

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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The Magic of Love

Love is like Magic and it always will be,
For love still remains life's sweet mystery!

Love works in ways that are wondrous and
strange
And there's nothing in life that love cannot
change!

Love can transform the most commonplace
Into beauty and splendor and sweetness and
grace!

Love is unselfish, understanding and kind,
For it sees with its heart and not with its
mind!

Love gives and forgives, there is nothing too
much

For love to heal with its magic touch!

Love is the language that every heart speaks,
For love is the one thing that every heart
seeks!

And where there is love, God, too, will abide
And bless the couple residing inside!

Helen Steiner Rice

(submitted by Jim and Sharon Smith)

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Editorial . . .

THE OLD PATHS OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST vs. MODERNISM

The time is at hand when all believers in the great plan of time illustrated in the parable of the laborers in Matthew 20th chapter should take stock of their position relative to the great and marvelous event of the second coming of our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, to the earth and the setting up of the Millennial reign of a thousand years.

We live in a wonderful time; the closing of the period referred to as the sixth day or the eleventh hour dispensation. We are only two decades away from the end of the century, an era referred to in Matt. 24:21-22. "For then shall the great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened." Are we as individuals and as a people ready to withstand material and spiritual tribulations of that time? Or, will we also succumb to the fiery darts and pressures of the hour brought to bear by the satanic forces in their last great struggle to destroy the souls of men?

We live in a day of mass confusion, of great religious crusades not unlike the conditions spoken of in (Matt. 24:24), "For there shall arise false Christs and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and

wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." The demonstrative movements of the day attract our young with their programs seeking to gain their interest by dividing the interests of old and young. They establish programs that divide and subdivide people into exclusive groups creating creating false senses of spiritual values unrelated to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This carries with it a trend to crumble proper respect in family, civic, and religious life. The spirit of doubt is growing on every hand and even amongst some of our friends. The Apostle Peter said, "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lust, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation." (II Peter 3:3-4)

Ah yes, we believe we are facing a grave crisis. We have a desperate need to pray as we have never prayed before for the unifying of our efforts in promoting and preaching of repentance in the work of the Restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in this last hour of time! We cannot afford a division of interests. The Kingdom of God on earth cannot be divided by a generation gap or any class distinction of a man-made program of exclusion. The Apostle Paul recognized the possibility

creeping into the Kingdom in his day. They taught in strong language the value of proper respect in the home, speaking to the children, and to the parents, to the husband and wife, seeking to establish a sound workable foundation for a strong society within the church. Proper respect starts in the home.

We are close to that time spoken of in the parable of the "Ten Virgins" found in (Matt. 25:6-12) "And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our

lamps are gone out. But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. Afterwards came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not." Are we ready, as individuals, and as a church for that day? (Matt. 25:13) gives this timely advise, "Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

K. J. S.

HAS YOUR LIGHT GONE OUT?

A sermon by Elder Lawrence D. Beem

Just before the service started, our brother said that our light had gone out (referring to the pulpit light). I hope our light hasn't gone out; we have a great job to do.

I read a sign as I entered Houston, Missouri last week which said, "A town of a great past and a greater future." This is a church of a great past and a greater future. We have everything to look forward to. We have the coming of our King to look forward to. And that's why I hope our light hasn't gone out.

Last night at our picnic, Frank Fann and I were sitting around the circle of our friends and loved ones, and then some more came up and we started to enlarge the circle. He said it's just like pulling our wagons around in a circle. This is exactly what we need to do in the church today and that is pull our wagons into a circle and get closer. Also we should get our family wagons pulled around in a circle to protect them just as the pioneers did to protect themselves from the outside forces.

This morning, I'd like to take for a scripture reading I Timothy 4:1-7, "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer. If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained. But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness."

We need to keep our standards high in this church.

We heard a girl at the Missouri Reunion tell the women of this church that they should dress like women. We have heard our brothers from time to time speak to the men, women, boys and girls of this church to keep their standards high and to abstain from the very appearance of evil. This is something that many times we slack off; we don't have our standards high enough. The Bible tells us that times are coming that we will have trouble; we need to circle our spiritual wagons; we need to come closer together.

"This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance. For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe. These things command and teach. Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." (I Tim. 4:9-12)

I would like to go over to Philippians 4:8: "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report: if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

This is what we should center our minds around. I spoke at Houston last Sunday about a brown bag. Many times we, the people of the Church of Christ and many people throughout the world, carry a little brown bag around with us. In this bag we put all the things that bother us: envy, strife, railing accusations and all of our troubles. Every time we get down in the cycle of life, we start pulling out things like envy and strife and backbiting. Then pretty soon our life starts on its up cycle again and we fill this bag up again. We carry it around with us so when we get down again we can dump it out and see what's bothering us.

We get angry at each other and many times we say things that we really don't mean. We do this not only in our families, but in our church family too. We say things that we really don't mean that cuts to the quick those that we love. So this is why we should raise our standard. We've got to raise it. Christ demands it. There are different parts in the Bible that say that if we don't rid ourselves of these things that are impure, we are not acceptable unto him and we cannot enter his kingdom.

In Colossians 3:1, 2, 5, it says: "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry."

We are to mortify ourselves against these. We are to think upon the things that are good and try to build one another up instead of tearing each other down. The world is full of people who want to tear the Church of Christ down.

We should be the happiest people on the face of this earth because we have God's Spirit. Do you know He made you in His moral and spiritual image? You are part of Him. Everything that He made was good. It is man that has caused it to decrease and to become evil.

"Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men. See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men. Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Quench not the Spirit. Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil." (1 Thessalonians 5:14-22)

Don't let this evil enter in. We need to rid ourselves of all impurities. In the Book of Mormon, First Nephi 3:33-35: "Therefore remember, O man, for all thy doings thou shalt be brought into judgment. Wherefore, if ye have sought to do wickedly in the days of your probation, then ye are found unclean before the judgment seat of God; and no unclean thing can dwell with God; wherefore ye must be cast off for ever."

