

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

Vol. 57

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No. 3

Spring House Cleaning

We cleaned our little church today
Wiped all the dust and dirt away;
We straightened papers and washed the floor
Wiped off the lights and painted the door.

We dusted the dirt stains from off the books
And whisked the cobwebs from the nooks
We polished the windows so we could see
The newly greening shrubs and trees.

The menfolks too, raked up the yard
And laughed and said it wasn't hard;
And Oh! it seemed so very good
To have the place look as it should.

We said, How wonderful it would be
If we cleaned out what we can not see,
Such things as grudges, hate, and lies
And misty thoughts, much worse than flies.

If all would let God's Spirit in
To cleanse us from soiling sin
Ah! then our church would really shine
Our fellowship would really be divine.

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Editorial . . .

WHOSE CHOICE IS IT?

One of the very important teachings of the restored gospel is that this is our day of probation. This is our time to choose between good and evil which ultimately is our choice between life and death. In doing this we must choose between God and Satan — we must keep the commandments of God or we must follow the ways of the devil. Because we are inclined to become lax in this choice, we need to be reminded of it continually.

To appreciate our opportunity of choice better, it might be well for us to see this from another view — the Lord's view. We should realize that not all the choices are ours; the Lord makes choices too. The day is close at hand when He will make some choices that will have a great effect upon each one of us, for good or for bad. He will choose out His people.

We may think that just because we have made our choice that that is sufficient, that God is totally committed to our commitment. God is committed to us through His promises if we have made the right commitment and if we keep that commitment. If we start slipping in our commitment, however, His promises become ineffectual to us.

This brings us right to the question — what kind of people does God choose? Does He choose a people who are only half committed to Him? Does He choose

a dull, unresponsive blase' people? a lukewarm people?

You know the answer to the question; God has said that He will spew such a people out of His mouth. He is not looking for a people that respond half-heartedly to Him. Rather He is looking for a people who can convince Him that they are ready for His every command. He is searching the hearts to find those who love good and hate evil, who truly rejoice in the blessings of God and who have a genuine abhorrence of sin and evil.

Christ asked the question, "When the Son of Man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" The time is near when He will return and this question becomes greater as deception and unbelief increase in the world. It is a question we personally cannot afford to take lightly. It is time that we search our own hearts and minds to know not only what kind of faith we have, but also to know what our total attributes of righteousness are. It is time for us to place more value on the things that keep us from being a part of the world.

Do we have a true sense of distinction between good and evil, right and wrong, love and hate, joy and sorrow? Can we rightly discern between that which is of God and that which is of the devil? Is our understanding

based upon the written word of God wherein there are distinct whites and blacks of right and wrong? Or does the philosophy of man spoil us with its many shades of gray.

It is time for us to seek to know what God's will is toward us individually. It is also time for us to seek to know what God's will is toward us as a people and as a church. Are we the true Church of Christ because we know the truth or because our lives give evidence of the truth we know?

Knowing what is true is important, but how well do we know a thing if we are not committed to it? Being committed to the truth is not just the ability to argue over it, it is the ability to prove it by the quality of the life that we live. It is the tipping of the scales to the right and putting all our weights of good on that side forever. If our weaknesses and wrong doings outweigh our good qualities, we live a lie; we are not sufficiently committed to the truth.

It has often been said that we should live as righteously away from church as we do in church, but perhaps the greatest evidence of our choice of good is seen right in church. What are we willing to do for the church? Are we reluctant to give time and effort toward the work of the church? Are we choosy, seeking certain jobs and declining others ac-

ording to our own likes and dislikes to favor our prestige? Or are we hesitant about taking a job because we don't feel we can do it?

We should give the Lord a chance to prove Himself in us. No one is necessarily able to do a job perfectly unless he strives to develop his talents. The Lord can bless a person beyond his own imagination if he asks the Lord's help and seeks to know His will in all things. The Lord has promised to strengthen the weak; if a person humbles himself before God, the strength of the Lord can be realized in that person.

The Lord wants a people who are not afraid of work, a people who will dedicate themselves to a cause and will stay with it until it is accomplished. The Lord wants a people who are not afraid of opposition, a people who are not turned by a threat or easily intimidated. He wants a people who are not wishy-washy or indecisive. He wants a people who, first seek to know His will, and after receiving an answer, will be resolved in doing His will.

The Lord wants a people who take His work seriously — and that means the work of His church. He is choosing His people now. Those who commit themselves totally to His purposes are His people.

Are you His choice?

RLS

CONFERENCE NOTICE

Following instructions of the 1966 Referendum, the annual conference of the Church of Christ (Temple Lot), will begin on the Sunday of the week in which the 6th of April occurs, which, this year, will be April 6th.

Business Sessions, however, will start at 10:00 a. m. Monday, April 7th.

As per Bill #1, 1972 Referendum, "all committees and boards, etc. of the Church empowered to expend general church funds or collect the same shall be required to submit an annual report of their activities to include a financial statement of funds received and disbursed and submit to the Joint Council of Twelve and Bishopric at least one week prior to the opening of Conference a proposed budget for the ensuing year."

Officers and committees, as noted in the directory, should see that their reports are filed with the conference secretary as early as possible. Persons needing a place to stay should contact the Conference Service Coordinator. Those wishing to donate food or money to the conference, should contact the Dining Hall Committee.

We are looking forward with eager anticipation to greeting each one of you and pray that the Lord's Will will be done in all things.

R. W. Oldham
General Church Secretary

THE STONES CRY OUT

(Luke 19:40)

The Savior's name the stones cry out,
His worthy praise they dare to shout!
Why should this phenomenon be?
'Cause the stilled tongues of you and me?

Let not the stones cry out in praise
'Cause your stilled tongue His name ne'er raise.
O, the shame of man's omitted sin —
His due reverence given to men!

Prepare the way! was once the cry,
The Baptist said, He's greater than I.
Prepare the way! Can we say less?
His promise is to come and bless.

From the mouths of babes and sucklings
Comes perfected praise and supplings,
Voices foreign to our deaf ears
Shouting praises their Lord can hear.

Blessed be the King of Israel!
Straw the glad way — obey His will;
Open your hearts of stone to Him,
His glad message fill you within.

Roland Sarratt

A REPLY TO Z. A.

Dear Z. A.

