "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace but a sword" (Luke gives the word "division" instead of "a sword"; Matt. 10:34 and Luke 12:51).

This may seem to conflict with the prophecies, but as we look further into the scriptures we find another statement that Christ made to his apostles: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you" (John 14:27). Christ distinguished his peace from that which the world gave.

He verified this statement with another: "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33).

His apostles were given his peace for he instructed them: "And when ye come into a house, salute it. And if the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you" (Matt. 10:12, 13).

It is evident from these statements that Christ possessed a peace which he shared as he preached and ministered to his followers. However those who rejected him were denied his peace. This brought about a "sword" or "division" between the believers and the unbelievers of which he had foretold. The tragedy of rejection can be felt in his words when he wept over the great city of Jerusalem and said, "If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes (Luke 19:42).

In contrast to the peace that Christ gives, we might consider the peace that the world and the false prophet offers: "They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people saying, Peace, peace; then there is no peace" (Jer. 6:14). Jeremiah went to the Lord because of what the false prophets were telling the people. He said, "Behold, the prophets say unto them, Ye shall not see the sword, neither shall ye have famine; but I will give you assured peace in this place." The Lord answered him: "The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart" (Jer. 14:13, 14).

Paul warns us of a deceptive propaganda which the false prophet will give just prior to the return of Christ: "For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape" (I Thes. 5:3). Isaiah speaks of the transgressor of our day and sums up the situation with this simple statement: "The way of peace they know not" (Isa. 59:8).

These forewarnings cause us to search deeper into the scriptures to define the true peace that Christ has promised his people: "And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever" (Isa. 32:17). The word assurance brings to mind a statement by Paul: "For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance" (I Thes. 1:15).

The work of righteousness performed by the apostles of old not only included the preaching of the word but also the demonstration of the power of God and the workings of the Holy Ghost. Through this means the believer received a witness to the truthfulness of the word and was given a divine assurance which was characteristic of the peace that Christ possessed.

When King Benjamin prophesied to his people of the coming of Christ, he spoke with the power of the Spirit which fell upon them and the result was that ". . . they were filled with joy, having received a remission of their sins, and having peace of conscience, because of the exceeding faith which they had in Jesus Christ who should come" (Mos. 2:5, 6). A peace of conscience was an important part of their total conversion.

Mormon identified those who are truly converted

in these words: "I would speak unto you that are of the church, that are the peaceable followers of Christ, and that have obtained a sufficient hope, by which ye can enter into the rest of the Lord, from this time henceforth, until ye shall rest with him in heaven. And now my brethren, I judge these things of you because of your peaceable walk with the children of men" (Moroni 7:3, 4).

Being a peaceable follower of Christ and walking peaceably with the children of men is evidence of the effect that the gospel of Christ has upon one's life when they are converted to him. In the sermon on the mount, Christ said: "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God" (Matt. 5:9). A peacemaker is one who transmits the message of peace, the gospel of Christ, to others. Nephi witnesses to this fact: "And whoso shall publish peace, yea, tidings of great joy, how beautiful upon the mountains shall they be" (I Nephi 3:189). Abinadi gives the entire scope of the work of the true prophet, the peacemakers and the "founder of peace" when he said, "These are they who have published peace, who have brought good tidings of good, who have published salvation; and said unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! And O how beautiful upon the mountains were their feet! And again, how beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of those that are still publishing peace! And again, how beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of those who shall hereafter publish peace, yea, from this time henceforth and for ever! And behold, I say unto you, this is not all: for O how beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that is the founder of peace; yea, even the Lord, who has redeemed his people; yea, him who has granted salvation unto his people" (Mos. 8:47-52).

RLS

PRIESTHOOD GUIDE MANUAL

A Priesthood Guide Manual, in loose-leaf notebook form, is now available to anyone desiring to have one. It contains helpful information to the ministry of the Church of Christ which has evolved from the August Ministers' Conference. The material is not dictative, but only suggestive in nature. The manual will be supplemented with additional material periodically.

There will be no charge to ministry of the Church of Christ, however, donations will be accepted toward cost. Cost for all others will be \$5.00 per manual. Send all requests to:

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Independence, Missouri 64051

The Fruit of Faith

Ralph Waldo Emerson, who did so much to bring out the best in so many people, once said that what he himself, needed most was some body to bring out the best in him - to inspire and encourage him. He emphasized the fact that great things are achieved by those of whom great things are expected.

Almost everybody has periods of doubt, and wonders whether he really does have what it takes. Self-confidence, even for an Emerson, seems to grow out of the confidence of other people. If other people think we can - perhaps we can! All of us know how it bucks us up just to be around certain friends. They reflect a kind of unexpressed hero worship and we are the heroes. They expect great things from us and before long we expect them, too. They inspire us to have faith in ourselves.

THE COVENANT PEOPLE OF THE LORD

by Apostle Robert H. Jensen

(Sermon delivered to Temple Lot Local Jan. 29, 1978, condensed)

When I received the invitation to come and spend this hour with you in this capacity, the question came to my mind, what might there be in the Gospel of Christ that they haven't come to know yet? The answer readily came back, probably nothing. But you know, the Gospel is likened unto a seed in the Scriptures. It is planted in the hearts of the people that it might grow in the garden of their lives. I think most of us have gardened at one time or another, perhaps farmed. We know that when we plant seeds in a garden that they require a great deal of care from the beginning of their planting until the end of the harvest. There is no let up in between if we desire to reap the most most abundant harvest possible.

So it is with our lives, we must take the Gospel of Christ into our hearts, let it grow there, be mindful to tend it, nourish it and keep the weeds from springing up in our lives that will tend to crowd out the good seed that has been planted there. Ours is a privilege and an opportunity that is unsurpassed by any people that have ever lived in this world! So when we come together from time to time, we come together to speak regarding the welfare of our souls, and concerning the Gospel of Christ, because it being a living thing, it never grows old or stale, if we continue to tend it and to nourish it as we are instructed.

I would like to read a few selected verses from the 12th chapter of Second Nephi. Nephi was issuing a prophecy concerning times to come. He saw things that were going to happen and that have happened in our lifetime and things that are yet to be fulfilled, probably within the lifetime of most of us.