In First Nephi 4:58, Nephi was teaching his brethren about being judged according to their works which each one of us will be judged according to that which we do: "But behold, I say unto you, the kingdom of God is not filthy, and there can not any unclean thing enter into the kingdom of God."

Nothing that is unclean can enter into God's Kingdom. Get rid of all our impurities. Many times these impurities come from the heart and this is what we've got to watch.

The Bible says that as a man thinketh in his heart so is he. The things that you harbor in your heart is what you become. Emerson said, "A man is what he thinks about all day long." What do you think about?

A Roman emperor once said, "A man's life is what his thoughts make of it." What are your thoughts making of your life?

William James said, "The greatest discovery of my generation is that men can alter their lives by altering their attitudes." What is your attitude toward God? What is your attitude towards the church? What is your attitude towards each other?

I have a very close friend that I respect very much. I don't think that I've heard very much that has come out of this fellow's mouth that was unkind. I know that every time he speaks he thinks about what he says before he says it. I know that when he says something he believes it is true; he wouldn't mislead me or anybody else.

This is the kind of respect that I would like to have. This is the kind of respect that I would like for each of you to have toward each other. We need to rid ourselves of the impurities and raise our standards. We've got to raise the standard of Christ to the world, but in order to do that we've got to raise our own standards first. We can't represent him and not raise our standards.

We have to dream about things that we can do to improve our lives. We have to have this in our minds at all times. We should dream big because there are impossible barriers that have been put up by the world. Many of the barriers have been put up by some of our brothers and sisters. But we have to overcome the barriers.

Not long ago I became very discouraged because of things that I had seen. But I held on to one fact, and that fact was that I was shown that this was the Church of Christ. Even though at times we don't act like it, I know without a shadow of a doubt, that this is the Church of Christ.

Don Quixote in the play, "Man of LaMancha", was in prison. One of the lines that is quoted is, "Every man must weave a dream into his life to keep him from despair."

Every man must weave the truth into his life to keep him from despair. We must cling tenaciously to the truth no matter how much it hurts; we have got to cling to it.

When things seem to be going against us, as they sometimes will, let's don't carry around this brown paper bag and pour out its contents at every opportunity. Our brothers and sisters really don't want to hear the troubles that each one of us have, because because they have troubles of their own.

We received a letter from one of the apostles telling about some of the things he runs up against. Some of the ministry and the apostles really have a burden put upon them. They not only have their own troubles, they have the troubles of the whole church to deal with, the cares and the worries of each and every individual that comes to them.

Our brother that wrote to us was trying to encourage me. When he was here recently, he knew that I was rather discouraged, and I would have been if it hadn't been for my loved ones, the ones that say, "Hang on, don't pour out your own brown bag."

Instead of putting all these problems in our brown bags, we should put the good things there, such as our blessings. Then when we get on life's low ebb, we will pour them out and we'll say, "I sure have some good friends in the Church of Christ; they're very close to me and they care." We will remember the wonderful blessings that God has given us.

Think about the many times that you've been healed from your sicknesses, and the many times you've went to God and He's answered your prayers. And think about the one sitting next to you; think how much you care for them. I just looked back and saw someone scoot up next to their partner. That's what its all about. We need each other.

There's a little African parable that I want to bring to you that's about an eagle and a land turtle. The land turtle was plodding along one day on the ground and was thinking to himself, "If only I could fly and see the world." But a turtle has real short legs and his head can't even see around his shell. The shell is awfully heavy, too. Sometimes it's a burden.

As he was crawling along, he saw an eagle soaring over him and he said to the eagle, "If I could only fly; if someone would just help me off the ground and fly."

The eagle said, "I'll help you to fly." And as he hovered over him, he spread his claws and grabbed hold of the turtle's shell. He flapped his majestic wings and took off. When they got a little way off the ground, the turtle began to see the world that he had never seen before. As they went higher and higher, he looked around and saw how wonderful this world is.

After they had been flying for some time, he said to the eagle, "Thank you, eagle. I appreciate all that you've done for me. I appreciate you helping me to fly and see the world. But I don't need you now."

The eagle was kind of disturbed and he said to the turtle, "What do you mean, you don't need me?" The turtle said, "I don't need you now."

So heart broken the eagle opened his claws and allowed the turtle to fall. The turtle, waving his tiny little legs and bending his neck around trying to fly,

saw that he was falling faster and faster to the earth. Then all of a sudden — death! Just because he didn't need him now.

This is the same way with man today. Men say to each other, I don't need you now, and it's instant death. It's just as if you were dropped like that turtle was when you say, "I don't need you anymore."

The truth of the matter is that husbands need their wives and wives need their husbands. Parents need their children, and children need their parents. And families need the church, and the church needs families. And the church needs God. There's a whole lot of need, and its very dangerous when we say, "I don't need you anymore."

There's a whole lot of harmony that has to take place in this old world, just as this church was built. There was a whole lot of harmony when this church was built. There was a lot of need — a lot of families sacrificing to build this church. We need the church and we need each other. There's no one person that can say that they don't need everyone her. We belong to each other.

This is entitled, "The Pure In Heart."

Blessed are the pure in heart,
 They have loved the better part.
 When life's journey they have trod
 They shall go to see their God.
 Till in glory they appear
 They shall often see him near,
 And His grace shall learn to know
 In His glorious works below.
 When the sun begins to rise
 Spreading brightness through the skys,
 They will love and praise and bless
 Christ, the Son of Righteousness.
 In the watches in the night
 When the stars are clear and bright,
 Thus, the just shall shine, they say,
 In the resurrection day.
 God in everything they see
 First in all their thoughts is He
 They have loved the better part
 Blessed are the pure in heart.
 Blessed are the pure in heart.

There's a business card that someone handed me. It says: "Blessed will be the man that will trust other men. Blessed will be the man that is determined to control himself. Blessed will be the man that not only counts his blessings, but makes his blessings count. Blessed will be the man that can turn barricades into bridges. Blessed will be the man that works hard but does not press. Blessed will be the man that does not demand achievement, but deserves it. Blessed will be the man who is willing not only to improve his circumstances but more willing to improve himself.