Yes, I know who you are, and you do come to my house every month. Though, as you said, I wasn't really acquainted with you. I'm glad you told me so I could understand you better, of how you work and come to be, before it WAS to late.

Since you are the monthly publication of the Church of Christ and you are sent to a lot of people, I'm sure they enjoy you more than you think. Even if some of us have a subscription to you. It's the smallest amount charged that I have ever seen. And I am sure, a lot better reading.

To be around for fifty years, and to carry a great many words to people in different places as you do, it would seem that we would have been told all there is to know, but even I know that there is still a lot to be said and learned before our short time has ended.

Even as you said, you're not much to look at, you do have great things to read. And if by necessity you are plain, so be it. I like you that way and there is no necessity at all. Competition, you shouldn't have any. You have what should be read, and not a lot of hearsay that is printed in others.

Am I glad you don't have any commercials, my mother hates them. Maybe that's why she never puts you down until she's read you all through.

You say you hope that what you have to offer is simple and easily understood and your value is to have the ability to help others. There is where your offer is accepted. You are simple and easily understood, and your ability to help others has helped me and I'm sure a great many others.

Your problem, oh, you shouldn't have a problem. That look-kemia should be given to some other book. I do hope people that read you will help you. I certainly don't want you to turn white all over. And I

hope the few black corpuscles, as you call them, will help you some.

Your editor has a right to become discouraged, when a lot of people have brains and great ideas in them but they just won't sit down and write them out. Some think they are not good enough, but everything is good when it is about Jesus Christ or God. I wonder myself what people, who read this letter to you if you print it, will think, but I don't really care. I just want you to know how I feel and hope the others will pitch in and help.

I see nothing wrong in printing old articles, because when you first came out I was not even thought of, so I didn't get the pleasure of reading what you printed. I do hope that people out there won't let you reduce your pages or go bimonthly, for IT would mean the beginning of the end for you.

Members of the church and non-members, PLEASE send in your articles and help out. This paper cannot run alone and we do need it.

Send in your black corpuscles. There's no harm in it and someone, well everyone, will enjoy it. I for one on the behalf of our church here in Whitlock urge everyone to help.

Thank you,
Robin Cox

—0—

Dear Robin,

I have received several letters, articles and inquiries in response to my request, but none were quite as moving and encouraging as your letter. By all means I am printing it. I want to share your appreciation of me with others.

The black corpuscles are starting to come in but I can still use many more. God bless you all for your help.

Z. A.

WHAT THINK YE OF CHRIST?

YOUTH: Too happy to think - We don't have enough time.

MANHOOD: Too busy to think - I must make more money first.

MATURITY: Too worried to think - there are too many worries in life for me to have time.

DECLINING YEARS: Too aged to think - the habits of life are too well fixed.

AS DEATH APPROACHES: Too ill to think - Weak and suffering there is no longer the power of concentration.

DEATH: Too late to think - The spirit has flown.

Selected

TAKE TIME

Take time to think. It is the source of power.

Take time to play. It is the doorway to perpetual youth.

Take time to read. It is the foundation of wisdom.

Take time to pray. It is the greatest power on earth.

Take time to love and be loved. It is a God-given privilege.

Take time to be friendly. It is the road to happiness.

Take time to laugh. It is the music of the soul.

Take time to give. The day is too short to be selfish.

We have no time to loose. Let's use it for the things that are worth while.

TO SCATTERED MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

This is one of the most precious things with which we have to learn to manage in our lifetimes. In the 25th chapter of St. Matthew we have given to us a parable of the five wise virgins and the five foolish virgins. There was according to this story a time of preparation for a wedding that was delayed by the bridegroom who tarried. At an unexpected hour he appeared and the cry was made, "Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him."

All the virgins arose and made ready to answer the call, but only the wise had provided to make ready and had oil in their lamps. In the scramble to purchase oil at that last minute the five foolish virgins were too late for the wedding, and while the wise virgins went in to the wedding, the others were denied the same privilege. They had wasted time and had not prepared themselves to make ready.

Jesus then pointed to the value of time, and the necessity of preparation in the 13th verse, "Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man cometh."

We all know that the signs of our times point to the end of times, most Bible scholars look for the coming of our Lord in these days to be very near at hand. With all the knowledge and enlightenment of these times, the day and the hour is still a mystery, only the certainty is stronger as we look into the word of God for assurance of the truth.

It is then to this end that we press upon your minds the real urgency to be faithful to our convictions and promises we have made to our Lord. We could be counted as the foolish virgins as being unworthy to meet Jesus when He comes.

This task becomes most trying and difficult when we find ourselves separated from the Church of Christ fellowship, when we are unable to follow the admonition to "meet together often one with another." Time and distance can separate us from worshipping together and being able to minister to each other, to comfort one another, to encourage those who are down-hearted and rejoice with those who have found a victory over the evil about us, to give thanks together for our many blessings.

The burdens of temptation can be very heavy and we find strange paths more attractive. We have the tendency to "go along with the crowd" and accept the world and its ways with less care that it may not be pleasing to our Lord. A strong faith may be weakened as we find our position under attack from those about us who do not love truth, or who err in their understanding, many of whom are not willing to be tolerant and kindly disposed of others beliefs.

It may seem easier to take the view, "If you can't lick them, join them." But we are to be faithful stewards of the truths we are entrusted with as well as the tangible things of this world. It is a real pleasure to find one humble, faithful friend of the Gospel testify of their blessings in spite of afflictions and isolation.

We urge you therefore to visit the closest local congregation at every opportunity. This is difficult and time consuming but very rewarding experience for you and them together. We need each other and an expression of love one for another.

We do hold some unique beliefs in the story of the restoration of the Gospel in these latter days, the establishment of the priesthood authority by divine revelation, and the call to a return to the primitive church pattern of government of the church. These are not commonly held beliefs and they are under great pressure today because of the ecumenical movements in the churches around us.

We do hold to some common beliefs that embrace the divine teachings of the Bible as it relates to Jesus, the Son of God, the ministry of the Holy Ghost, and the gospel of salvation. May God bless every effort to hold to the faith "... once delivered to the saints" which we hold dear and precious. We hope to hold high the banner of righteousness and ever be found to be ready to give an answer to the hope within our hearts, to be found pleasing to God in all that we say and do.

May God bless you mightily and find your faith strong and your heart yearning to meet our Lord at His coming.