(Verse 73) "And it shall come to pass that my people which are of the house of Israel, shall be gathered home unto the lands of their possessions; (many of us have seen that begin to happen in a considerable measure) and my word also shall be gathered in one. And I will shew unto them that fight against my word and against my people, who are of the house of Israel, that I am God, and that I covenanted with Abraham, that I would remember his seed for ever."

The Lord has always had a covenanted people, a people to whom He gave a covenant to be mindful of, to direct, to protect against their enemies for all time. And Nephi says, ". . . I would speak unto you: for I, Nephi, would not suffer that ye should suppose that ye are more righteous than the Gentiles shall be. (He understood that the word of God was unto ALL mankind.) For behold, except ye shall keep the commandments of God ye shall all likewise perish; and because of the words which have been spoken ye need not suppose that the Gentiles are utterly destroyed. For

behold, I say unto you, that as many of the Gentiles as will repent, are the covenant people of the Lord; (and that includes us of the Latter Day Restoration. We come under the covenant of the Almighty God as His people.) And as many of the Jews as will not repent, shall be cast off; For the Lord covenanteth with none, save it be with them that repent and believe in his Son, who is the Holy One of Israel."

Then Nephi says: "And now, I would prophesy somewhat more concerning the Jews and the Gentiles. For after the book of which I have spoken shall come forth, (he is talking about the Book of Mormon, that I am reading from) and be written unto the Gentiles, and sealed up again unto the Lord, there shall be many which shall believe the words which are written; and they shall carry them forth unto the remnant of our seed."

This has been in process since the beginning of the Latter Day Restoration. We have people now, young people, who are endeavoring to carry the word of this book to the ancient covenant people spoken of here. It gives some promises of what is going to happen in the future, though it may seem that previous efforts have not been of great effect.

"And then shall the remnant of our seed know concerning us, how that we came out from Jerusalem. and that they are descendants of the Jews. And the gospel of Jesus Christ shall be declared among them; wherefore, they shall be restored unto the knowledge of their fathers, and also to the knowledge of Jesus Christ, which was had among their fathers. And then shall they rejoice; for they shall know that it is a blessing unto them from the hand of God;"

Now the magnitude of this prophecy is yet to be fully realized, but I have confidence that we will see it in these latter times before we pass from this scene of action.

"And as many as shall believe in Christ, shall also become a delightful people. And it shall come to pass that the Lord God shall commence his work, among all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people, to bring about the restoration of his people upon the earth. And with righteousness shall the Lord God judge the poor, and reprove with equity, for the meek of the earth. And he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth; and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked; For the time speedily cometh, that the Lord God shall cause a great division among the people; and the wicked shall he destroy; and he will spare his people, yea, even if it so be that he must destroy the wicked by fire."

When that great division is made, it will be just

like a straight line down through the middle of this room. There is not going to be any gray area, it's going to be black or white. Because with God, His judgment is total and it is perfect and there is no need for degrees to be determined at that point. For His judgment is total!

In regarding the righteous at that time, when the great division shall come between the people, it says: "And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. And then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf, and the young lion, and the fatling, together; and a little child shall lead them."

Of course this carries a prophesy on into the time that we recognize as being the millennial reign, the thousand year period when Christ shall be on earth.

(Verse 95) "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."

I don't know if we can even visualize what a condition that shall be when the earth is full of the knowledge of the Lord! When everyone on the face of the earth KNOWS the Lord. It is a wonderful thing to contemplate.

"Wherefore, the things of all nations shall be made known; yea, all things shall be made known unto the children of men. There is nothing which is secret, save it shall be revealed; there is no work of darkness, save it shall be made manifest in the light; and there is nothing which is sealed upon the earth, save it shall be loosed. Wherefore, all things which have been revealed unto the children of men, shall at that day be revealed; And Satan shall have power over the hearts of the children of men no more, for a long time. (for that thousand year period)."

Then he made an end of prophesying, but continued to write. He said: "... I must speak, concerning the doctrine of Christ;"

What is the doctrine of Christ? I believe that our language is a blessing unto us, that we are able to communicate one with another, between ourselves and also between ourselves and our heavenly Father. The words that are given to us are important because they all have specific meaning. Some have, in English language, two or more meanings. But I like to consider the words that are in the Scripture, such as this, "the doctrine of Christ." His doctrine was His Gospel, the Gospel commandments, the plan of salvation that He laid out before all mankind. So, Nephi was going to speak unto his people concerning the doctrine of Christ. He said: "wherefore I shall speak unto you PLAINLY, (concerning the Gospel of Christ) according to the plainness of my prophesying. For my soul delighteth in plainness:"

What a contrast that is to our present world of technology where everything nowadays seems to be so complicated! The Apostle Paul made statements in

2nd Cor. regarding the simplicity of the Gospel of Christ. They recognized it in the Jerusalem church as well as on this continent. This is the thing that delighted their souls! They gloried in it, in that even children were able to understand the Gospel that Christ brought to this earth!

And Nephi says, "for after this manner doth the Lord God work among the children of men. For the Lord God giveth light unto the understanding: for he speaketh unto men according to their language, unto their understanding. Wherefore, I would that ye should remember that I have spoken unto you, concerning that prophet which the Lord shewed unto me, that should baptize the Lamb of God, which should take away the sins of the world."

Now, this is more than 500 years before Christ came, and yet, Nephi and his brethren knew about the coming of the Lord. He had occasion to remark that if the Lamb of God, being holy, had need to be baptized in order to fulfill all righteousness, how much more had they need to be baptized. He says, (verse 9) "But notwithstanding he being holy, he sheweth unto the children of men, that according to the flesh, he humbleth himself before the Father, and witnesseth unto the Father, that he would be obedient unto him in keeping his commandments; Wherefore, after he was baptized with water, the Holy Ghost descended upon him in the form of a dove. And again: It sheweth unto the children of men the straightness of the path, the narrowness of the gate, by which they should enter, he having set the example before them. And he said unto the children of men, Follow me, Wherefore, my beloved brethren, can we follow Jesus save we shall be willing to keep the commandments of the Father?"

When He issues this statement, He meant ALL of the commandments and not part of them. We are not left to choose what part we desire to follow and what part we desire to neglect in our lives, as we may do with some worldly program.