Are we willing to raise our standards? Are we

willing to show the need that we have for each other? Are we willing to circle our spiritual wagons, draw in close and keep the enemy outside the circle of wagons?

It doesn't matter now about the mistakes that we've made in the past. All it matters is what we tend to do in the future to build a better life not only for ourselves and our children, but for each other. It doesn't matter about our mistakes — we need to press on. God can take care of our mistakes. We just need not to make any in the future. So let's take this opportunity and this day that we have to show each other that we really care. Scoot a little bit closer — care a little bit more. Love your neighbor as yourself.

If you can't love yourself you can't love your neighbor. So love yourself a little bit more, too. I don't

think it's wrong. I think God intended for us to love ourselves or He wouldn't have said, "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Remember that we have the greatest opportunity on earth and that is to serve the one and only living God, and to know that we are His church. But one thing more important than to know is to act like we're His church, to show others. Don't let this light that is on a hill be hid. Let's be like the town of Houston and really believe in our hearts that we're a church with a great past but a greater future and that God through Jesus Christ is coming soon to gather His people.

Let's raise our standards and love one another. Thank you.

SUBSTITUTIONS

by Ronald W. Temple

When Christ was on the earth, he set up his church as it should be. But after he left, the devil started bringing in substitutions. Only a few years after Christ left, the Apostle Paul wrote, "For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them." (Acts 20:29-30). Pagan ideas were brought in and became part of the church doctrine to encourage those people to join. Thus the church changed to a form much different than the original and true church. Those who clung to the original doctrines were persecuted. This is when the woman (the true church) fled into the wilderness (Rev. 12:6). The devil had succeeded in a deception of the substitution of a partial truth, that is the Catholic Church, for the true Church of Christ.

In this article I would like to show how the devil is still working out this plan of deception to pull many away from the truth in our day. Let us of the true church be watchful of these practices.

Today there are many churches all with a degree of the truth. People are taught these untrue doctrines and so when they do hear the truth they cannot believe it. Christ said, "Take heed that ye be not deceived; for many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and the time draweth near: go ye not therefore after them." (Luke 21:8) (Also see Matt. 7:21-23). The many churches, each teaching their own doctrines, are designed by the devil to confuse and turn many people away from God.

Although we have the fullness of the gospel, the devil has subtle ways of entering into our lives. We need to become aware of these things that might be

substitutions (that is, tools of the devil) for the gospel. So consider these that are listed here carefully and prayerfully. Let's quote II Nephi 12:24-28: "For behold, at that day shall he rage in the hearts of the men, and stir them up to anger against that which is good; And others he will pacify, and lull them away into carnal security, that they will say, All is well in Zion; yea Zion prospereth, all is well; And thus the devil cheateth their souls, and leadeth them away carefully down to hell. And behold, others he flattereth away, and telleth them there is no hell; and he sayeth unto them, I am no devil, for there is none: And thus he whispereth in their ears, until he grasps them with awful chains, from whence there is no deliverance." Let us not let the devil cheat our souls. Let us do as instructed by Christ in Matt. 26:41. "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Science has been used by the devil to make it seem that religion is only an invention of man's mind to explain away things that he does not understand or is unwilling to accept. Evolution, for example, is only a theory — one that grew out of a counter-reaction against religion. But there is a tremendous amount of scientific evidence against it — evidence that is generally ignored, so evolution is accepted as a fact by most of the world today.

There are many cases in history where a "fact" of science has been used to disprove some statement in the Bible, but one by one these "facts" have been disproven by science and the Bible has been proven right.

Where science has failed to explain some findings from the past such as how the pyramids were built with such size and accuracy, the devil has stepped in with

another deception taken straight from our preoccupation with science fantasy stories. (They are not science fiction because a true science fiction story is based on fact and possibility. Most of what we read, or see on TV or in the movies cannot possibly happen. It is fantasy.) Book after book has been published with the idea that we have been visited in the past by astronauts from other worlds. These ancient astronauts were supposed to have built or helped to build those pyramids and other things from the past that we cannot explain unless we believe that God himself taught the people through his spirit. It is a fact, that more people today believe in ancient astronauts doing these things than believe that God could or would give man the knowledge needed for these accomplishments. So, you see how the devil has used this tool to lure many away from God. Isaiah writes ". . . for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid." (Isa. 29:14). And Paul states, ". . . hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?" (I Cor. 1:20). True science would prove the scriptures, but today's science is diluted with false thinking put in by the devil.

Most of the holidays we celebrate are used by the devil to draw us away from God. Consider Halloween. It is a day celebrated by pagan people many years before the time of Christ. "There was a prevailing belief among all nations that the souls of good men were taken possession of by good spirits and carried to paradise, but the souls of wicked men were left to wander in the space between the earth and the moon, or consigned to the unseen world. These wandering spirits were in the habit of haunting the living . . . But there were means by which these ghosts might be exorcised." (Folklore, James Napier, p. 11). To exorcise these ghosts and free yourself of the evil influence, you would have to set out food (a treat) so they would not "trick" you by casting a spell on you. We let ourselves and our children dress and act out this pagan act, and also to do acts of vandalism. Orange, black, and red are the devils colors. Black cats, bats, and owls are his symbols. These are used in this celebration, and costumes often are of witches, demons, ghosts, and skeletons. This is the devil's own celebration and we should have no part in it. If we say to ourselves that it's only harmless fun, then we play right into the devil's hands.

But the devil also uses "religious" holidays to his own advantage. Christmas is supposed to celebrate the birth of Christ. But what do most people think about when you mention Christmas? It's the dreaded hassle of having to buy gifts in crowded stores. It's Christmas parties or buying and decorating a tree. Could the Lord have been referring to the Christmas tree custom when He spoke through Jeremiah saying, "Learn not the way of the heathen . . . For the customs of the people are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest . . . they deck it with silver and gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that

it move not." (Jer. 10:2-4)? And to children especially, Christmas means Santa Claus. In a song about Santa Claus it says, "He sees you while you're sleeping, he knows when you're awake. He knows when you've been bad or good, so be good for goodness sake." The reward (or is it a bribe?) for being good is a gift from Santa. That reward means much nearer and more concrete than the spiritual blessings and reward of salvation offered by Christ. So isn't it dangerous to let our children believe in this glamorous substitute for Christ? Santa Claus is an effective deterrent for the true meaning of Christmas.

