

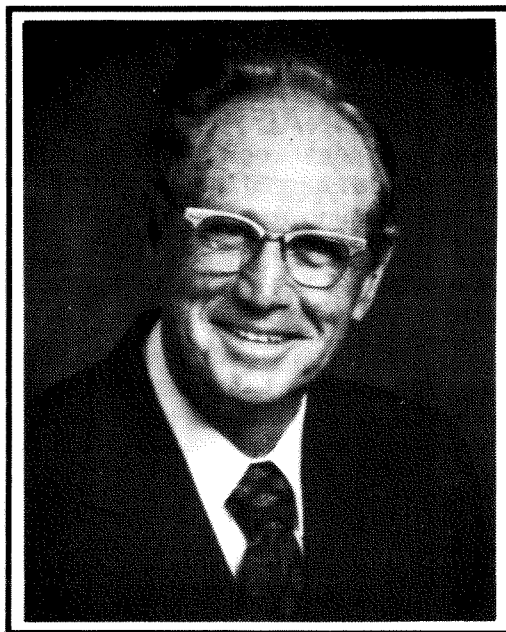
Zion's Advocate

*"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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Apostle E. Leon Yates

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Editorial:

Thou Art Weighed In The Balances

When King Belshazzar failed to learn from his father's mistakes and turned to idol worship instead of heeding the counsel that came through Daniel, he found himself in dire circumstances. The handwriting on the wall left no room for change nor correction: "God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it. Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians." Daniel 5:26-28

When government or religious leaders have available to them the truth as God has revealed and they fail to heed His counsel, the consequence is great. When the principles of righteousness as given in the gospel of Christ is ignored and leaders seek to satisfy their own wills and wants to the hurt of those over whom they have the watchcare, such individuals will find themselves "wanting" when the balance is struck.

The high ideals of goodwill and peace among a people cannot be attained except through sacrifice. Jesus Christ, the King of kings, made the ultimate sacrifice, and all leaders of men, whether in the political or religious world, must demonstrate their willingness to sacrifice personal wants and pleasures for the good of others.

This nation, the United States of America, has been a leader among nations from its founding and God has favored it with the outpouring of many, great blessings. However, it behooves us to be aware of how God sees us: "Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance." Isaiah 40:15

Today we find less than admirable qualities among some of our government leaders. When those who represent the people of this nation vote themselves large increases in their own salaries while thousands of elderly people on fixed incomes find themselves without sufficient money to pay their utilities and be able to buy food necessary to sustain their lives, we best be aware that greed and oppression will become the ruling influence if it hasn't already. The attitude and actions of our leaders become attitudes and actions of the people except a higher standard is held up before them. The more righteous of this nation must watch for all such signs of wickedness in high places and not follow the trend.

Jesus has prophesied concerning our day: "And thus commandeth the Father that I should say unto you, At that day when the Gentiles shall sin against my

gospel, and shall reject the fullness of my gospel, and shall be lifted up in the pride of their hearts above all nations, and above all the people of the whole earth, and shall be filled with all manner of lyings, and of deceits, and of mischiefs, and all manner of hypocrisy, and murders, and priestcrafts, and whoredoms, and of secret abominations; and if they shall do all these things, and shall reject the fullness of my gospel, behold, saith the Father, I will bring the fullness of my gospel from among them." 3 Nephi 7:34,35

Jesus goes on to say that he will remember his covenant with the house of Israel, and if the Gentiles will repent they shall be numbered among his people. If the Gentiles do not repent, he will suffer his people to go through and tread down the Gentiles (verses 38-41). The consequences are very severe (read 3 Nephi 9:99-106), but hope lies in this verse: "But if they will repent, and hearken unto my words, and harden not their hearts, I will establish my church among them, and they shall come in unto the covenant, and be numbered among this the remnant of Jacob, unto

whom I have given this land for their inheritance, and they shall assist my people, the remnant of Jacob." 3 Nephi 10:1

We must continue to pray for the leaders of our nation that they may find it in their hearts to seek God for direction. However, our hope is not in them, but in God and His promises: "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, . . . and he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth." Isaiah 11:11,12

It is evident that there will be those who will reject the truth as God has restored to the earth in these latter days. But it is our responsibility to proclaim the truth and shed the light of the gospel of Christ as given to us. Let us prepare ourselves for this great work that we will not be found "wanting" when the Lord returns to earth again.