"And the Father said, Repent ye, repent ye, and be baptized in the name of my beloved son. And also, the voice of the Son came unto me, saying, He that is baptized in my name, to him will the Father give the Holy Ghost, like unto me; wherefore, follow me, and do the things which ye have seen me do. Wherefore, my beloved brethren, I know that if ye shall follow the Son with full purpose of heart, acting no hypocrisy and no deception before God, but with real intent, repenting of your sins, witnessing unto the Father that ye are willing to take upon you the name of Christ, by baptism: yea, by following your Lord and your Savior down into the water, according to his word; behold, then shall ye receive the Holy Ghost;"

Sometimes, I wonder if we are able to understand the degree of dedication that is required of us when we endeavor to approach our Heavenly Father to offer our petitions to Him for the things that we need in life! In the 29th chapter of Jeremiah there is a lesson

that we can take unto ourselves for our benefit. These are the words of a letter that Jeremiah, the prophet, sent from Jerusalem to the remainder of the elders which were carried away into captivity, and also to the priests and to the prophets and to the people that Nebuchadnezzar had carried away from Jerusalem to Babylon. This was a message unto the people that Jeremiah gave. He said, (chapter 29, verse 4) "Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, unto all that are carried away captives, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem unto Babylon;"

God caused them to be carried away because of their wickedness. Then He gave them instructions because they were His covenanted people and He wanted them to still follow what He had for them to do.

"Build ye houses, and dwell in them; and plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them; Take ye wives, and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; that ye may be increased there, and not diminished. And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto the LORD for it: for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace."

Remember, in the Gospel of Christ, that He spoke about peace. And why do you suppose that God was so anxious for them to seek peace in the city where they had been carried away captive. Christ said, "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God." He wanted His children to still be called by His name. The only way that could be done was for them to seek peace and become peacemakers.

"For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Let not your prophets and your diviners, that be in the midst of you, deceive you, neither hearken to your dreams which ye cause to be dreamed. For they prophesy falsely unto you in my name: I have not sent them, saith the LORD. For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, . . ."

I hope that we of the Latter Day Restoration will never fall under such a decree that we have to wait seventy years before we can expect the Lord again to be mindful of us. But this was their state at that time. He required them to wait for seventy long years! That's a man's lifetime!

"That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then (after seventy years) shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you."

This, I believe, is a lesson for us today. "And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."

Sometimes we don't know what is ALL our heart. Sometimes we have to become hard-pressed before we find the full depth and the full height and width of our heart. I have been hard-pressed in times past in my life, yet I wonder if even now, I fully realize the full depth to which I must go as the Lord told the people here, that they would seek Him and find Him, WHEN they searched with ALL their hearts.

Nephi says, (verse 19) "And I heard a voice from the Father, saying, Yea, the words of m beloved, are true and faithful. He that endureth to the end, the same shall be saved."

I have seen people come into the Gospel and endure for awhile and then fade away. But the admonition is, that we must endure to the end!

I like to watch athletes perform in track endeavors and in swimming meets and that type of thing. I was never blessed with the ability, myself. Even from childhood it seemed like I was made for slow, heavy work, but I like to watch those who can run and swim and jump.

A trained athlete never looks at the finish line to think "that's how far I've got to go" or that is how high I have to jump." He doesn't think right to the end, but he thinks beyond. He conditions himself to think about going to that finish line and beyond in order to complete his race, or to jump up to that bar and over to the other side. That is the end, not just that arbitrary line or bar that is drawn in a certain place. It goes beyond that before we can say that we have finished. It goes to the point of our last mortal breath. "He that endureth to the end, the same shall be saved."

He says, ". . . I know by this, that unless a man shall endure to the end, in following the example of the Son of the living God, he can not be saved; Wherefore, do the things which I have told you I have seen, that your Lord and your Redeemer should do: For, for this cause have they been shewn unto me, that ye might know the gate by which ye should enter. For the gate by which ye should enter is repentance and baptism by water: and then cometh a remission of your sins by fire, and by the Holy Ghost."

We receive this Holy Ghost by the laying on of hands, and then a person is in that straight and narrow way that leads to eternal life.

Nephi says, ". . . yea, ye have entered in by the gate; ye have done according to the commandments of the Father and the Son; And ye have received the Holy Ghost, which witnesses of the Father and the Son, unto the fulfilling of the promise which he hath made, that if ye entered in by the way, ye should receive."

(Verse 29) "Wherefore, ye must press forward with a steadfastness in Christ, having a perfect brightness of hope, and a love of God and of all men."

I am reading selected verses, and this next is beginning with the 14th chapter of 2nd Nephi.

" . . . behold, my beloved brethren, I suppose that ye ponder somewhat in your hearts, concerning that which ye should do, after ye have entered in by the way . . . Do ye not remember that I said unto you, that after ye had received the Holy Ghost, ye could speak with the tongue of angels?"

Have you ever wondered what the "tongue of angels" is? It refers to the language of the angels, the language that angels of heaven speak. Their language is undefiled, it is unprofane, it is a pure and a perfect language even as the language that Adam was given in the beginning, before his fall.

Nephi says, "And now, how could ye speak with the tongue of angels, save it were by the Holy Ghost? (That is how people can become able to speak with the same tongue that angels use.) Angels speak by the power of the Holy Ghost; wherefore, they speak the words of Christ. Wherefore, I said unto you, feast upon the words of Christ; for behold the words of Christ will tell you all things what ye should do. Wherefore, now after I have spoken these words, if ye can not understand them, it will be because ye ask not, neither do ye knock; wherefore, ye are not brought into the light, but must perish in the dark."

The Lord, Himself, said, "Blessed are all they who do hunger and thirst after righteousness." He doesn't apply this to food for our physical bodies. It means that we must have a **thirst** and a **hunger** for the word of God — to hunger and thirst for righteousness.

" . . . If ye will enter in by the way and receive the Holy Ghost, it will shew unto you all things what ye should do. (verse 9) . . . the Spirit stoppeth mine utterance, and I am left to mourn because of the unbelief, and the wickedness, and the ignorance, and the stiffneckedness of men: for they will not search knowledge, nor understand great knowledge, when it is given unto them in plainness, even as plain as word can be.