Easter also has been tampered with by the devil. The easter bunny and easter eggs are designed to distract us from the true meaning of the day. A rabbit that lays eggs is another lie we let our children believe. When our children are finally told or otherwise find out that there is no Easter bunny or Santa Claus it may be hard for them to believe in the birth or death and resurrection of Christ. The celebration of Christmas and Easter have incorporated pagan ideas, and when we celebrate according to those pagan ideas, the devil has us where he wants us — some of his flaxen threads are being tied around us. Let us cut those threads and not give him any more chance to bind us.

The public schools teach only the devil's side of these holidays. Also the devil is bringing into our schools such things as transcendental meditation, transcendental analysis, and sensitivity training. The word transcendental means extending beyond the limits of ordinary experiences — of relating to the supernatural. It is a prayer without any thought of God, so it is an empty prayer. Is this a substitution for prayer by the devil? Sensitivity training is a way to get to know our own feelings and to express these feelings to others. In so doing, anything goes. A little research into what happens in these sessions might scare us just a little. Let's be aware of what our children are exposed to in school.

It is hard to watch what our children are exposed to at school, but even in our homes we allow stories of witchcraft and magic (miracles belong to God, but magic is the devil's substitute) in the form of books and on TV. TV is a great tool for teaching. It could be used for teaching good, but the devil has it pretty much under his control. And if we allow ourselves or our children to watch most of what is put on there, we are not only wasting time (time that could be spent in the Lord's service, or doing good, or being with our families) but we are learning the subtle teachings of the devil. Just think! Is all the violence and sex shown there of God, or is it of the devil? According to an article awhile back in TV Guide Magazine, TV now has more effect on the mores and morals within this country than schools, churches, or even the parents. It is time we limit our TV watching to only worthwhile things.

Another thing that we should have nothing to do

with is the devil's prophets. Fortune telling and astrology are very popular now and very dangerous. In Deut. 13:1-3 it says: "If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder, and the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them: Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the Lord your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul." And the Apostle Paul tells us, "Now the spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times, some shall depart from the faith giving heed to seducing spirits, and the doc-

trines of devils." (I Tim. 4:1). The devil uses us as tools to draw us away from God. Isaiah tells us to seek God instead (Isa. 8:19) because those spirits cannot save us (Isa. 47:12-15). Any fortelling of the future, contacting spirits, or other power that isn't from God is dangerous. The ouija board is supposed to convey and record messages from the spirits. Water witching is a way to find underground water by a power that is neither scientific or of God. Should we be using these things? Let us instead use the real thing. Let's use real prayer and only those prophesies from God. Let us let God's power work in our lives, not the substitutes. Let us not take the chance that these things could draw us away. God has a better way. We are no match for the devil.

TEMPLE LOT LOCAL CHURCH NEWS

Greetings to all our Brothers and Sisters in the Church from the Temple Lot Local Church in Independence, Missouri.

It is common, I know, to think of each new year beginning with January 1, but not so here in the "Center Place". Our new year begins with the arrival of the new school year each fall.

Our local Y. P. C. L. group has their election for new officers the end of August. Our local Sunday School has their election for new officers the last Tuesday in August, while our local church has their election the first Tuesday in September.

This year, there were some changes made to give some a recess from the responsibility they have carried so long and others the opportunity to serve in those positions, while still others were re-elected to serve the same as last year.

In the Y. P. C. L. election, Brother Randy Sheldon was thanked by the group for his able leadership in the past and Brother Gerry Case elected to serve for the next term with Brother John Case as his assistant. Other officers were as follows:

Secretary: Becky Fann
 Treasurer: Patricia Wheaton;
 Recorder-Reporter: Patricia Bruner;
 Planning Committee: Bruce Kidd, Becky Sheldon, and Connie Grzincic;
 Auditing Committee: Bruce Kidd (Chairman), Paula Case and Irene Seibel;
 Chorister: Marie Case;
 Social Committee Member: Paula Case;
 Cross Roads Committee: Becky Sheldon, David Rudd John Bryant;

Parliamentarian: George Adams.

I believe the Y. P. C. L. group is planning many interesting studies and activities for the coming Fall and Winter. They need our prayers and support to keep them encouraged.

The Sunday School re-elected Brother Jim Case as Superintendent and elected Brother Warren Johnson as his assistant. These Brothers will have quite a responsibility guiding such a large Sunday School as we have here on the Temple Lot. Our new Secretary is Sister Jeanee Stephens, her assistant is Sister Joyce Harris. Our Treasurer is Sister Martha Bruner who is also our Chorister. Sister Manon Lawrence is our pianist for another year. Other important officers and committee members elected were: Librarian: Bobby Hedrick; Assistant Librarian, Robert Bruner; Vacation Church School Superintendent: Edith Case with Jean Chapman and Gerry Adams as her assistants; Sunday School Auditing Committee: Leslie Case (1 year), Scott Harris (2 years), and John Case (3 years); Social Committee: Velma Wheaton; Library Board is our Superintendent, Treasurer, and Librarian. We look forward to a busy active year with these officers in our Sunday School work and would ask your support and prayers for them in their endeavors.