RLS

1984 Conference Report

"In Thy strength, we will grow," came an almost whispered statement in a season of prayer from the lips of Brother Hubert Yates in the opening session of the 1984 Solemn Assembly and Sister Marjorie Frank pleaded with our Lord to "take away the hardness of our hearts." Our youth and the very young were not forgotten. To sum up the substance of the prayers, the concern was that our faith be increased, that we might grow in concern for one another, be humble, have peace in our hearts, be forgiven for the weakness of flesh, be given discernment of deception, that laborers should be called and sent forth — all these things that the cause of Zion might be a reality.

To quote from the reading by Brother Eugene Gould from Deuteronomy 6:3-5, "Hear, therefore, O Israel, and observe to do it; . . . that ye may increase mightily, . . . in the land that floweth with milk and honey. . . . The Lord our God is one Lord: . . . thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might." Then in Deuteronomy 7:11-15, "Thou shalt therefore keep the commandments . . . and he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee . . . take away from thee all sickness . . . but will lay them upon all them that hate thee."

The day was cloudy and cool but the room full of saints met in worship of our Lord surely brought a smile from Heaven.

Clouds obscured the sun again the second day but the opening song, "Come Ye Apart" expressed the desire to again separate ourselves from the world to

seek God in worship, and as in III Nephi 11:19-23, "Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another, and the Lord hearkened, and heard; and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name. . . . the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; . . . all that do wickedly, shall be as stubble; . . . unto you that fear my name, shall the Son of righteousness arise with healings in his wings;" I Nephi 7:56-62, "And he gathereth his children . . . he numbereth his sheep . . . there shall be one fold and one shepherd . . . because of the righteousness of his people, Satan has no power . . . the Holy one of Israel reigneth." These truths were read to us by Brother James Yates, Sr.

The appeal went up from Brother William Sheldon in our season of prayer that the Lord speak to us and "give us our own sign that nations be drawn together unto Thee." A song reflected the prayer, "Oh For A Faith That Will Not Shrink."

Brother Lavern Lussenden reminded the congregation from Isaiah 58:6-8, "Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness . . . to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? . . . thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy reward."

The response was in song, "I Love To Tell The Story," then a season of prayer in which the youth were again remembered and we promised in song to "Trust and Obey." Several asked for forgiveness, guidance,

mercy and unison in the last season of prayer of the Solemn Assembly. Brother Don McIndoo asked God for a "revelation of Thy will individually and in our midst." The closing song presented and still presents a challenge — "In these latter days, we all must help to spread the Gospel story. Our every deed from sin be freed," and therein lies the key for Zion to be a reality.

Our preparation having been made during the Solemn Assembly, we met for the Conference Sacrament Service in the big 4-H building on Highway 291 in Independence. The building was filled with the Lord's people from Arizona, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Ohio and Wisconsin, desirous of a day of worship to our God.

As last year, Brethren Marvin Ely and Don McIndoo presided over the service. They were assisted by Brethren Alvin J. Moser, Smith Brickhouse, Allen Kauffman and Nicholas Denham. Names brought to our attention of those much in need of prayer included: Brethren LeRoy Wheaton, who had undergone surgery for the repair of both hips; Wilbur (Bill) Morris, critically ill in a hospital; Leon Yates, present with us but very weak; and Loren Bryant, convalescing from a severe illness; also, Sisters Darl Hunholz, who was with us but suffering pain and weakness of body because of cancer; Junella Pollack, injured by a fall; and Becky Olsen, in danger of losing an unborn child. Prayers were also asked for the family of Brother George Brantner who had passed from this life a day or so before. (Since Conference, Brethren Leon Yates and Bill Morris, and Sr. Hunholz have succumbed to illness and have gone on to their eternal reward. Their families need our prayers.)

The prayers stressed blessings for those so much in need and thanksgiving for the many blessings already received among us. One of the impressive prayers pled for belief in the Book of Mormon, and again comes the question, "Have you read your Book of Mormon?" Perhaps you have read it, but there are some in the Church who have not. If you are one of these, do you depend on man to divulge what is between its covers? There might be surprises in store for the reader.