I often times wonder about all the people in this life, considering that this lifetime is the period designed and intended by God to be our probationary period. To my understanding, it is the only period or opportunity that we shall have to serve a proving time, to prove ourselves worthy before our Heavenly Father. I wonder about all the people who don't search for knowledge. Because here it is, in the open book if they will but turn their eyes and look. It is here, telling them the way of eternal salvation.

(Verse 11) " . . . if ye would hearken unto the spirit which teacheth a man to pray, ye would know that ye must pray: for the evil spirit teacheth not a man to pray, but teacheth him that he must not pray.

But behold I say unto you, that ye must pray always, and not faint: that ye must not perform anything unto the Lord, save in the first place ye shall pray unto the Father in the name of Christ, that he will consecrate thy performance unto thee, that thy performance may be for the welfare of thy soul."

This pertains to everything in life! The first thing when we get up in the morning, we should pray that God will direct us all through that day, whether we go to the office or to the field, or to the school, whatever it is, we should pray that God will direct us. The Lord will be mindful of us if we remember to ask for His guidance in all things. During the interim, we may forget momentarily, but if we bring ourselves to have that habit, it will become part of us and we will learn little by little to trust the Lord all the way.

One of the most remarkable things to me is that I have heard former men of the Church in their 80's and 90's, and one at the time he was 100 years old, state that they were still learning of the deepness of the meaning and the values in the Holy Scriptures.

God always gives a promise of a reward for every commandment He has given us. There is not a commandment that I have been able to find but what if we keep it, there is a promise of a reward. He gives us a challenge. If we want to try the Lord, if we want to test Him, here's the way you do it. "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that these may be meat in mine house, and **prove me**, now herewith, (He is saying go ahead and prove me if you will, and see) . . . if I will not open you the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes and he shall not destroy the fruits of **your ground**; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field . . . And all nations shall call you **blessed**, for ye shall be a delightful land." (3rd Nephi 11:13-15) So, all we have to do is put the Lord to the test, as He invites us to, and see if He will not bless us.

One of our ministers said about a year ago, if you want to increase your faith (and who is there of us who doesn't have that need), increase your service to the Lord. I can understand and appreciate the value of that suggestion in my life. I have need yet to continue to try to exercise myself in that way in order that my faith might increase, as we all have need.

I pray that God's blessings may be upon each and every one of you and ask a continuing interest in your prayers in our behalf that we might in some way be enabled to spread the word of the Gospel to everyone who would be of a mind to hear and listen and obey, because there are many beautiful people in this world. Among all nationalities and among all religious persuasions, there are people who have beautiful souls. If they had the opportunity to hear the fulness of the Gospel, they would come unto the Lord. This then, should be our endeavor, to reach out unto as many as it is possible for us to do.

COLLINS NEWS

Please think of these news items as being a little visit from the Collins Local to our many friends who welcome the Advocate into their homes every month.

We feel a little special glow of closeness to many of those friends today after having renewed that friendship at our recent tri-local-rally. Here also we met a new friend, a John Schut of the Netherlands. This quiet gentleman was recently baptized and called to the office of an Elder. In this short two days visiting we have felt his good spirit and his personal magnetism. We learned that God spoke to him through a dream which led him to the gospel. We are anxious to meet his family and he promises we will one day.

I report to you briefly some of the good thoughts brought to our attention by our ministers at this Rally.

Elder Eugene Gould read scriptures foretelling the second coming of Christ. Nation will war against nation, many will be offended and hate each other, this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world, etc. We need to be watching, praying and preparing. Are we too busy looking for a more convenient day? He told us in detail what we needed to do to prepare ourselves. Briefly it was: repent and be baptized, humble ourselves, render to every man his just dues, take care of our families (suffer not your children to be hungry or naked) don't quarrel, love and serve one another, give to the poor, visit the sick, return what you borrow, watch your thoughts, words and deeds, bear each other's burdens, mourn with those who mourn, witness for God, pray in our fields and in our homes. Love one another. Seek riches if you will but seek ye first the Kingdom of God.

Elder John Jones startled us by having a big sign on a stand on the rostrum before he preached, which read: "What is wrong with the Church?" We expected to be torn apart, but he surprised us by saying he had previously been a part of a group of people who criticized the Church and were always saying: "Now what is **wrong** with this Church is — " He then proceeded to tell us what is **right** with the Church.

We have the **right origin**. We are not just a social organization, Christ said: "I will build my church."

We have the **right head**. No Pope or President — but Christ.

Right constitution. There are certain laws of entry — we enter by baptism. **Right name**. "Ye must take upon you the name of Christ."

Right Ministry. They are called of God as was Aaron. **Right doctrine**. Takes continued study. If there be wrong in it, it is of men not the Church.

He said we must be a peculiar people. That's being different and unusual. Christ's birth and death was unusual, his doctrine of love your enemies was unusual. If we live up to Christ's doctrine in all things we will be a peculiar and unusual people.

Apostle E. L. Yates said: "It is obvious that the Lord has responded to our desire and taht the words of the song, 'There's a sweet, sweet spirit in this place' is applicable here." He said the prophets of old longed to live in our day for they knew it would be a time of great learning even though there would be much tribulation. This is a time of war and slaughter on the highways but it is also a dangerous time for the soul. The devil's time is getting short and he is growing frantic. Even the devil himself has his free agency and he fell from heaven with a third of the angels. So regardless of who you are or where you stand tonight you are in danger of falling too, for you have the dignity of your own free agency. Some people don't believe in a devil — I know of no way to prove to anyone that there is a devil or a God, but I can declare them to you because of my own experience.

He said there is much sin in the world today; sectarian churches have had conferences trying to decide whether to retain as priests avowed homosexuals. The Bible teaches that it is sin. (see Rom. 1:21-28) One professed Christian preached "evil has no power and is not a reality." One Christian leader advised a married couple who belonged to different churches to leave their respective churches and join another (any they chose) just to be together. Church membership rolls are filling up but attendance is falling off. Bishops grab headlines sanctioning pre-marital or extra-marital sex, they ridicule the virgin birth and make fun of the redemptive power of the blood spilled on Calvary. There is too much evil on our TV screen today to allow our children to view. There is adultery, murder, pornography and drugs. This is a sick, decaying, degenerate society. This Church of Christ should wake up and start preaching the pure unadulterated truth. Our forefathers came to this land for religious freedom, but if we don't wake up and fly right we are headed for destruction.