At our local church business meeting, Brother Richard Wheaton was replaced as Pastor by Brother Alvin Harris, who was elected to serve in this responsible position for the coming year. We all look forward to working under his spiritual leadership, energy and enthusiasm in this coming year and support him all we can with our efforts and prayers. Brother Bill Morris was elected as assistant Pastor and we know from past experience that he will be a spiritual asset

to Brother Al as well as sharing his energy and enthusiasm in all endeavors. The rest of our officers and committee members are as follows:

Secretary: Joyce Harris; Treasurer: Leslie Case; Recorder: Patricia Wheaton; Advocate Reporter; Velma Wheaton; Chorister: Martha Bruner; Assistant Chorister: Manon Lawrence; Organist: Martha Morris; Assistant Organist: Grace Rudd; Social Committee Member: Sally Brantner; Auditing Committee: Marvin Case (1 year), Virgil Rudd (2 years), Gerry Case (3 years); Flower Committee: Joyce Harris (Pastor's wife); Maintenance Committee: Pastor, Treasurer and Virgil Rudd; Storehouse Committee: Pastor, Treasurer, and Richard Wheaton; Reunion Kitchen Committee: Jeanee Stephens and Jim Case; Library Committee: Pastor, Treasurer and Chorister.

We have had two young men called to the office of Elder in our local, Brothers Gerry Case and Benny Case. With the approval of Apostle Archie F. Bell, Missionary in Charge of Missouri, the Local Church met in a Special Business Meeting September 18th and also accepted the calls of these young men, unanimously. There were many testimonies to these calls in both a special prayer meeting and sacrament service. We ask your prayers and support for these young men as they strive to do the will of the Lord in this capacity of added responsibility.

Every third Sunday of each month is our time to have a pot luck dinner at church to further our fellowship with one another and spend a leisurely time sampling the cooking delights of our sisters and the welcome visiting with our loved ones, away from the busy demands of the world, and we also have a guest speaker. In August, it was Brother Frank Fann, who, we were told, brought us a welcome message with his usual enthusiasm and love. I missed his sermon because Dick had been asked to speak at the East Local that morning. I keep thinking maybe I'll learn how to be in two places at the same time yet! If I never do, it won't be because of lack of desire! In September, Brother Tony Grzincic brought us the morning message. I heard one young lady remark that it was the first time she had ever heard a children's nursery

story preached. But Brother Tony had no difficulty what ever in comparing the story of "Little Red Hen" with our responsibilities as Christians, AFTER baptism, until that time when our Lord will say "well done thou good and faithful servant". We must ever be willing and anxious to share our knowledge of the Gospel with others and never stop working, but enduring to the end!

Brother Al Harris was the guest speaker at the RLDS Stone Church 6:00 p. m. service September 16th. Our family, with others from the Temple Lot Local attended the meeting. Bro. Al spoke on our responsibilities towards Zion. We felt it was a very inspired sermon and was pleased to hear the appreciated comments from others present. We have many dedicated and inspired young elders in the Church of Christ and we were happy to be able to share Brother Al with our Brothers and Sisters "across the way."

Margaret Wheaton lost her daughter, Lois, this summer, shortly after the death of her sister (and our mother-in-law) Angela Wheaton, and then on September 19th her sister, Edna Bryan, passed away. Please remember our sister and her family in your prayers.

I suppose many of you have already heard John and Barbara Case's good news, but we are so excited about it here, I'm going to share it with you. They are expecting twins in November! !

We had several graduates from high school this year, Shawn Sprague, George Adams and Nanette Wheaton from the Temple Lot Local, Rick Olson from the East Local. We also were privileged to participate in Virgil and Grace Rudd's joy at the wedding of their daughter, Denise to Greg Evans in August. Denise and Greg are making their new home at Rolla, Missouri where they will both be attending college. We wish this young couple great joy and happiness and the rich blessings of God.

I know there are probably many things I have neglected to tell you, but I have tried to remember and report all that happened since the last news from the Temple Lot Local. May God bless you each one.

Velma Wheaton, Reporter

HERE GOD LOVES EVERYONE

To the winds of the Anaviho,
Where they live far to the North Pole
Where they love each other so,
And their love is as pure as gold,
Where flowers grow lovely and sweet,
And two lovers are sure to meet,
Here God loves everyone,
And His work on earth shall be done.

And through the shadow of the night
There is a place with such great light,
Where there are many young people,
And they know of no evil.
The sun there shines with great bright,
And the sight of God is forever right.

Robin Ann Cox

FROM PURYEAR, TENNESSEE

We greet one and all from the Puryear, Tenn. Local. It has been a long time since we have written to the Zion's Advocate, but with a reminder from our pastor and dear uncle, Brother T. W. Paschall, I will try again.

Summer has come and gone again and the beautiful color of the trees reminds us winter is upon us again. We all dread and sometimes complain about the bad weather and big snows that keep us home for a month or so. I am going to try not to complain this winter and thank God for giving me life another year to see it.

There are such a few of us here and not a lot to report. We had the pleasure of having visitors this month, Brother and Sister Sheldon and Brother and Sister Case from Independence. We were happy to see them and have the opportunity to hear the brethren preach. It was wonderful to see Brother Case getting around so much better than the last time we saw him. We wish him and Sister Case continued health and God's blessing.

We want to ask all our brothers and sisters in Christ to remember in their prayers our pastor, Brother T. W. Paschall, who is ill. He needs all of our prayers very much as he needs a special blessing from God. We all need your prayers as there is a lot of sickness among us. This reporter always needs to be remembered that I may overcome some of my weaknesses and become a healthy person and do the things that God would have me do.

While Brother T. W and his wife were in the hospital, they had a surprise visit from Brother Housknecht and his wife who were on their way to Independence. They came to Brother Paschall's home

but learned that he and his wife were in the hospital in Murry, Ky. and went out there to see them.

We of this little branch of the Church of Christ are so small in number (although we have a large membership); often it gets discouraging. But you know there is consolation; Christ said that where there are two or three gathered together in my name, I will be in your midst. And we pray that he is.

We do have a new family coming to our church, Halie and Sue Ray and their son, Jeff. We hope to have them as members in the near future.

Our world is in such a turmoil that we need the love and care from each other to help us meet the troubles and heartaches that confront us each day. Most of all we need God. He has given us so much to be thankful for, and we seem to be slow in proving ourselves to have a grateful heart.

There are some beautiful promises in our Holy Bible for everyone who will listen and accept them. They cover our physical and spiritual needs and warn us against all things that bring worry and heartache in our lives. God is Love and He doesn't want our lives to be beaten down by the turmoil or strife we encounter every day. There is more to it than just listening; we have a job to do too. We have to be obedient to His commandments and do exactly as we are told.