Your brother in Christ,
Elder Arthur G. Smith

When you deplore the condition of the world, ask yourself, "Am I part of the problem or part of the solution?"

Do not grieve because you can never do anything great There are people in your little corner and you can be kind to them. That is true greatness.

AVA, MO. LOCAL REPORT

Our more recent speakers have been Brothers Eugene Gould, Marvin Case, Tony Grzincic and Arthur and Alex. Smith.

I shall try to bring a few gleanings from the many good sermons, study classes and conversations. Not having the talent nor shorthand ability to copy a sermon in full, I can only give a few fragments of thought precious to me, hoping they may so touch others.

Has our belief in Zion, our belief in the Millennium been just a surface defining of ways-and-means, a verbal belief of words, which holds a barrier between us and God?

Have we allowed the God of the Millennium to enter our soul's depths, to change our hearts, our tongues, our emotions, our habits and thoughts and actions? Is He welcomed to so enter our lives that His way is written in the fleshly tables of our hearts? (2 Cor. 3:3)

The fire of His baptism will burn out pride, selfishness, selfpity, the holy-me of selfrighteousness, etc. Then His fire-baptism will bring us to the depths of humility even as He was meek and lowly.

Are we willing to become obedient to Him as our shadow is to us? Will we let Him shrink self and self-thinking to nothing though it pains our heart and soul, or elongated, i. e., enlarging of soul and heart to great concern unselfishly for others, even as He was while here in the flesh. Christ is our example.

How painfully far we are from being this that is found in I Nephi 7:60, 61: "And because of the righteousness of his people, Satan has no power; wherefore, he cannot be loosed for the space of many years . . ." Do we possibly feel, as individuals, our personal righteousness is so perfect that it could bind Satan for a thousand years?

Ps. 132:9: "Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness; and let thy saints shout for joy."

Jer. 51:10: "The Lord hath brought forth our righteousness: come, and let us declare in Zion the

work of the Lord our God."

Isa. 61:10: ". . . he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness . . ."

O! blessed thought, it is His righteousness that "clothed", that is the "robe" which we are "covered" with by the power of His redeeming sacrifice.

We thank our heavenly Father that He works in us to will and to do of His good pleasure, our hearts being submitted to Him; we are not left in just our puny strength to grow unto this state of perfect righteousness.

O! blessed anonymity,
to sink from all scrutiny,
Out of any limelight, freed in His Liberty;
I sing the praises of anonymity.
Unobserved, unseen, total obscurity;
Used then by Him, (here is mystery!)
He the work, His the light, truly
It is Thy righteousness, O! Holy, Holy!
That clothes the saints, unworthy,
Which binds evil so effectively
For a thousand years. All, all is Thee!
Thine the honour, Thine all Glory!

In a study class the question came up, what is iniquity? It was defined as sin, evil; and on further investigation in the dictionary it was found to include "unrighteousness, inequality, injustice."

This brought us all up short. "Why," one said, "this is all of us!" How painfully true, it is all of us.

We are far from being righteous or equal in material things or the far more vital spiritual qualities. Unjust? we are far from even human justice let alone examples of Christ's merciful justice.

O! we are ever in need of repentance and greater commitment to God; for we are so dependent on His forgiving love and mercy.

Mercy can not rob justice, no indeed, for God's justice is wholly encompassed in Him, in Eternal Love!

HOUSTON, MO. LOCAL REPORT

In the December sacrament service, many expressed their thanks to our Heavenly Father for the blessings they and theirs had received and that they were happy to be present for this service.

"Is Your All On The Altar Of Service Laid?" This song inspired one to say, "How much are we willing to sacrifice for the gospel? to prepare for eternal life? or do we only think of ourselves today? Who are we putting first? Ourselves or our Father in heaven? How

much studying are we doing to prepare for eternal life? When we reach the point we lay our lives on the altar we'll see a great change in ourselves and in our church."

Another prayed for strength and wisdom to do his share and forward the Lord's work in some small way that he might not be ashamed to face his Maker at the end.

Elder Eugene Gould was the speaker at the evening

service that day giving us a message that we should be tenderhearted, telling us that when we were baptized and took upon us the name of Christ we witnessed unto God that we would keep His commandments. Eph. 4:1-4 tells us in part "... that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with long suffering, forbearing one another in love: endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace."

On December 9th Elder Tony Grzincic was our guest speaker from Independence. Brother Tony brought out the words of the hymn, "What A Friend We Have In Jesus." Do you think of Him as a friend, one that you can go to in time of trouble?

"All our sins and griefs to bear." He will bear them and hold us up if we're obedient to His counsel.

"What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer. Oh, what peace we often forfeit, what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer." He will carry it for us and help us. Prayer is a unique communication with God.

Brother John Jones spoke to us of the "light" of Jesus Christ shining in our lives. Don't hoard your light. Let it radiate that others may learn of it and of the love divine which was intended to penetrate to the farthest, darkest corner of our world. No one has the right to withhold this light from anyone else.

On December 22nd, our Brother Virgil Addie presented to us the story of Christ's birth and told us that this was foretold in many prophecies. Isaiah 7:14: "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." Book of Mormon, page 323, verse 19: "And behold, he shall be born of Mary at Jerusalem, which is the land of our forefathers, she being a virgin, a precious and chosen vessel, who shall be overshadowed, and conceive by the power of the Holy Ghost, and bring forth a son, yea, even the Son of God. He read Luke 1:1-50, 2:3-19 which stories we know and love to hear again. Also Helaman 5:56-60 which tells of the signs of Christ's birth on this continent.

Our Christmas program took place that same evening with all the congregation taking part, either with song, skits, scripture reading, poems and prayer. Everyone then was invited to Ireatess and Margaret Keeney's for a lovely Christmas supper and fellowship.

The young people went out caroling one evening earlier in the weekend visiting our Sister Verna among others, who very much enjoyed their efforts. The young people saw the New Year in at the Medders residence with an evening of games and fun. On New Years Day eve they all gathered with the Keeney's for a fondue fun time.

TEMPLE LOT LOCAL NEWS

Good day to each of you, my brothers and sisters in the great family of Christ.