The Testimony portion of the service carried the theme that we must believe that Jesus is the Christ if we are to be blessed and acknowledged as His people. We need heavy concentration on Spiritual blessings. From these testimonies, we learned that chills were taken from one after the consuming of consecrated olive oil; another spoke of cancer and arthritis symptoms that were healed; that our young brother, Charles Pinder, had received a kidney transplant and is doing well; and that miracles aren't necessarily healings but can be sorrows and joys. We were reminded of the message Brother Bill Morris tried to get out to the people, that voting and/or money did not accomplish

the Lord's work. Christ's message must be taken to the people, to groups and homes. If it isn't done by this people, the loss will be to this people because God will do it through another people.

Brother Peter Gould was thankful for the conversion of a friend. We need to give all whom we meet an opportunity to come in. We cannot convert, but we can be instruments in God's hands and He will convert.

"Faith, hope and love are here," so spoke Brother Curtis Yates. His prayers that his sons be honorable and righteous have not been answered. He asked that they and he be remembered in our prayers.

A dream was related by Brother Tony Grincic in which he saw himself seated in the front row in the Temple Lot church with a few changes in construction. The front of the building was enclosed with a stage in the center lighted by two lights. The floor of the room inclined up from front to rear. The rows of seats were divided into four sections. He dipped his hand in water and flicked it and milk came from his fingers. Brother Brantner was in the pulpit with his hands resting on the lectern waiting for attention from a noisy congregation. The left front section of seats were empty. Two rows of the left rear section were occupied with men in white shirts very attentive. Across the aisle to the north, the people were blasé. In the right front section, the people were chaotic. They were dealing unjustly with the preacher as well as themselves.

Brother Don Hitt sang in testimony his belief that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that it is necessary to "find out things that Jesus did, pay attention and do them."

Brother Scott Harris had apprehensions about his call to be a priest in Christ's ministry until in a dream he received a witness from his Grandfather Harris, who had already gone to his reward.

"The testimonies of all are very comforting to me," came from Sister Lovita G. Seibel from her wheel chair. She had received administration the day before and about it, Sister Karen Malone spoke of the Spirit that emanated from our sister. "It was a beautiful face."

Bill Morris's testimony of the future of the Church and the ministry in the Church was referred to by Sister Joyce Harris. Bill had said, "There will be young men, much younger than you," speaking to another present, who were to be prepared for their responsibility. Our sister expressed both a feeling of joy and of terror for these young men.

Sister Doris Sheldon told of an experience in Germany of the sister who could not speak English and how they communicated in sign language. She expressed much thankfulness for this promised land. Brother Vance Harris was caused to express this same thankfulness one time when he realized in a foreign country that he was the foreigner.

"How Great Thou Art" expressed the sentiment of the congregation at this point, then Brother Kauffman

testified of the surge of the Spirit through his whole body as he laid his hands on the head of Sister Barbara Case in administration earlier in the service, and Brother Howard Leighton-Floyd said, "I know my redeemer liveth," and He "delighteth in the death of His saints." He issued a warning of the "New Age Movement" — "the Rainbow Movement" — teaching a oneness but not with God. It is based on eastern religions, the occult. Everyone will be deceived who loves not the truth.

Brother Dan Lawrence told us where those truths can be found. "The truth is found only in the Bible and the Book of Mormon. If you believe in anything else, you believe wrong."

Brother Marvin Ely felt led to ask for a season of prayer for discernment. He gave a voice of warning to seek God. A number of prayers were uttered in behalf of the request. One prayed for discernment as given in the Book of Mormon; one asked that we hearken to the Book of Mormon that we might not be misled.

In testimony again, Brother James Yates, Jr., compared the young folks campfire of the night before to the Gospel and its people. The fire was the light and the people around it were seeking that light. He remarked that the young can learn from the "old war horses" using Brother Leon Yates as an example. Brother Leon "will serve God to the last breath." The young people had met at the home of Brother Randy and Sister Becky Sheldon near Grain Valley, Mo. Bed rolls were taken by those who planned to stay overnight. Beginning with roasting wieners over the campfire, a meal was provided.

"We older people appreciate the young", said Sister Evalena Sills. She was baptized at age eight and "children of that age experience and know the Spirit of God."

"Then shall ye return and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God, and him that serveth him not." This was read to us from III Nephi 11:21, to remind us of the meaning of discernment. In III Nephi 8:15, ". . . Jesus groaned within himself . . . because of the wickedness of the people . . ." Brother Randy Sheldon asked, "Do we discern and refuse to understand or do we reject that discernment? Let us hold high the name of Jesus."