Elder Don Hitt said that the last time he was here with us, he was out of a job, he had prayed about it, and that he could hardly wait to see what the Lord would do. The next Monday he had a job and the experience was fantastic. He read in Acts 19: "Have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed?" Then Book of Mormon p. 760: "Ye shall call on the Father in my name, in mighty prayer; and after ye have done this, ye shall have power that on him whom ye shall lay your hands, ye shall give the Holy Ghost; and in my name shall ye give it, for thus do mine apostles." Understand and know that you do have the Holy Ghost, don't be afraid to talk about it, let it work and it will do things for you in your life.

In the last chapter of Luke it tells of the signs that will follow those who believe. They shall cast out devils, speak with new tongues, if they pick up deadly snakes or drink poison it shall not hurt them, lay

hands on the sick and they would recover. There are reasons why we are not healed like we should be; we should believe the Bible and take it for what it says. In Isaiah chapter 51 we are told Christ bore our sorrows and with his stripes we are healed. We all believe he took our sins but we find it harder to believe he took our pain and sickness. He took our infirmities and bears our sicknesses. Some people come to be administered to and they pray for a blessing, and they get it, but we can pray to be healed. The bumper sticker we see a lot is fitting here. "He said it — I believe it — and that's that!"

There are other reasons why we are not healed. We have to be forgiven before our prayer is answered, we must confess our faults to one another, we must forgive others, and of course we must believe we will receive the healing.

The devil is our enemy, he wants to destroy us, he is tricky. Be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might. The signs are going to follow those who believe. When you pray remember the word says he took our infirmities and by his stripes we are healed.

"God bless you, I pray you will move out in the power of God in every little thing, especially in your homes and with your wives and your children."

Apostle William Sheldon said: "I am grateful for being here and sharing this worship together with you at this time and place. I hope there has been engendered in our hearts an increased desire towards God. The words of the prophets are being literally fulfilled today in which they spoke of the conditions that would prevail before Christ would come again, not only great wickedness but a lack of faith and a desire for God. Even in the church I have noticed a lack of faith, indifference, carelessness, a failure to see the hand of God in all things.

He reminded us of Elijah when he said, if Baal be God follow him but if the Lord is God follow him, and the story of how Elijah had told the 450 priests of Baal to prepare a bullock to place on the altar and cry unto their god Baal to send fire to consume it. They did and prayed to Baal to send the fire — no answer. Then Elijah had a bullock prepared, placed on the altar, much water poured over it, prayed to God and fire came down from heaven, consumed the sacrifice, the wood, the stones, the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench about. And all the people fell on their faces and acknowledged the Lord as God. The time will come when all nations will know that the Lord is God.

We read in the 4th chapter of Malachi: "For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch." He told us that when Joseph Smith was shown the plates of the Book of Mormon, an angel quoted to him this chapter of Malachi but with the

difference — instead of "the day that cometh shall burn them up," he said, "and they that cometh shall burn them up." The word "they" referred to here is the great Communist conspiracy that is going to gather the nations together against Zion.

The 5th verse says: "Behold I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord." And the angel quoted it to Joseph Smith as: "Behold I will reveal unto you the **priesthood** by the hand of Elijah the prophet," etc. While Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery were praying about the manner of baptism they read in the Book of Mormon, the personage laid hands on their heads and ordained them to the holy priesthood. And through this priesthood it is made possible for you and I today to have our hearts turned to God.

He said we have a tendency to hug the gospel to our bosoms instead of sharing it. After baptism we should be a light unto the world. Righteousness is the strength of Zion.

He closed by saying: "Put away all evil speaking, all wrath and strife, put on that loving spirit of the Master and add to your faith. May God help us to that end is my prayer."

At one prayer service, two bottles of olive oil were blessed as is the custom in our church, and there followed testimonies of physical healings experienced through the use of such consecrated oil. We were reminded that it is our duty to tell of our answers to prayers, our blessings and of our healings, so as to strengthen the faith of others.

We had two special vocal numbers at the beginning of one prayer service "Holy Spirit thou art welcome in this place" sung by Kay Leighton-Floyd and Neva Housknecht and "I have returned to the God of my childhood" by Neva Housknecht. The beautiful songs help set the mood for the sincere, and spiritual meeting that followed. We were instructed by the minister in charge to praise God for his wonderful creation, for his involvement in our lives and for his promises of the future.

In their testimony one person wanted to add to the list given us in a sermon, "What is right with the church?", this — "The spirit of love that exists!" and they added: "These very walls are bursting with that love today." Another person was asked: "Don't you ever get discouraged?" and the answer: "No, why should I? I have God." Another testified that prayer had removed depression and brought sleep. Another — True love is not selfish — it is difficult to let others live their own lives. One had a hard time adjusting to the loss of his parents; the spirit helped him realize he had his own family now and he should concentrate his love on them. The same in our church family, we should love even when we see each others faults.

A story was told about a young man working under his car recently — it slipped off the jacks and rolled forward. He doesn't know yet how he could have

moved so fast for the front wheels rolled over the spot where he had been laying! We are all so thankful for his protection.

One young man spoke of his weaknesses, saying that he had a tendency of thinking everyone disliked him. He had recently received a hand-made card from the young people's group — with brief individual notes — wishing him a speedy recovery from his sickness. This did him much good, and he believed he was at this very meeting only because of an answer to prayer.

Another: "God healed me — he tells us to ask for health, and I did." One sister, because she had had cancer, was frightened and suspicious of any further pains and soreness. She asked God for faith and hope — her prayer was answered and the tests showed no cancer! One brother said he was stronger for having been here and he felt our love for him and was thankful.

One young man in his senior year at college said he was under great pressure, almost more than he could bear; his roommate was on dope and came in drunk almost all the time. He couldn't seem to concentrate; he said, "you are my very best friends — please pray for me."

Then our new friend John Schut told us it had been hard to leave his family behind in the Netherlands but that it would also be hard to leave us behind when he left; our faces would be constantly in his memory and he hoped to see us again with his family. His last comment: "In your presence I find peace and joy." May God go with him and we look forward to meeting his family in the not too distant future.