Here in Independence, the sun is shining and I love to bask in its warmth as I sit at the table in my kitchen and watch the birds at the feeder just outside my window. I feel at peace and full of thanksgiving for God's blessings. I know there is turmoil throughout this world and real peace is an elusive thing seeming to be just beyond our reach and for tortured people hope wanes low, yet, to those of strong faith, there remains the firm conviction that God will triumph, that we will once again turn to His teachings and there will truly be Peace on Earth.

We had such a special day Sunday, December 23rd! At noon we shared pot luck lunch together, then after visiting, we gathered upstairs at 2:30 p. m. for our annual Christmas program. There were many special songs, readings and a special play written by Elder John Case and performed by the YPCL ccass. The joint choir sang for us too. Afterwards there was the usual treats for the young and young at heart. In the evening we went to the East Local for their Christmas program. Then home, with the echoes of everyone's wish for a Merry Christmas still ringing in our ears

and the aura of their love wrapped around us as a blanket.

The YPCL group got together at Brother and Sister Leslie and Irene Case's for a New Years Eve party. What a nice way to see the old year out and the new one in - with our Church family! Have you made any resolutions this year? I have. I'm still working on my bad temper, impatience, intolerance and my promise to pay tithe and be ready to do whatever the Lord wants me to do. There's much more we should all be working on and our ministry does remind us of these things at every meeting. God bless them, every one, for their faith, wisdom, courage and steadfastness.

We've had two new babies arrive since John and Barbara Case's twins. Harvey and Irene Seibel had a new baby boy, born Saturday, November 24th at home! with Aunt Sylvia Seibel in attendance. His name is Jacob Levi and all nine pounds of him has the love and complete attention of the whole Seibel family. Kim and Jane Ann Stancil's baby boy arrived December 27th, weighing 7 lbs., 5 oz. and was 19¼ inches long. His proud parents have named him Justin Daniel. Jane Ann's mother, Florence Marie Kommer, is here for awhile helping out. While still on the subject of babies,

Mark and Kathy Harris had their little daughter, Danielle Lynette, blessed Sunday, January 6th by her grandfather, Al Harris, who was assisted by Apostle William Sheldon.

We've had some winter visitors since I last wrote, Dennis Trudgen, John Bulla, Jacob Ponder, Earl Griffith, Howard and Kay Leighton-Floyd and Don Hitt. Cathy and David Larsen were still here too, David seems to be better in his long battle with his illness.

Brother Don Hitt assisted by his father-in-law, Howard Leighton-Floyd, brought us the morning message while here. It was the first time we, here in Independence, had the privilege of hearing Brother Don and we couldn't help but catch the enthusiasm and excitement for a life in the service of our Lord that radiated from him.

There has been and still is a lot of sickness going the rounds this time of year. But thank God they have not been too serious and one by one we are all getting back on our feet. However, God did take home to Him, the father of Apostle William Sheldon, Brother Art Sheldon, and while it was a blessed relief from his much suffering, his loved ones will miss him greatly. Please remember his family in your prayers.

The two local churches here in Independence are working on an Easter play and music. We hope to have

it ready by Conference time.

Sister Manon Lawrence's husband is a ham radio operator and Brother Dan is willing to help us contact members of the church who are also ham operators. Any out there? Does one live near you? Let us hear from you. Dan's call letters are: NOAAP.

I pray this new year will be one of good health and full of God's richest blessings for each of you.

Your sister in Christ,
Velma J. Wheaton

P. S. I just found out that our Brother Kenneth Smith is back in the hospital with another broken leg! Brother Kenneth is certainly in need of our prayers at this time. Let's all ask the Lord for a special blessing for him and his good wife, Sister Edna.

On the evening of January 18th, my sister, Lorraine and her husband, Bert Patterson, of Phoenix, Arizona were involved in a freak accident. During a severe storm, a car went out of control and drove through their front window, coming to rest on them and the couch they were both sitting on. Bert has several broken ribs and many bruises, Lorraine is in Intensive Care in the same hospital with undetermined injuries. I would like to ask your prayers for them, also, during this uncertain time.

NEWS FROM THE LITTLE WHITE CHURCH AT THE CROSSROADS

Greetings once again from this part of God's vineyard. Although we have had some folks on the sick list yet all feel God is still caring for us and blessings are had showing His love and mercy for us.

Our meetings have been well attended and much spiritual food received from the sermons by our local as well as visiting priesthood. The theme running through all the discourses has been the closeness of the second coming of our Lord and Saviour. The prophecies in the Bible and Book of Mormon have been emphasized stating that in our day and time would see their literal fulfillment. We were and are shown the signs we are to look for. The daily newspapers also are recording these signs, but I'm very sure they aren't aware of the great import of them nor that the events are exact fulfillment of those prophecies. How very clear and plain they appear as we watch their unfolding with a clearer, deeper understanding because we have sought through earnest prayer to know God's will yet also how very humble to realize God's watchcare over us in these troublesome times. To know that earnest prayer will bring the answers we so desire and need.

Added to the two little bundles from heaven to the Harvey Siebel family and the Kim Stancil family,

we too of the Smith clan have been made to rejoice over the arrival of Michael David to Robert and Kathy Smith of Garner, Iowa. Robert is the youngest son of Kenneth and Edna Smith.

January 14th Brother Kenneth Smith fell at his home breaking his leg. Brother Ray Hunholz came and administered to him before he was taken to the hospital and we feel sure God heard that prayer. Kenneth is now home and doing nicely. The Doctor didn't even have to put the leg in a cast, only splints for which we thank God for His mercy.

January 20 Apostle Marvin Ely preached on studying the scriptures thoroughly and prayerfully that we be not deceived. He said that oft times that which seemed right and good could be clever ruses of the devil to lead us and blind us to that which is really true. By their fruits ye shall know them whether they be good or evil.

On Monday evening, January 21st, Elder Arthur G. Smith of Ava, Missouri began a four day series of missionary sermons at the East Independence Local. His title was "The Restoration Gospel Unchanged for 150 years - 1830 through 1980. The spirit of God was present and Bro. Smith's efforts were blessed beyond measure by the Spirit of the Master of Men adding to

the truthfulness of the discourses. The sermons were delivered in power and not just by the man. All who heard these felt richly blessed and took added courage to go on and fight the good fight to the end. Brother Smith stated several times that he was committed to the Gospel of Christ and no other and believed with all his heart the Angel Message brought back to the earth to the Young Seer of Palmyra. He showed through the scripture that in no other way could the Gospel be again preached only that a messenger from God would bring it back and that God was the same yesterday, today and forever and changed not, therefore the Gospel too must be unchanged.