Brother Jack Martin affirmed his belief that Christ is the Son of God. James 2:19, "Thou believeth that there is one God; thou doest well; the devils also believe, and tremble." He went on to say that there is no room for compromise. We must have unity of faith. Brother Martin spoke to Brother Dan Lawrence saying, "I believe God has a work for you. Be prepared."

There were four administrations during this service, Sisters Mary Lois Bryant, Barbara Case, Doris Hutchinson and Brother James Yates, Jr. Those in charge requested prayers for the workers in the "Information Trailers." This was a new feature set up for the

purpose of providing information about the Church of Christ to visitors and that this traffic might be eliminated from the dining room during the Conference. A small trailer was placed at the northeast corner of the Temple Lot Church building under the direction of the Council of Apostles.

Brother Marvin Ely closed the meeting at 1:23 P.M. with "Gently He Leads Us," and the comment that some significant things had transpired here this morning.

At the rear of the assembly room at the door to the kitchen, two greeting cards were placed on a table, one addressed to Brother LeRoy Wheaton, the other to Brother Bill Morris. Everyone was asked to sign each card for delivery to the addresses.

The dinner hour was a time for visiting, reflecting and reminiscing. As members of the congregation lined up to receive their portion of physical sustenance, prepared by a very capable dining committee, there were many affectionate greetings; always the familiar "How are you and what has been going on with you?" The youngest of the congregation, the eleven day old daughter of Robert and Danielle Bruner was attracting much attention. Many were anxious to hold her. Seldom do we see a baby with as much thick, long, black hair as little Rachele possesses. Darrin Malone realized the desire to hold the tiny infant and when the father claimed her, Darrin asked an often proposed question, "How much will you take for her?" There were many smiles among those observing. We did not lack for dinner music as one or another of the young men was at the piano most of the hour.

All gathered back to their seats for the presentation of the Cantata, "Hallelujah! What A Savior!" by John W. Peterson, at 5:00 P.M., under the direction of Sister Martha Bruner. Sister Manon Lawrence was at the piano. The soloists were Brethren Stephen and Eric Sarratt, Gary Housknecht, James Smith and Sister Darl Jean Temple. There were three duets sung by Sisters Sharon Smith and Mary Lois Bryant, Sisters June Sarratt and Carrie Tillman and Sister Neva and Brother Gary Housknecht. Sister Janice Welch did the narrating. The cantata was beautifully done and at the close the director and pianist were presented with flowers from the choir in a tribute of appreciation.

A song service followed the Cantata. The message therein is, "My Savior First Of All," and "We Thank Thee, O God, For Thy Spirit," and the questions, "Is Your All On The Altar Of Sacrifice Laid?" and "Are You Witnessing For Him?" Then if we "Give Of Your Best To The Master" we will see Him "In The Sweet By And By." We were favored by a special offering from two very small prospective members, Luke Sheldon and Oliver Housknecht, when they sang "I Got An Angel" and "Who Made Luke And Oliver?" Brother Allen and Sister Czerna Kauffman sang to guitar accompaniment, "Led By The Master's Hand." The Lussenden family

quartet warmed up on "Take My Hand" then gave us a new song entitled "Anointment."

Brethren Frank Fann and Smith Brickhouse laid their hands upon Sister Chris Moser for administration after which Brother Fann opened the evening preaching service. The beautiful voice of Sister Janice Welch arose in the musical offering of "The Holy City," a song very appropriate to the Easter season. Brother Roland Sarratt was introduced as the preacher of the hour. He read all of Psalm 142, "... In the way wherein I walked have they privily laid a snare for me..." The power of deception is all around us. We are living in a day when the very elect will be deceived, if it were possible. Psalm 141:9 and 10, "Keep me from the snares which they have laid for me..." Psalm 91:1-4, "... the Lord, He is my refuge... his truth shall be thy shield and buckler." The snares must be broken, but we must have help from God. Matt 23:37 and III Nephi 4:55-57, read much alike, "... how oft would I have gathered you, as a hen gathered her chickens, and ye would not." Jesus overcame the will of the flesh. He is our example. Down the road a ways, Christ is coming—are we going to be ready? We have hope of coming out of the world, out of captivity, that the Lord may say, "... Thou art my people." Isaiah 51:12-16; 52:1, 2, "... shake thyself from the dust..."