After dinner on Sunday we took an hour or so to honor Ed and Louise McIndoo on the occasion of their 50th. wedding anniversary. There were eulogies, songs, wit and humor, in the program that followed. While several seemed to take pride in the length of time they had known these two, I'm sure they were all surpassed by one lady who related that three months before she was born she attended a party given by Louise McIndoo. In fact it was a party given in her honor and she was there of course, with her mother!

After the pleasant program we enjoyed cake and punch in the dining room.

The McIndoos go to Phoenix soon where another celebration is planned for them on November 10th at the home of their son and daughter, Don and Betty McIndoo.

EMC

NEWS FROM AVA LOCAL

Summer has come and gone. Fall, with its array of beautiful color, is here with the reminder that winter is just around the corner. While everyone is trying to get things in order for winter and the cold ahead, it might be nice to reflect back over our summer activities.

Our services through July started off with sacrament on July 2nd. We reflected on this being the week our nation celebrated its anniversary of becoming a nation with the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. We should all have celebrated by thanking our Heavenly Father for this land of freedom in which to worship without restrictions, at least so far. We were so happy to have as visitors Brother and Sister Eugene Gould and Brother and Sister Arthur Smith and family.

On July 9 our pastor, Brother Alex Smith, was our speaker. He took his text from the 1st chapter of James and the 5th chapter of Galatians. He admonished us as to the fruits of the spirit which are love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, faith, temperance, and goodness. He asked us what we should do before the Master comes and warned us we haven't much time left to change our ways. He admonished us to start from that day on letting the fruits of the Spirit shine through our lives so that others may see God in our lives.

Sunday, July 16, brought us the welcome visit of our Brother and Sister Tony Grzincic. He spoke to us concerning rebellion. His text was taken from page 253 of the Book of Mormon and also from pages 255 and 256. This is where we are told about a man being carnal minded, and he advised that the things of the past are often repeated in the future. Brother Grzincic admonished us to get ourselves in line to become holy before God by doing His will. He asked us, if great tribulations come, where did we want to stand. We had a lovely dinner following his sermon.

On July 30, we were fortunate to have Brother and Sister Eugene Gould with us again. He spoke using the 4th chapter of Micah as his reference. Again we were reminded to make ourselves ready for the Great Day of the Lord. We were told to be humble so that we might escape those things which will come to pass at that time. Also, if we would repent, we may be able to assist in the building of the "New Jerusalem." Brother Gould said there was a more convenient time to start our preparation than right now.

With the beginning of August, we were again blessed with visitors. Brother and Sister Loren Bryant, their son, John, Sister Lois Harris, and Sister Ruby Bryant came to feast with us at our sacrament service. Being so few in number, our local really does have a spiritual feast when some others come to worship with us.

Our hearts were indeed lifted when on Sunday, August 20, young Brother Wesley Burgin was baptized by Brother Archie Bell. It was beautiful service with the setting among the Ozark hills at Bryant's Creek. The confirmation was held just prior to the preaching service at which Brother Bell was our speaker.

Sunday, August 27, was enlivened by the blessing of two babies, Martin Earl, son of Brother and Sister Joe Lane and Brandon Edward, son of Brother and Sister Clyde Darlington. Again we were blessed with the visit of Brother Marvin Case. He told us to try to overcome our weaknesses with the realization some may do a better job at this than others. He, as the other ministry, advised us as to the need for plainness of the gospel and the need to prepare our lives by inviting the Spirit of God to be a part of us.

September brought the return of our Sister Ruby Bryant, this time with her son, Gerald, and his lovely wife and daughter. We are always so glad to have visitors and especially for sacrament services.

September 10th saw the return of Brother Eugene Gould to speak to us. He stressed the need of the doctrine of Christ being applied to our lives that we might obtain life eternal.

Brother and sister Roland Sarratt came down for our services on September 17. He spoke to us about the responsibilities of the priesthood, especially as to the power of that office. He told us we should be looking forward to the time when the word from God's ministry will come with that power.

October 15th, Brother and Sister Frank Fann were with us. Brother Fann preached about sin and the wages of sin. He suggested that God's people learned to control our lives and not let our tongues rule. He said he wondered, if Christ were standing at our side, we would say or do some of the things we do. It was a beautiful fall day and Brother Fann told us to think on things of God which bring us true peace and happiness.

On October 29, our speaker was again our pastor, Brother Alex Smith. He reminded us that we were to be a peculiar people and that we were to keep the commandments of God.

By all these activities you can see we were blessed with a full summer and early fall. How much more richly can we be blessed than through time spent thus.

Your Sister in Christ,
Lorraine Welton

GOD'S GOODNESS

Sunday, October 29, 1978 will always be a day long remembered for the Spirit of God visited our little church here in Independence in power. The little East Local building was indeed a Holy Place where, quietly, through His divine Spirit, God fed His children.

As the preaching service began I felt a warm glow and a peace filled the room. I felt that we were going to receive something of great value when Brother and Sister Oldham sang a duet, "Fill My Cup Lord", and as I listened to the words I was deeply moved and tears coursed down my cheeks. The beauty of that song and the message it imparts can't be surpassed. The sincerity with which those words were sung by that young couple, I'm sure, was inspired of our Lord and Master.

As Brother Roland Sarratt arose to give the sermon, God's Spirit and power was more strongly felt. A young couple testified to me later of seeing a personage standing behind Brother Roland as he spoke and they felt the power of the message.

The sermon didn't pat us on the back, but rather it admonished us because of our slothfulness and our trying to do things in our own human ways instead of letting God do it His way. We must put on the full armor of God in order to be able to stand in these last days.

God isn't standing outside the church on the side lines waiting to get in, but He is on the inside, the ruler of all. Because things haven't moved fast enough, we have tried to hurry them along. This isn't God's way and He will do it His way no matter how much we try to tie His hands. We usually end up tying our own hands thus thwarting God's work in us for a time. We slow down the work instead of helping it. We must wait upon the Lord, then these entanglements won't appear and we will see the work go forward.

God's work will not be frustrated, only man's. God's plan is perfect and He will do it as He has planned. When we allow Him to use us as He will, the work goes forward more rapidly and we see the progress we long for.

You know, Brothers and Sisters, if we allow God to work His plan in us we can be His children in deed and in truth, but if we don't He'll raise up another people that will. We need to hold up our cup, as the song says, to have Him fill it up and not to try to fill it up ourselves. In our weakness, we allow things that destroy and divide to be placed in our cups and not that which God intends for us to drink.