We were sorry to learn of the death of Diane Brockman's father. She and her family were called back to Sparta, Wisconsin for the funeral. Her father, Herbert Stark, passed away as a result of a massive heart attack. Our hearts and prayers go out to her and her family. May God in His mercy give a healing balm to their souls as only He can give in this hour of sorrow.

Snow has finally arrived but not in the terrible amounts of last year. We thank God for His care.

Sincerely,
Edna R. Smith
Advocate Reporter

GREETINGS FROM ROCK ISLAND

The Church of Christ has recently extended its missionary field to Rock Island, Illinois. One entire family has been converted to the Church and are anxious to be of good service to the Lord. Our family was previously a part of the RLDS movement and to the fellowship and organized worship. One of the possibilities of discouragement after stepping into the light is always isolation. Praise the Lord the head of our household was called to the office of Elder after baptism so we felt blessed with the gift of the sacraments.

Together as a family and an extension of the larger body of the Church, we discussed how we would worship. We decided that even though small in number, our group (3 baptized members and 3 under the age for baptism) would really benefit from a regular, set apart time of worship. We chose Sunday morning for obvious reasons and began assembling then. We planned early worship provided by the youngest members of our group, class time, and a worship service of prayer, song, and prepared thoughts from our priesthood member. Early worship was a really special treat. How often are we able to witness the spiritual growth of children. Their simple explanations of God's will were indeed inspiring. That short time always proved to be a highlight of our day.

During the time we set apart for study, being new in the faith, we choose tracts as our material thoughtfully provided by Apostle Sheldon. As we explained the thoughts contained in them to the young ones, we gained new insight for ourselves as well. It really serves to strengthen faith when discovering more and more basis for believing!

A marvelous suggestion was discovered in the priesthood manual provided our Elder. In it were suggestions for prayer. One suggestion which served as wonderful incentive was that of praying that God might send those of a pure heart to us to join with us. As we prayed this prayer at the close of our Sunday worship

we felt a rush of God's Spirit over us. It was truly a great experience for us all.

Only one week passed by with our worship services unchanged. In such a short time of praying for the pure in heart to join us, the Lord saw fit to answer our plea. A family of RLDS members who had become estranged through the political problems of their branch, began to talk with us of our conversion to the Church of Christ. We bore our testimony of the further light we have received by coming into the Church of Christ. By God's spirit of witness, they were moved to begin worshipping with us. Being four in number, this brought our group up to ten regular in attendance. Now, after about two months, at least one in the group of four is seriously considering baptism. With the Spirit of God and further study, we have high hopes for this to come to pass. Besides our regular attendance, we have an occasional attendance of another family of three, and two single friends. On occasion, we also have the opportunity to share with visiting relatives.

At one very fine service held January 13th, we had a total attendance of 16 people. What a joy to share with all! A fine sermon was delivered by Elder David Cooper entitled "The Holy Spirit" followed by a period of testimony about how the spirit moves in our lives. The Holy Spirit was indeed present and felt by all. At the close of the service, we finalized our plans for a special worship experience the following week. We planned to meet very early Sunday morning and travel by car to Nauvoo, Illinois to visit all the historical sights there. We packed a delicious lunch to be had midday and planned to return home in the late afternoon. It was truly a learning experience added to by the cold of January. We could really appreciate the hardships of those early pioneers while standing in an unheated log cabin. We discussed the great differences in the stories told surrounding those historic buildings by the RLDS church and by the Mormons. It

made the untruths rather clear to see hearing both sides and knowing the history ourselves as we do. It was wonderful to stand where those early members stood and to realize that being a true Christian has never been easy. Being an isolated group as we are, it lent strength to our cause as we remembered that the entire Restoration movement started with just one man and God to lead. The Church of Christ organized April 6, 1830 had six members to start. It was wonderful to see so many comparisons between the church at its restoration and our little group. It can be done. A small group can indeed be a great force for God if we allow His Spirit to lead.

In our search to be of service to God through the Church we discovered there are many others like us who, for as many reasons, are isolated more or less like we are. We feel a great need to find a way to encourage them to build on their faith through the discour-

aging times that come upon them. We realize that today there are indeed great trials put upon us all by the adversary because of the lateness of the hour before Christ will come. We must face the fact that we will have temptation thrown in our path at every available place. This is the time spoken of in the scriptures to "hold fast to the rod of iron." I think it will surely help us all to share our testimonies of God's goodness one with another. The Zion's Advocate does give us the perfect way to share our testimonies with a great number of the Saints with very little effort. I truly hope that we will read many, many testimonies of the movement of the Spirit in the near future. I hope too, that those other isolated members will use this chance to share their testimonies forming a life-line through Zion's Advocate for us all.

Yours in Christ,
Barbara A. Cooper

A TESTIMONY OF JOINING THE CHURCH

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

My family and I are new members of this Church of Christ and we would like to share our testimony with the church members. We had been members of the Reorganization and both my wife, Barbara, and myself come from a long heritage in the Reorganized Church. We both have always been active in the Lord's work and believed without a doubt that Christ's Church had been restored to earth.

In 1974 we attended the RLDS World Conference. As I was walking to one of the early sessions a man by the name of William Sheldon introduced himself and walked with me. He briefly explained some of the differences in our beliefs, then we parted to our different organizations. Later, I obtained some pamphlets but due to my lack of interest I did not read them.

In 1975 I began serious prayer and study because I had been disturbed with the attitude and direction of the General Church leadership. My question before the Lord was, "If this is truly your church, why are our own leaders confusing, hurting and, as I felt, misleading the people?" I believed strongly in the church, however, I couldn't understand the changing direction in the leadership.

One evening during my prayers and study I had exhausted my reading and prepared for bed when I came across one of the pamphlets I obtained from the Church of Christ the previous year. I sat down and read it discovering it explained the church's beliefs on a First Presidency and the Apostles. I was moved to question the church further and wrote Apostle

Sheldon. When receiving his response, I excitedly showed my wife. Barbara became defensive and exclaimed, "You sound like you want to join another church!" I really didn't and I also did not want my family divided so I dropped the issue.