Sister Irene Seibel received administration before the service was closed. Thus ended the activities of a long but enjoyable day full of praise to God.

The visitation for the family of Brother Brantner was held this night at Warrensburg. Some of the college students drove down for the visitation. Several of the Church of Christ young people went to college there and attended weekly classes held for our young people by Brother Brantner. Also if there was need of administration or other help Brother Brantner answered their calls and on one occasion when a young lady became quite ill, he returned her to her home.

Monday, April 2, was a rainy, chilly day. The day's business began at 10 o'clock. In the afternoon the business meeting was cancelled that all who wished might attend the services in Warrensburg for Brother Brantner. Those who did not attend the Elders' meeting at the East Local met in prayer service on the Temple Lot at 6:30 P.M. Brother Joel Yates, who was assisting Brother James Yates, Jr., read from II Nephi 1:111-113, in which we are told that if Adam had not sinned there would have been no joy for there would have been no misery and there would have been no good for there would have been no sin. II Nephi 12:12-14, teaches that many shall come with false, vain and foolish doctrines. Verses 16 and 17, "... all gone astray, save it be a few,...

they do err, because they are taught by the precepts of men." III Nephi 8:46, "Therefore blessed are ye if ye shall keep my commandments..." Jacob 3:126, "... this is for the last time that I shall prune my vineyard."

More were added to the prayer list, namely, a

Lussenden baby; Brother Marvin Carroll, injured in a fall from his house roof; Brother Don Housknecht and Sister Nell Hawley. A season of prayer asked a blessing for these and all others previously brought to our attention.

In testimony Sister Frank asked us to remember her sister Beth that she might be caused to remember her "first love" (God and His Church) for it should be of great importance to all. "One Hour With Jesus" expressed in song some of the blessings all were seeking in this meeting.

Sister Karen Malone spoke of Darrin and the overwhelming response of the church people at the time of his injury; how young Sarah Oar's death affected so many and the special, caring hands of Sister McIndoo, all these things special to Karen to the continuance of her faith. Still others expressed a need for forgiveness and that no matter the size of the problem, be it large or small, the Lord is always there.

Sister Amy Schrader announced at the door that Brother Bill Morris was in a coma. A season of prayer especially for him was called in which many took part. Like Karen, I was deeply touched by the concern and response of my church family for the welfare of my brother.

Sister Chris Moser spoke of the beauty of the cantata and Sister Stella Winegar testified that it was a joy to be nearing Independence "because Zion will be here."

Sister Oldham related an experience the Bruner and Oldham families shared at the Colorado Reunion in 1983. Brother Bruner dreamed that on the return home the Oldham car had an accident caused by a bad tire on a front wheel. In the accident, Kim was the only occupant in the car not seriously injured because she had been asleep in the rear seat. After relating the dream to the Oldhams, the questionable tire was examined and found to be in bad condition and was replaced with a new one. On the homeward trip, the Oldhams followed the Bruners. A stop was made and Kim decided to ride in the rear seat of her mother's car because she was feeling ill. Resuming travel, Jennifer saw Rodger veer to the left lane on the freeway. When she realized why, she was too close to a piece of timber in the road to completely miss it. The new tire hit the end of the timber. All was well. The Lord had warned and the Lord had protected.

Sister Jennifer's experience reminded Brother Harvey Seibel of the Lord's protection to his family when they lost a rear wheel from their car in Oklahoma on a trip to New Mexico. We are a blessed people and must remember at all times to praise and give thanks to our creator.

Fog and rain was the weather for the second day of the Conference. Your reporter spent this day at the hospital with her brother. I was saddened to later learn that Sister Gladys Nast had become suddenly ill during

a morning service and was taken to a hospital after administration.

The preacher of the evening was Brother Alvin J. Moser. He used some of Proverbs 7. In verse 23, "Till a dart strike through his liver; as a bird hasteth to the snare, and knoweth not that it is for his life." This, speaking of the enticings of Satan. "... whoso would hearken unto the word of God, and would hold fast unto it, ... the temptations and the fiery darts of the adversary," could not "overpower them unto blindness, to lead them away to destruction." 1 Nephi 4:39, 40. These darts of the adversary are not the toys we see nor the arrows used in games, but they are the type the hunter uses when he goes after the kill. Eph. 6:11-18 supplies us with defense against the adversary. We need "the whole armor of God ... to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked."