We were to have a full day of feasting at God's table, for the evening service also had God's Spirit directing it. The special for this service, "I Believe In

Miracles" sung by Sister June Saratt, invited our Master to come in and dwell with us. The words of the chorus were: "I believe in miracles, I've seen a soul set free, miraculous the change in one redeemed through Calvary; I've seen the lily push its way up through the stubborn sod. I believe in miracles, for I believe in God!"

If that powerful statement, "I believe in God", would always be the banner we keep before us, that we truly believe in God, what a powerful shield that can and will be against all Satanic and evil forces arrayed against us in these last days. The old time missionaries taught us these very truths, but just how well have we heeded them is shown by the history we have made. Full reliance on our Heavenly Father becomes more necessary with each passing moment.

Our new brother in the Gospel, John Schut from the Netherlands, who had come over to be baptized, gave us food for thought as he told of the good Samar-

itan and the pure love of God. It is this love we must express to each other if we are to be truly God's children. He expressed himself as feeling that love while with us, and what a humbling effect it had on us all!

Truly, all of us who were privileged to sit and share in that feast from God's table were richly blessed. God knew what we needed and supplied that need. We need more and more of His wise admonition and counsel now and in the days ahead if we are to stand and be counted as His sheep.

"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" has a deeper meaning for me for He surely poured out His Spirit on us this October Sunday. We were so well fed and my heart's desire is to go forward as He leads us.

This is my way of giving thanks from my heart for His Goodness. Let us not be hearers only but doers of the word as He directs.

Edna R. Smith

ABOUT DRUGS

Part 2

by Charles Blount

It is unfortunate but true that at this time all of the substances used by humans as recreational chemicals produce greater and lesser degrees of toxic damage within the human organism. Alcohol, marijuana, hashish, heroin, LSD and stimulant drugs are still serious problems in today's society.

Uppers

"Uppers" are dynamite and should be avoided for many reasons; a few are listed here.

Depending on dosage, individual sensitivity and certain other factors, amphetamines:

- * Can mask or hide the protective signs of dangerous fatigue which can lead to heat exhaustion and circulatory collapse.
- * Delay pulse and respiratory recovery time after exertions.
- * Can be highly toxic (a common cause of acute psychoses).
- * Have been known to cause a profound and unique dependency if taken regularly over varying periods of time, depending on the individual user. This profound and unique dependency occurs following heavy or regular dosage and a user then suffers withdrawal symptoms.
- * May lead to varying degrees of psychological dependency by the user after continuous and prolonged administration. This in turn may lead to aggressive and antisocial behavior. If a user stops taking them, he may become very depressed and have difficulty performing routine tasks.

- * May be associated with over-aggressive, hostile, paranoid behavior on the part of the user.
- * Often can lead to the use of barbituates to counteract the hyper-activity and then set up what is referred to as the "roller-coaster" effect.

Barbiturates - Downers

Barbiturate abusers often are involved in traffic accidents because their reactions tend to be sluggish. Accidental deaths from overdoses of the barbiturates are common as abusers become confused as a result of the effects of the drug and forget how many they have already taken. The combination of alcohol and barbiturates can be lethal.

Barbiturates are addicting. Signs of physical dependence appear with doses above therapeutic level. Withdrawal from barbiturates is especially dangerous and is characterized by accompanying convulsions and delirium. Depressants (barbiturates) — they are real downers!

Marijuana

In spite of what may be read in the lay press, the damaging effects of marijuana use are well documented. The mildness and transitory nature of the intoxicative experience with marijuana prevents the user from comprehending serious disadvantages. Study of the long term consequences of marijuana smoking has established many adverse consequences, all of major concern, and none of a type that is noted by the user:

- * The active ingredient accumulates in the body 40% of any dose still is in the human body in an

active form a week later. With any pattern of regular use there is accumulative retention.

- * The active ingredient is toxic to cells; occasional use is enough to cause chromosome damage, sperm damage, and alteration of the brain cell membranes.
- * The sex hormones are suppressed, and there is suppression of sperm production and cell division.
- * The immunity system is suppressed.
- * Extensive changes in brain function occur in keeping with the toxic influence and the accumulation of the active ingredient. The user is not aware of these changes except for the decline in memory.

- * Marijuana has a tendency to drive a young person to be more introspective at a time in his life when he should be externalizing and testing himself against numerous challenging situations.

Drugs Create Illusions

It is important to keep in mind that the idea that something miraculous in terms of living will come from drug usage is false. Drugs create illusions, but such illusions or fantasies never solve any of life's problems. In fact, drugs damage the longterm health of the body. A real feeling of worth and true image of one's self comes only when one accepts, and works with reality.

A LETTER OF TESTIMONY AND THANKSGIVING

October, 1978

Church of Christ (Temple Lot)
c/o Zion's Advocate
P. O. Box 472
Independence, Missouri 64051

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ's gospel,

We wish to give thanks to the Lord for the great and marvelous blessing He has bestowed on us during the recent surgery on our wife and Mother, Marion. For a long, long time she has suffered from a continually increasing constriction of the arteries leading to the heart. This condition inhibits circulation, and has led to ever more limited physical activities. It has been a matter of prayer in our hearts for several years. For some years, the doctors have been urging her to have a by-pass operation done on her heart. This procedure is major openheart surgery whereby a vein is removed from the leg and grafted in to replace the one that is clogged. These operations are very complicated and quite expensive. Not having the resources, and wishing to avoid this serious a surgical procedure, we all have prayed a great deal that she would be healed. Both husband and wife and each of the children have received so many blessings and healings all throughout our lives, but it seemed that this gift of God was not to be ours. She was administered to many times during this debilitating illness and always was given relief from the pain and help to carry on.

Finally the disease progressed to the point where drastic action could no longer be postponed. She went into the hospital for a heart catheterization, itself a complicated procedure, which showed that of the three major arteries, two were 80-90% blocked. The doctors ordered a double by-pass operation as soon as possible. We had to schedule the surgery with no way of knowing how it could be taken care of.

Then the Lord began to move and show us once again that He takes care and watches over us with power and love. The way was opened up for the surgery to take place. And God's love was demonstrated to us by care, concern, kindness, and most of all, Prayers from family and friends both near and far.