A couple of months later I was sitting at my desk at work when the Spirit called me by name saying I should continue my search into the Church of Christ. I responded saying I would be all alone and the Spirit then stated, "But you would be free to do my work!" Later while I was walking home from work, I prayed to the Lord. I asked that if it was his Spirit that had spoken to me, then he should convince my wife. Knowing how she felt on the subject, I would say nothing. After choir practice that same evening, Barb approached me with something she was anxious to share. She asked me if I remembered when I spoke with her concerning the Church of Christ. I told her yes and she said while she was singing one of the old hymns, it was like a light was turned on for her and she now understood what I had meant concerning the order of Priesthood. Then she said, "I feel you should continue your search into the Church of Christ."

Well, we both studied and came very close to uniting with the Church of Christ, but when Wallace B. Smith was called to prepare himself in 1976, I thought we should remain with the Reorganization.

Finally, last October 1979, the Spirit approached me at work again on a Monday. I was thinking of the multitude of divisions found in the Reorganized Church - not just liberal and conservative, but many more, of many natures. The Spirit told me to ask

Bill Sheldon about the divisions within his church. I knew there were some differences of opinions by his own admission. However, I didn't feel the question was the importance of the Spirit's approach. This time I knew he was calling me into the Church of Christ.

On Wednesday of that week I was speaking at prayer service on "Truth, Christ the Light." After my talk I prayed silently to the Lord. I wanted to know how we should explain to our daughter, whom had been baptized the previous year, that we were changing churches. The Spirit responded immediately asking me to look at the whole restoration movement in degrees of light. The Spirit said the Mormon Church held the least light of all because of the many doctrines they held to that had been introduced by the will of men in the early movement of the church. The Spirit then said the Reorganization held much more light. However, they still held to some of the things introduced by men, causing their problems today (more specifically speaking, some of the Priesthood offices held in the RLDS was what the Spirit was indicating when speaking of things introduced by men). The Spirit then said that by keeping the Church of Christ humble he had been able to preserve his ancient order

to minister to the world by the Power of God and no other power - I believe meaning the will of men.

After receiving that explanation I rushed to tell Barb and we spoke with Debra and our son, John, thus agreeing to unite with the Church of Christ. Our testimony stands strong and after being in the church a short time it seems like we've been on a journey home and have arrived safely. We praise the Lord for his concern and patience in our behalf as he nurtured us in the Truth. We find ourselves looking forward to sharing in worship with other saints at conference this year.

I'm also enclosing two poems that I feel show the beginning of my search. The poem, "The Song," is a poem about an experience I had one evening while driving my car. The poem "Listen" came to me and I wrote as the Spirit impressed it upon my mind.

In conclusion, I would like to introduce my family. My wife Barbara, daughter Debra (9), son John (8), and my two younger daughters, Dawn and Joanna (4) and (2).

Yours in Christ,
David K. Cooper, Elder
Rock Island, Illinois

THE SONG

In the early evening
As I drove along;
My heart welled up,
And to it came a song.

My tongue then loosened
And I began to sing -

The words were excellent poetry
And the music beyond compare.
The chorus spoke of Trumps that blew
Yet no-one listened or could care.

I visioned the Lord out on a hill,
A chosen people were whom He sought.
Now sad, He stood with few,
As few had followed, from those He taught.

Again I heard the chorus ring!
And saw the Lord with arms up raised.
The Heavens then ROARED in motion to stand,
And it was Christ to whom they praised.

I continued to sing
With excitement inside;
And I saw the Christ
For the second time.

He now was calling
To a people, different and new.
His church being restored,
Began to seed and it grew.

But again He was sad,
As He stood on this hill;
For His people and His message
Slowed down and were still.

He then rose His arms
Causing the Heavens to stir;
While again the Trumps blew,
Still no-one could hear.

Through out this song, the peoples
Had visions of Zion to be;
Yet as I sang, the Zion that is,
No-one could see.

Now Heaven is ready
And Zion prepared;
If Earth would listen
They would be heard.

Please! Open your eyes,
Your ears and your hearts;
So together we weave
Our thoughts and remarks.

To Build His Kingdom,
As we wait His return;
And Glory to our Lord
Is our greatest yearn.

by David K. Cooper

LISTEN

Listen! - The time is Nigh!
The Earth herself Cries and Weeps
For her eternal Freedom.
Life has been perverted by
The ecstasy of man.
Eternal existence is out for
Final offering from God Himself.

Listen! Listen close,
Because the noise from
All the God's worshippers -
Drown his voice.
He will sweeten your soul
And bring understanding

Listen close, 'cause when
The noise ends - it's due to
The AWE of the world.
He will have then appeared,
and Never, no never again,
Shall we be able to vail the TRUTH.

So listen now and know the Truth,
For if prepared - your Awe
Will be your JOY!!

by David K. Cooper

A Letter From the "Elder's Journal"

Tere Haute, In.
October 13, 1837

Brother Don C. Smith
Dear Sir:

Having arrived here last evening in a heavy shower of rain, and calculating to pursue our journey on the morrow, I thought I would occupy part of the day, in writing a few lines to you for the Journal.

This place is about five hundred miles from Kirtland, and about half way from Kirtland to the city of Far West; which makes the distance from Kirtland to Far West, one thousand miles.

Part of the way the roads were exceedingly good, and part of the way, were as bad as they could well be. The immense travel on the national road is incredible, and this composed of all classes, and descriptions of character. Here indeed you may see the rich and the poor, the noble, the ignoble, all traveling together along the same way; just like they have to the grave, the common lot of all.

I observed as I passed through Ohio, that there was quite a diversity of both soil and timber, some parts of Ohio through which we passed, I think is not surpassed in any part of the country, for fertility of soil, beauty of attraction, and splendor of improvements. I have not, as yet, to this point seen anything to equal it.

Through Indiana, there is a much greater uniformity of soil, timber, and surface, than in Ohio, I mean in the parts through which we passed. From the time we crossed the state line, until say within 12 or 15 miles from this place, there is a uniformity in soil, timber, and surface, that amounts to a dull monotony in the eye of the observer. The timber is principally beech and maple. The surface is very flat; and the soil not

above second quality, if it would be considered that quality.

Indiana as far as I have traveled through it until I came within a few miles of this place, does not justify the general report which has been given of it; at least I confess that I was disappointed, not finding the country as good as I expected from report.