Due to the schedule of the day on Wednesday, there was only time for enough of a song service to draw minds in from various activities. "Standing On The Promises" reminded us of our hope of a new better life. "How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings" was Brother David Rudd's offering in song in special praise to our Lord. After a Phoenix sextet sang, "Alone, Yes All Alone, The Savior Died For Me," an offering appropriate for the season, Brother Don McIndoo was introduced as the preacher. Think about this opening statement: Our heritage is just one generation away from extinction and procrastination is a bad habit. We have been called out of the world. We should "... not be afraid for the terror by night ..." Psalm 91:1-7. But we have spiritual, moral, philosophical and religious revolution in our country. Why is it, some who worshipped with us no longer do? The revolution is at work all over the world and minds are being altered. Mosiah 3:1-4, "... we, ourselves ... have great views of that which is to come ..." A panorama of God's creation — things God has planned in this great work. If only the people of this great land could comprehend their heritage. We've lost our heritage. Ether 1:113,114, the first of the four horsemen has deceived the nations of the world. Book stores advertise (display and sell) New Age, occult, etc. — the arrows of the deceiver. Jacob 3:125-127, "... call servants, that we may labor diligently with our mights ... that all may be nourished once again for the last time." Brother Don said, "I'm excited about the big bite we have taken." (Action on the Conference floor of things to be done in the future.) "Impossible?" Not with sacrifice and sacrifice must be applied. In Solemn Assembly, we weren't eager to pray for the work of the Church, but how quickly we answered the call to pray for one who was ill. Let us get rid of pride to be able to sacrifice for the work in this latter day.

At the close of the evening service, the hands of administration were applied to Brother Marvin Ely's head. The Lussenden family departed early to return home to Michigan to be with the family whose baby

was ill.

The next day dawned fairer and warmer. In the morning season of prayer the petitions were for wisdom, outreach to those in need, greater faith, a stronger zeal and the ability to endure to the end. Prayers continued to remember Brother Leon Yates, Sister Gladys Nast and the Morris family. It was asked that men be set in the councils.

Sister Becky Sheldon testified of her obsession for kitchen cabinets, then the thought came, will Christ ask if she got those kitchen cabinets? Through another's words she had been inspired of the urgency to pray for the work of the Church.

The bride-to-be of Brother Peter Gould is a new convert. She felt deceived in belief before but was being directed of the Lord even while in the other belief. Your reporter apologizes for not obtaining the name of this very sweet girl.

Sister Doris Sheldon shared an experience. She and Brother Sheldon stopped for the night in their travels in a 7-11 Store parking lot. She was apprehensive about their safety and was nervous when they were approached by a fellow who asked Brother Bill if he carried a gun to which he answered, "No." Sister Doris thought that he might have said he was armed without telling a falsehood because he was armed with the Gospel.

A special season of prayer was had for Sister Pat Vick. A dozen or so prayers were offered in her behalf followed by blending voices in "Open My Eyes That I May See." Sister Helen Kidd blamed her lack of diligence as the reason for her husband not being with her in the Church of Christ. Their son married into a family belonging to the RLDS Church.

Brother Tom Maley came into the Church in 1929 and has seen a terrible abyss between the RLDS Church and this Church. We hope we stand on better ground. He testified of a man in England though physically blind possessed the type of sight and sound that led him to the Church. Let us hold up the jewel that is in our hands.

The Cantata was repeated this Thursday evening in the Temple Lot building instead of a song service. There were some changes in the personnel because some of the original singers were unable to be present. Gary Welch substituted for Gary Housknecht in a solo and in a duet with Neva Housknecht. Janice Welch substituted for Carrie Tillman in the duet with June Sarratt. David Rudd sang the solos for both Stephen and Eric Sarratt. The other parts remained the same as it was presented Sunday evening. Some thought the second rendition as beautiful as the first.