Marion was administered to once again *before* entering the hospital. A great peace of *mind* and assurance of the Lord's protection and watchcare was given to her. Her faith and *calm* assurance was an inspiration to the entire *family*.

She was operated on October 4th and truly the Lord guided the surgeon's hand. Her recovery went well. One immediate change noticed was that the slight bluish tint of her lips had been replaced with a healthy rosy color. And she found her feet and legs warm (after years of being cold), a sure sign that good circulation was being restored.

We wish to bear testimony that, as written in Mosiah 2:13-17, God has "all wisdom, and all power, both in heaven and earth." He has, once again, as so many times before, blessed us more than we are worthy of, more than we can even comprehend. We humbly give thanks to Him for this great blessing. Our hearts are full of thanks and love for all of you whose kindness, love and prayers have helped us beyond measure during this time. We ask for your continued prayers as our loved ones goes on through the recuperative process.

May God bless and guide each of you all-ways.

In Christian love and bonds,
The Rolland and Marion Sprague Family

Submitted on behalf of the family by Janice Sprague Welch.

ONE KEY MISSING

Xvxn though, my typxwritxr is an old modxl, it works quitx wxll xxxcpt for onx of thx kvys. I havx wishxd many timxs it workxd pxxrfixtly. It is trux that thxrx arx 42 kxys that function wxll nough, but just onx kxy not working makxs a diffxrxnec.

Somxtimxs it sxxms to mx thx G. S. S. A. can bx somxwhat likx my typxwritxr not all thx kxy pxoplx arx working propxrlly. You may say to yoursxlf, "Wxll, I am only onx pxrson. I won't makx or brxak thx organization."

But it doxs makx a diffxrxnec! Bxcausx an organization, to bx xffctivx, nxxds thx activx participation of xvxy pxrson. So. thx nxxt timx you think you arx only onx pxrson and that your xfforts arx not nxxdx, plxasx rxmxbxr my old typxwritxr and say to yoursxlf, "I am a kxy pxrson in our organization and I am nxxdx vxry much!"

You hxlp an organization bx a succxss!

From The Evening and Morning Star, November, 1903

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	Price Each
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Primary, Volume 1, No. 3, Jesus' Ministry con't.	N/C
Primary, Volume 1, No. 4, Life of Jesus	N/C
Church History for Juniors (34 pages) plus separate	
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door with all his family shouting, "Merry Christmas, Mom", and carrying a newly upholstered, antique rocking chair in his hands with a big red bow tied to the arm of it. I immediately proceeded to discard the old chair out to the porch and began to occupy the new rocker. As I did, the Holy Spirit said, "Now this chair will help to restore you to health; it will strengthen your feet, legs and back." And slowly but surely, it has been doing just that. I was reminded of the scripture which says, "While they are yet speaking, I will answer."

I truly believe when God answers our prayers in some miraculous way, it is done for a wise purpose in Him. The purpose is to strengthen the faith of the weak and to let the world know God is the God of all our needs, not just in a spiritual way. It is up to us, as Latter Day Saints, to use these talents and share with the world the truth. Only the truth can set us free.

REFERENDUM REPORT

Church of Christ (Temple Lot)
Council of Apostles
Dear Brethren:

The Referendum Committee, with Bro. J. M. Case substituting for Bro. Jack Martin, met on Oct. 12 1978 to count the 1978 referendum ballots. Bro. J. M. Case was appointed by Bro. William Sheldon.

The vote tally is as follows:

Bill #1: 243, Yes; 108, No.
Bill #2: 288, Yes; 59, No.
Bill #3: 287, Yes; 62, No.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) Leslie P. Case
Isaac Brockman, Jr.
James M. Case

—0—

According to the tabulation of votes on the referendum measures submitted by the April 1978 Ministers' Conference as shown above, the following are the effective results:

Bill #1, which provides for the appointment of Regional Youth Activity Coordinators, required a majority vote. This measure was adopted.

Bill #2, which requires that the minutes of the April Ministers' Conferences be published separately from Zion's Advocate publications, required a majority vote. This measure was adopted. (It was the intent of the conference that the conference minutes shall be sent only to Church members, and this is properly a part of this measure).

Bill #3, provided for the rescinding of Bill #1 of 1943 (all main motions, election of officers and committees be sent for referendum vote). Its passage re-

quired a 2/3 majority vote. This measure was adopted.

Respectively submitted,
William A. Sheldon, Secy.
For the Apostles

JESUS OH JESUS

When the clouds in heaven
turn dark and gray
and your soul fears in pain
then close your eyes
and start to pray
for comfort and strength again.

Jesus, oh Jesus
of Son of Mary
and Son of God,
Jesus, oh Jesus
Thy Teachings
our guardian be.

When your longings
to ashes burn
because the world
rejected thy own,
then close your eyes
and start to pray
as so to you is shown.

Jesus, oh Jesus,
oh son of Mary
and son of God
Jesus, oh Jesus
Thy Teachings
may save the world.

The world still beautiful
it's way is law
made by God
so as heaven was.
Then close your eyes
and start to praise
acknowledging his ways.

Jesus, oh Jesus
oh son of Mary
and son of God
Jesus, oh Jesus
May higher
glow thy cross.

written by:
Christa Little Eagle
August 1976

ONE KEY MISSING

Xvxn though, my typxwritxr is an old modxl, it works quitx wxll xxxcpt for onx of thx kvys. I havx wishxd many timxs it workxd pxxfxctly. It is trux that thxrx arx 42 kxys that function wxll knough, but just onx kxy not working makxs a diffxrxncx.

Somxtimxs it sxxms to mx thx G. S. S. A. can bx somxwhat likx my typxwritxr not all thx kxy pxoplx arx working propxrlly. You may say to yoursxlf, "Wxll, I am only onx pxrson. I won't makx or brxak thx organization."

But it doxs makx a diffxrxncx! Bxcausx an organization, to bx xffctivx, nxxds thx activx participation of xvxy pxrson. So. thx nxxt timx you think you arx only onx pxrson and that your xfforts arx not nxxdx, plxasx rxmxmbxr my old typxwritxr and say to yoursxlf, "I am a kxy pxrson in our organization and I am nxxdx vxry much!"

You hxlp an organization bx a succxss!

From The Evening and Morning Star, November, 1903

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