There are a multitude of villages springing upon the national road, of which Richmond, Indianapolis, and Tere Haute are principle, of these three, I should consider Richmond quite in advance of the others. Indianapolis, the seat of government, is a village of considerable size; but the building are generally small, many of them from one, to one story and a half high, and very few excel two storys high. The greater part of the houses are wood. The town is built on the east side of White river: the situation is pleasant, and would admit of a city of the largest size.

This village (Terehaute) is situated on the east side of the Wabash, which is a beautiful river, and flows majestically along the west side of the village. The steamboats ascend the river to this point. The village is situated on a wide spreading prairy of exceedingly rich soil, and the surface is level, and presents a sublime prospect, to the eye of the traveler as he comes from the east. From where the national road enters the prairy; it is about three miles to the river, where the village stands.

The prices of land on the national road is astonishing; take it at any point you will, and you will find, the wild land, from twenty to thirty dollars per acre; while the improved land, is from fifty to a hundred, according to the situation and improvements.

No thinking mind can travel through the country, and observe the ways of man and things, without deep reflection. In passing along you will see wealth, beauty,

and elegance, flowing in all richness, and the next minute, you will see poverty, want, and wretchedness, praying like a vulture upon the happiness of their subjects. The wretchedness and sufferings which is bound in many habitations, make the heart sicken, and throws a gloominess over the spirit of the philanthropist.

A person who is acquainted with the purposes and work of God in the last days, by traveling only increases his desire, that the great work of God may be speedily accomplished; for the amelioration of the world depends intirely on the accomplishment of the purposes of God. For this cause, the intelligent saint earnestly desires the gathering of the elect; to be completed; that the scene of wretchedness may cease in the world, and the remainder may have rest.

For, however flourishing we may figure to ourselves is the condition of this or any other country, the representation is always partial, it is never universal. For amid the glory of our greatest prosperity, there are thousands, yea tens of thousands, of our race suffering grief and woe, that would melt the stoutest heart, if it would but stop to reflect.

There are many scenes which exhibit themselves in traveling through the western settlements, which are

painful to behold; multitudes of little children clothed in rags, deprived of all the advantages of good society, with a bare subsistence, and that of the coarsest kind, their fathers are in many indolent, and do not make the provision necessary for their wants, and at the time when they ought to be receiving their education, they are deprived of all advantages, and grow up under circumstances calculated to deprive them of many privileges, and the enjoyments of society in its more refined state.

I am convinced of the great advantages there are in settling any new country, to do it by colonizing. It enables the settlers to obtain the comforts of life sooner, to establish schools, erect machinery; and colonies uniting in good faith, could soon have as many advantages as the elder settlements; while those who attempt to settle remote regions by individuals; according to the usual plan, is attended with the sacrifice of almost every comfort of life, and during the life time of the first settlers, if not longer: you shall hear from me again.

Yours as ever,
SIDNEY RIGDON

(P. S. The spelling is as it originally appeared in the ELDER'S JOURNAL.)

TO THE GENERAL UNITED WORKERS

Dear Sisters in Christ,

It will soon be General Conference time again and time for all of us to start making our plans for the General United Workers annually held meeting at the Conference. We would like each of the secretaries and treasurers to write a report of the happenings in their own United Workers group. We would be glad to hear an oral report from anyone of the representatives of your locals.

We would like very much, for each local to have something spiritually edifying to contribute to our program for all of us to enjoy. We do ask that you try to keep your contribution limited to ten minutes if possible, that we will be more assured we will have enough time for everyone.

Try to think of who you might want for officers this next year.

As always, we shall be glad again to see the faces of those we hold so dear and pray that our love may increase for each other.

With love,
Kate Moyer, Chairman
Jackie Lacey, Ass't Chairman
Lois Harris, Treasurer
Jo Eddy, Secretary
Route #1, Box 201
Clinton, Mo. 64735

THANK YOU NOTE

To the many who have reached out in prayer and sympathy for the family of Winfield L. Gould we would like to express our thanks.

Whether you sent flowers or money or words of sympathy or offered a prayer, we would like you to know how deeply we appreciate it. If any of you were missed in sending thank-you notes please accept this as a personal thank you.

It is so comforting to know that as brothers and sisters in Christ we share one anothers burdens and love. The family at Long Lane, Missouri, sincerely appreciate the help given by everyone and the concern shown. Words cannot tell how much it has helped and how truly grateful we are. God's richest blessings to all.

THANK You

There just are not enough words to express our sincere gratitude for all the prayers, cards, phone calls, kind, comforting words, flowers and financial help. We do thank you.

Archie has come a long way but still has a long way to go. Again we thank you. May God bless each and every one.

Archie and Martha Bell

A TESTIMONY

I would like to share with you, my testimony of God's great goodness. When I was age 13 and then again at the age of 15, I was stricken with rheumatic fever. This is a disease that affects the joints and the heart. It is painful and the heart valve damage remains long after the soreness and swelling leaves the body.

When I was 13, I spent the summer mostly in bed with swollen, stiff joints unable to walk or care for myself. Then God blessed me and I walked again. Two years later, I was stricken again. Once again I was blessed with my life, but I had scar tissue on the valves of my heart that would hamper me for years. Once a doctor also told me that because of my physical condition, he didn't believe that I would be able to have children.

God has blessed me many times in these afflictions and I have lived a normal life with the exception of taking Penicillin everyday to prevent reoccurrences of the rheumatic fever. God has blessed me with a good husband and four beautiful children that have given me joy. And I thank God for giving me my life so many times.

For 22 years, I have had doctors listen to my heart and explain what surgery would be needed to correct the injured parts, if it should become necessary. But God has always taken care of me and now he has given me a miracle!

During this past Thanksgiving vacation, our family made a trip to Maxwell, Nebraska to visit the Leighton-Floyd family, whom we love. The last 100 miles was driven at 15 to 20 miles per hour on ice, with high winds and blowing snow. It was a very tense drive even though we all had a prayer on our lips and in our hearts that God would take care of us. He answered our prayers and we are thankful for His watchcare.

During the trip, I became tense which in turn intensified the problem with my heart, that had been causing me some concern the two previous weeks. All day on Thanksgiving, I was bothered by the feeling that my heart was completely turning over. This had been happening about 3 or 4 times a day before the trip, now it was every hour. I became scared and thought of the things my doctors had said and prayed God would take care of me.