So with love in our hearts and a prayer on our lips, let us all remember each other in our prayers and love for our little family of the Church of Christ that we will all be worthy of God's promises and blessings.

Bryna Grooms

HE IS OUR HOPE!

Nearer than hands,
near than feet;
He who is our bread,
our living "meat".
On whom we lean,
in whom we dwell,
He who draws us
within the veil,
His flesh the veil torn,
rent for us; (Heb. 10:20)
The living breathing
Holy Sacrifice.

He our hope who
brightly shines
And leads us on in
these dark times.
He, the Day-Star reign
from this dark night
Of human failure
and human plight.
The Day-Star who sheds
His beaming ray
Into our hearts and souls
upon our life's way.
d. s.

THE MISSOURI CAMP FOR ALL AGES ANNUAL REPORT

JUNE CAMP

Are you thirsty? Do you need a drink? Are you full and do you want to share your fullness? Do you love or care? Are you willing to share your arms or shoulder for a head heavy with worries, and how is it that you can draw close to the Lord? Psalms 100:4 says, "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be ye thankful unto him, and bless his name."

Missouri Camp For All Ages took place again on the Co-op grounds in Preston, Missouri. The Camp held on June 8, 9, and 10 was attended by people near and far, old and young.

Saturday morning after a breakfast of flapjacks and the ever present Tang, a devotional was opened under the morning sky with the song "Morning Has Broken" which was presented by Neva Housknecht and Susan Leighton-Floyd. Everyone introduced themselves and gave their personal reason for attendance. After some announcements, repairs were begun on the Co-op building. White paint and screens gave the house a fresher exterior while the women busily worked on curtain and drapery hems.

After the work was completed, a few games of volleyball filled the time until lunch, and after lunch was a hike to the swimming hole. The usual keep away games were played while swimming, and afterwards, back to the house for a softball game. After supper a time of relaxation and volleyball for the little ones preceded dusk and the campfire.

The campfire had its usual pranks and stories. Kim Stancil sang a special and George Adams taught us an unusual song. Neva Housknecht led the campfire singing as beautifully as always. Everyone participated at the top of their lungs especially when they knew the words! Ike Medders and Sharon Kelley presented a thought provoking discussion on the value of positive thinking.

Sunday morning found us gathered inside the Co-op house as the air was a bit crisp outside. Brother Gary Housknecht was in charge of the service. Assisting Gary was Brother Joe Yates, who gave us some inspiring counsel. The meeting was greatly blessed with attendance of the Collins local and most importantly, with the Holy Spirit. Young and old shared in their experiences, dreams, and joys. The meeting was closed with singing and prayer.

Susan Leighton-Floyd

SEPTEMBER CAMP

The Ozark air was quite cool when some of us arrived Friday night for the September Camp For All Ages. By Saturday mid-morning, however, the sun was out warming us. Our hearts became filled with God's spirit as Brother Gerry Case led us in a morning devotional. He read on the qualities of charity and counseled us to apply these qualities in our thoughts and actions during the Camp. The sun and God's spirit warmed the entire Camp as we worked, played and fellowshiped together. Indeed, we had a Camp of "all ages." We were blessed with the attendance of our older loved ones including, Sister Doris Hutchison, Brother and Sister Caviness, Brother and Sister Ed McIndoo and Brother and Sister E. L. Yates. We had some young ones as well, like Paul Morris — only six months old!

First on the agenda was working on the foundation of the Co-op house. Jim Pennington, Vic Housknecht, Greg Kelley, Dick Wheaton, and Oren Caviness faithfully worked until it was level. The other men, seeing it only required several hands, played a rigorous game of football. The women, except a few of the younger, braver girls who joined the football game, got the curtains hung and the living room walls painted. Lunch and a business meeting followed the work activities. The rest of the afternoon was mainly devoted to a hike to the cave. After the cave was thoroughly explored we hiked back to Camp and had supper.

When it was dark we gathered around the campfire first for singing and fun. The need of the campfire became more serious as we enjoyed religious specials by Gerry Case, Kathy Leighton-Floyd and De-Anna Medders. John Gill and his group from Minnesota gave an inspiring skit reminding us of our duties as Christians. Chris Morris blessed us with a testimony and Bible reading that led way for a discussion. The campfire closed to the melodious singing of Gary and Neva Housknecht. Then by popular demand we ended the night with a short "hayless" wagon ride.

Sunday morning we met in the open air to worship our Lord. Brother John Gill was in charge with Brother Bill Sheldon assisting. Brother Sheldon read some challenging words from the Book of Mormon. The service was blessed with many prayers, testimonies, and a sweet spirit. After the service we had lunch and then cleaned up the Camp. We all left with a warm feeling in our hearts, for we thank and praise the Lord for allowing us to meet together.

Becky Sheldon

A TESTIMONY OF THANKS

Labor Day. I've been keeping an eye on the Jerry Lewis Telethon for Muscular Dystrophy while doing things around my house. One particular incident had me with a few tears. David Hartman was interviewing a little girl who had never walked, and most likely never would. He asked her what she did at recess time at school, if she could play any of the games with the others. "No, I just wheel myself around on the blacktop play areas; there is a place that has a slope to it and sometimes I coast down it. It's a free ride; that's kind of fun." She told him.

No resentment present, and, yes, she wishes she could walk so she could play on the swings, etc., on the playground. Thank you, God, for that sweet spirit.

And more selfishly, thank you, Lord for freeing our son from having to use his wheelchair and crutches so frequently as he had to a few years ago. James, is a hemophiliac, or a bleeder and at this moment is out canvassing for the telethon with a friend, trying to help someone he said, "who is worse off than me."

Thanks to your prayers and the Lord's watching over him, he has become a very thoughtful young fellow, mowing the church lawn, using a riding mower) and G'pa's also, because he saw it needed doing and so he took over and did it, not expecting money and without anyone making him do it. He volunteers for Book of Mormon study frequently and records the ser-

mons at Sunday services. He entertains his little neices when they visit, displaying much patience, more than I have sometimes.