By Friday evening it was getting worse and God instilled in my mind that I should ask to be prayed for. This I did about midnight, Friday evening. We prayed and I was administered to and while the hands were on my head the power of God came down and filled my heart until I could feel each part of it on my body, like

the outline you see in a negative. My heart was burning and my soul was filled with joy. I opened my eyes and looked down at my hands that were in my lap and saw only my hands; my lap and legs were as if covered by a cloud or fog. I couldn't see them. I knew God was healing my poor heart, that he was answering the prayers of the believers gathered there. It filled my heart with thanksgiving and song. There were no words to express the joy that I felt.

After the prayers were said, I was asked how I felt. I was too filled with joy that I was at a loss of words. I said "I feel happy, I feel like singing." Then I couldn't think of a song I knew that would say what was in my heart. We just started singing and it seemed very right. We sang to God. "Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Thank you Jesus."

Later when I had prayed thanking the Lord for His great blessing and had fallen asleep with songs of praises in my heart and mind, I found that I kept waking myself up. It was as though my spirit was singing so loud it would wake me up. The song was "Praise Him, Praise Him." Each time I woke I would pray remembering the feeling that was in my heart when God's Holy touch was healing it.

God has not given me an easy way with words and even when I wanted to shout and sing with joy to all those I saw the next morning, I couldn't. But God knows my heart and my joy and I hope that when you read these words you can understand how happy and thankful I am.

I thank God for the witness of my burning heart. For His Holy Spirit that was with us. And I thank Him also for the witness of my doctor that was given me the following Tuesday.

Our youngest daughter fell and hurt her knee and I took her to the doctor for X-rays. The knee wasn't broken and has healed just fine. But while I was there I felt I was supposed to ask the doctor to examine my heart. He did and he didn't say, "I hear murmurs," he didn't say "I would like you to have an EKG," or any of the things I heard during the past 22 years. He said, "Your heart sounds good, there's no problems." I left thanking God for the miracle he gave me.

I bear this testimony to all of you, desiring that it might bring honor and glory to Jesus Christ our Heavenly Father, Creator of all things, for His is the honor and glory forever. Praise be His Holy name.

Your sister in Christ,
Judy Sprague

Your smile is your personal piece of sunshine.

Some men are discovered, others are found out.

"IF THEY DRINK ANY DEADLY THING, IT SHALL NOT HURT THEM: . . . "

One summer day, when our oldest son, Brad (we call him Chip), was 3½ years old, he received a miraculous blessing. He was in the back yard playing with his twin sisters, Karma and Konie, that morning while I was doing the housewifely chores necessary before fixing their noon meal. Vanna Joe (Jody) was 'helping' me. Our back yard and our neighbors, had a fence part-way between us, but there was no fence where they dumped their trash.

When I called the children in for lunch, Chip told me he wasn't hungry and didn't want to eat. This was very unusual for him, so I asked him, "Why?" He told me he had eaten "all that candy." I hadn't given him any candy. I asked where he had gotten it. He told me the neighbor lady had thrown it out in her trash in little bottles, and it looked too good to throw away.

Well, I was beginning to get very scared, so I asked Chip to show me and he brought me a bottle which had had some medicine in it and he had eaten all that was left - a handful. I tried to reach our neighbor, but she wasn't home. I called the druggist and gave him the prescription number, and he told me that if a child had eaten more than 1 or 2 it could kill him! That I should make him throw up at once! But all that I was told to do, did not work. It had been too long! By this time, he was beginning to get very sleepy. I did not have a car at home, but Dick would be home soon. I called the Doctor and he told me to let him

sleep but wake him up every 30 minutes or so to make sure he was alright.

All this time the Scripture from the Book of Mormon which says:

And these signs shall follow them that believe: in my name they shall cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink (or eat) any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover;

And whosoever shall believe in my name, doubting nothing, unto him will I confirm all my words, even unto the ends of the earth. (Mn. 4:87-88)

kept running through my mind. I relied on it completely. When you are as helpless as I was, it was quite easy to have complete trust - doubting nothing!

My mind was one continuous prayer to our Lord while I still had to go about caring for the other children and exercise patience (which I do not have) until Dick and his brother, Lee, could get off work and come administer to Chip.

Chip was administered to and he had a good sleep for about 15 hours the next day was his own happy, healthy self again, but with a lesson well learned and a testimony of God's goodness to us that none of us will ever forget.

Submitted by
Velma J. Wheaton

MUSIC

Putting Jesus first in all things is very important for us. Now that we are no longer bound to satisfy self, we are free to do the will of God.

Is music too lightly accepted in our lives and with our families? Most people between the ages of 15-25 listen to a lot of music. The music we listen to plays a big roll in our lives as Christians. Stop for a moment and just look at what you are supporting. If the song isn't about lust, then its fantasy, or self power, hatred, depression, drugs, social pleasures, adultery . . . on and on and on. Music of the world is just that! of the world. Those who live by the flesh, feed on this music. In most cases, people are addicted to music and many idolize or make heroes of the band members.

In I John 2:15-17 we're told to lay aside things of the world and desire to please the Father. As Jesus is with us in our daily work, do you think the music we listen to would please Him? (Isa. 52:7)

When Jesus cut away the old man through baptism, he made us new creatures. It is up to us to follow in His image each day, because of our love for Him.

1 Peter 1:12-16 tells us to be obedient children and in all our behavior be holy. This pertains to everything we say, do and think. Let's not compromise in our music as Christians.

Today we have many Christian groups that play music to support our walk with Jesus, not to glorify their self image by fame. When we convert to Christian music and lay aside the other, then we have opened a new door for growing, to feed our minds love, hope, joy, reality, obedience and all the pleasures of God. It is a type of worship, a praise that we all can enjoy. Best of all, it gives the glory to our Lord Jesus Christ and not to man. (Psa. 100:1-3, 33:1-5, Eph. 4:27)

Your sister in Christ,
Candy Smith

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 Independence, Missouri.

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.

CHURCH OF CHRIST PUBLICATIONS

Send all orders to: Church of Christ (Temple Lot)

P. O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051 Price Each

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The Latter Day Restoration	N/C
Apostacy or Succession, Which?	N/C
The Book of Mormon (Tract)	N/C
Articles of Faith and Practice of the Church of Christ	N/C
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