These are a few of the thoughts of thankfulness that run through my mind this warm September day. I'm thankful for this sweet spirit we find so evident in the people of God, in the Church of Christ, more particularly.

It's four years ago this weekend that James was last hospitalized as an inpatient. While there that time the doctors finished instructing him in the ways of the Home Care program they were just starting to establish. He came home full of enthusiasm and the supplies needed for doing his "Shots" himself.

Sure, we had many anxious moments in the beginning, when he had trouble hitting a vein the first time and had to maybe stick himself 3-4 times before he made it successfully. Dad and I had to learn the procedure and watch to be sure a sterile technique was used.

What a release for him, a release from so much pain and a release for us, from some of the worry accompanying such a distressing situation.

Thanks to all of you for your prayers in his behalf over the years. May our heavenly Father richly bless each of you.

Yours in Christ,
The Addies

THOUGHTS FROM SERMONS, TESTIMONIES, ETC.

In Genesis 19:26, the account is given of Lot's wife being turned into a pillar of salt when she looked back at the time of the destruction of the city. What lessons, useful to our lives now, can we draw from this Bible fact? We need to be alert, looking and watching and expecting the call to flee to Zion. Yes, we can draw a lesson from this when we are faced with new situations such as a change of job or a move to a new place.

In what way, then does this Bible account warn us to take full advantage of these new situations, etc.? If we look back we may be in danger of becoming stone-hearted (as a pillar of salt) until we are unable to find the real God-given advantages in these new life changes. It is thus very possible to be badly tempted by events of the past. The longing we all have for that which used to be is a grave temptation. It causes us to miss

much of what God has for us in new service to Him now.

On the other hand, there is the temptation to rue painful things of the past and to dwell so much on them that they grind a rut in our minds which causes vengeful feelings and thoughts to overwhelm our soul, embittering our present time and blinding us to new opportunities. O! who of us has not dwelt upon these painful reflections of looking back? Let us draw close to Him who promised, "My grace is sufficient for thee . . .", for this promise is for this present moment, and to the extent of our needs, such is His supply. Therefore, draw deeply, that we may be counted His trustworthy servants, not looking back, but trusting in service to Him through any disappointment, pain or difficulty; and that we be not offended at Him. The question is, are we able to be counted as a trustworthy

servant? No, not without His grace constantly lifting us. It causes us grief to realize we may have been guilty of looking back, but let us draw on His grace that we may escape from becoming hardhearted.

We are to be transformed. How? By the renewing of our minds by Christ. As Paul admonishes, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus (Phil. 2:5). This is the work of the Holy Ghost. Then let it be.

O! let it be, until our whole thought processes, habits, emotions and words be like minded as Christ's, "Renewed in the spirit of your minds" (Eph. 4:23). For by our thoughts we will be judged, too, as we are warned, "For our words will condemn us, yea, all our works will condemn us; we shall not be found spotless: and our thoughts will also condemn us; and in this awful state, we shall not dare look up to our God" (Alma 9:23, 24). We must realize Alma was warning a people that already belonged to the church and claimed to follow and believe in God. We must not let slip so great a salvation.

"Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity." (Ps. 37:1).

Can you give a ready "reason for the hope that is within you" (I Pet. 3:15). How earnestly we must study and be prepared to do this. We have had many warnings on being thus prepared in these later years. Yes, and this reason must be drawn from the life-experiences we've lived through (as well as from scripture). Lived - experiences which are meaningful to your heart will be meaningful to another when faced with like situations. These experiences which are faith-in-exercise, will be that which feeds another for they do brighten and strengthen the hope that is within us. Lived - experiences are proof of our Living Redeemer at work in our life in living kindness.

This hope is spoken of in the Book of Mormon, page 163, verse 29: "Wherefore ye must press forward with all steadfastness in Christ, having a perfect brightness of hope, and a love of God and of all men." This vital hope sustains us and is our salvation.

THE MASTER'S VOICE

The waves were weary, and they went to sleep,
The winds were hushed,
The starlight flushed
The furrowed face of all the mighty deep.

The billows, yester eve so dark and wild,
Wave strangely now —
A calm upon their brow —
Like that which rests upon a cradled child.

The sky was bright, and every single star;
With gleaming face,
Was in its place,
And looked upon the sea — so fair and far.

And all was still — still as a temple dim —
When low and faint,
As mourner's plaint,
Died the last note of Vesper hymn.

A bark slept on the sea, and in the bark
Slept Mary's Son —
The only one —
Whose face is light where all, all else is dark.

His brow was heavenward turned, his face was fair,
He dreamed of me,
On that still sea —
The stars He made gleamed through His hair.

And lo! a moan moved o'er the mighty deep.
The sky grew dark!
The little bark
Felt all the waves awaking from their sleep.

The winds wailed wild, and wilder billows beat;
The bark was tossed;
Shall all be lost?
But Mary's Son slept on, serene and sweet.

The tempest raged in all its mighty wrath,
The winds howled on,
All hope seemed gone,
And darker waves surged round the bark's lone path.

The sleeper woke! He gazed upon the deep —
He whispered: Peace!
Winds, — wild waves, cease!
Be still!" The tempest fled — the ocean fell asleep.

Happiness is a wayside flower that grows along the
highways of usefulness. —Ritcher

Anybody can do things with an "if" — the thing
is to do them without. —Patrick Flynn

KINDNESS, TOLERANCE, CHARITY

Where Kindness, Tolerance, and Charity are active in deed as well as in word and by profession, in the hearts and lives of the people who profess Christianity, these graces tend to greater unity in righteousness. Where religious people preach and indorse those divine graces by word only, and not practice, there bitterness, misunderstanding, hatred, separation and division increase.

To be uncharitable, intolerant, unkind to those who are in the wrong, those who are in sin, or entangled in the terrible meshes of false doctrines and false beliefs, but prevent the possibility of reaching them with a clearer light for their mis-guided lives.

Wherefore, the Lord God hath given a commandment, that all men should have charity, which charity is love. And except they should have charity, they were nothing." (2 Nephi 11:107-108.)

Can the Church of Christ apply that principle and practice concerning the people of the other divisions of the Latter Day Restoration who claim also to be **The Church**? Or shall we bitterly condemn all who do not agree with us in every particular and mentally consign them to purgatory, then flatter ourselves that we are rightly applying the Christian graces of charity, of kindness, and of that same merciful tolerance which God must constantly extend toward us all?

The right charitable Christian attitude toward any who may be in the wrong tends to clarify the atmosphere so that error and wrong may be the more quickly discerned, and helps those in sin to see the glorious outline of God's eternal truth. But all who neglect to include a practical application of charity and love in their religion, soon have not real religion of righteousness at all. Thus they who are without charity as a practical virtue in their religion soon make their religion to be but a cipher; and as the word of God declares, except they have charity they are nothing.

Where has there been more intolerance and hatred

manifest than that which is ordinarily on display among divided Christianity? Have the several units composing the various divisions of the Church of the Great Latter Day Restoration been less wickedly bitter toward each other, than have the other Church denominations? If not, how can we justify our deficiency in that particular? Charity and kindness toward those in the wrong, require no compromise with that wrong.

But helpful unity is always the product of divine tolerance and Christian Charity. Disunion and perpetuity of conflict and of war always spring out of intolerance and hatred, when Charity is not allowed to do her perfect work. Hateful intolerance is one of Satan's most choice instruments for separation of the people of God, and to perpetuate disunion and wickedness.

The way of charity, of kindness, and of merciful toleration toward those whom we may deem to be in error, is God's way for his people to reach greater unity in the truth. Neither does that course require that any man shall make compromise with sin, with heresy, or with wrong doing, even to the breadth of a hair.

When the Church of Christ and all the far flung ranks of her ministry and membership in many lands, will learn to apply Christ's gospel of love and kindness, and Charity toward the erring, we shall render a larger helpfulness to those in error, and shall also be able thereby, to see and to rectify some of those grievous sins of our own which at present keep us from enjoying the fullest favor of God.

Let us labor and pray, that as God's instrument for mighty service in this present epoch of time the Church of Christ may labor unitedly to that holy end, and that at last we may qualify in the sight of God to render such a glorious service.

James E. Yates

(Zion's Advocate, Vol. 16, No. 1, January, 1939)

It is not rare gifts that make men happy. It is the common and universal gifts: it is health and the glance of sunshine in the morning; it is fresh air; it is the friend, the lover; it is the kindness that meets us on a journey; it may be only a word, a smile, a look — it is these and not the rarity of blessing that are God's gentle art of making happy.

—G. H. Morrison

As long as I cannot be other than me
Dear Lord, help me be what you want me to be;
Help me surrender me to your Holy Will
In humility letting Your Spirit fill
And cleanse me from all that's pride or show
Make me fit for myself to know.

a. e. s.

REFERENDUM RESULTS

The Referendum committee has met with the General Church Recorder, as provided by past Church action, to count the referendum votes upon measures submitted by the April 1979 Ministers' Conference.

Bill #1 (the Church shall not endorse nor give support to political or politically oriented organizations), passed by vote of 294 to 50.

Bill #2 (in connection with bill #2 of 1978, provided that conference minutes shall be published separate from Zion's Advocate and sent to Church members only), passed by vote of 298 to 32.

Bill #3 (provides limitations on disbursement of Aid money to individuals and groups), passed by vote of 240 to 90.

Bill #4 (discontinuation of School of Ministry), passed by vote of 232 to 92.

Bill #5 (rescinding of referendum action providing for a Youth Camp Committee), passed by vote of 273 to 46.

Bill #6 (handling of General Church property and money requires closer communication and cooperation between the General Bishopric and the Apostles than exercised in the past), passed by vote fo 229 to 94.

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

ARE YOU LONELY?

By Hazel Gest
(From the Safe Way)

The lonely person must look for the cause within himself, for in loneliness he admits defeat. Very seldom can you blame anyone but yourself for that condition. If you care enough, you can find a remedy. Focus the searchlight within and determine whether you are too self-centered, too sensitive, too timid. You cannot live unto yourself or for yourself alone, and the sooner you realize this truth, the better it will be.

We can make it easy for people to approach us; we can circulate with the kind of people we want to know. The church with its varied organizations, the many clubs - civic, cultural, and social - are sure avenues to friendliness. The more circles of interest we have, the happier we are, so make yourself proficient in something - fishing, golf, tennis, swimming - anything that appeals to you. Store your mind with interesting information, clever anecdotes or jokes, and with a little practice you can become the center of attraction in any group.

Choose a hobby that you can share with others.

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(See instructions on reverse)

For instance, just mention casually in a crowd that you have some valuable old stamps to swap, or some rare plants to give away, and watch people surround you.

Notice and act on the little things that give pleasure to others. Surprise someone with flowers you grew, or fruit you canned, an inexpensive gadget you discovered, or even a brief note of cheer or appreciation. Nothing accomplishes as much as a little attention, and wins friends quicker than simple words of approval. Little things do count, especially these unstudied gestures of friendship.

The Bible "has its gaze fixed on God, not on man, on truth, not on happenings, on the constant force of love, not on the fluctuations of power, and so it can never become outmoded or irrelevant."

Malcolm Muggeridge

CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The 1980 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) will commence Sunday, April 6, 1980. The business sessions will start at 10:00 A. M. Monday, April 7. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, April 4 and 5, 1980.

The 1980 Minister's Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) will be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, August 20th, 21st and 22nd at the Independence, Missouri, East Local Church.

WRITTEN MATERIAL FOR "ZION'S ADVOCATE"

Articles, sermons, poems, news items, letters, notices, etc. which are appropriate to be printed in this paper are requested by the editorial staff. If possible they should be typewritten on one side of sheet only, double spaced and grammatically corrected. If this is not possible, please send your material anyway. Send all material to one of the members of the editorial staff or to the general church (see title page). The deadline for each month is the 7th of the previous month.

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