"... if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord ... do all his commandments ... Blessed shalt thou be ... if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Lord to observe to do all his commandments ... Cursed shalt thou be ... "Deuteronomy 28:1-20, was

the lesson Scripture that began the preaching service by Brother Marvin Ely. Ether 1:29-34, "... this land of promise . . . Whatsoever nation shall possess it, shall serve God, or they shall be swept off . . . it is not until the fullness of iniquity . . . that they are swept off. . . . O ye Gentiles . . . repent . . . that ye may not bring down the fullness of the wrath of God upon you . . ." John tells us in 14:12-15, "He that believeth on me . . . whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, . . . I will do it," also Moroni 7:26. What Christ held out then to the people on both continents, He holds out to us. III Nephi 8:5-8, The multitude was in tears. They desired that He tarry longer with them. He healed their sick. He had compassion for them. He will do the same for us if we ask. "... the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil." I John 3:8. Rev. 21:1-8,

"... He that overcometh shall inherit all things; . . . But the fearful, and unbelieving . . . shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire . . ." Let us become His people, loving, caring, kind, considerate — serve God and reach out to the children of men. II Peter 1:4, It is our duty to sacrifice. There is responsibility with hope for those who love Him and keep His commandments.

Another year has faded into history for the Church of Christ as well as the world. Do you believe that we have sufficiently come out of that world that the peoples will look at us and say, "Let us go up to the house of the Lord?" How about letting that be our goal: Be a peculiar people.

Lois Harris,
Conference Reporter

News From Marion (Michigan)

Brother and Sister Addington were not able to be with us on the first Sunday of May, so communion was celebrated on the second Sunday instead. We were pleased to again have Sister Mosher in our midst. She's such a joy, with her sunny disposition and loving manner.

Brother Addington chose to read from the Book of Mormon, Book of Nephi, Chapter 8, verses 55-75 (page 652). This is the passage of scripture in which Jesus warned the disciples against suffering anyone, knowingly, to partake of his flesh and blood unworthily. They were instructed, however, not to cast that person out from among them, but to minister unto him and pray for him. Then, just before His ascension into Heaven, He touched each one and gave them the power to give the Holy Ghost.

Following serving of the emblems and a very uplifting prayer and testimony service, Brother Addington read a beautiful letter from Governor Hall, one of the prisoners with whom they, Brother and Sister Lee, and Sister Opal Adams have been corresponding on a regular basis. He expressed a deep interest in the Book of Mormon and a great love for the gospel of Christ. The Lees, Addingtons, and Sister Opal have been very involved in corresponding with and ministering to various prisoners here in Michigan, and many have, as a result, had their first exposure to the Book of Mormon. Many are expressing a real interest in it. In addition to corresponding with the inmates, they have made visits to the prisons and have had some very encouraging contacts and experiences.

May 20 — Our little group was a little smaller with the absence of Jay and Evelyn Lee. However, we carried on as usual with Brother Addington taking on the duty of teaching the Sunday School class.

Following our class study, Brother Addington

preached his usual fine sermon, using the following texts:

Matthew 18:18-20. This is one of Brother Addington's favorite quotations, in which Jesus tells us, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Mark 11:13-26. This is where Jesus curses the fig tree. In so doing, He was also cursing the House of Israel. He used the fig tree as an example. Brother Addington reminded us that we can move a mountain of problems if we have faith in God. We have to come to God with faith, believing, if we expect to get answers to our prayers. Further, when we pray we should ask forgiveness for our trespasses. If we do not forgive, neither will our Father forgive our trespasses.

II Timothy 1:6-7. We find from this scripture that we shouldn't fear God, as he "hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love . . ."

Hebrews 11:1-6. In this scripture we are told what faith is and that without faith it is impossible to please God.

In addition to our regular services, Brother and Sister Lee and Brother and Sister Bergey drove to Flint on Saturday, May 26, to spend the afternoon and enjoy a picnic with the Flint folks. More of us had planned on going, but because of other commitments were not able to. They report a great time eating and becoming better acquainted with our brothers and sisters in that area. Hopefully we can do more of this in the future and that we can lure some of them to Marion.

Remember us up here in northern Michigan as we try to hold our little group together and do the will of Our Father. Our prayers are for all of His people, for the building up of His kingdom, and for the carrying of the Gospel into all the world.

Your Sister in Christ,
June Haines

Path Lights

When I was given this testimony from the past by our Sister Edna Smith the following scripture came to mind: "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive." Matthew 21:22

The Five Dollar Bill

Our son Robert was in high school and very active in the music department. The group he was singing with were required to purchase a costume that cost \$25.00. I had, through my sales in Avon products, gotten \$20.00 of the amount but could not seem to raise the added \$5.00 needed. The money was due the next day and he would have to drop out of the group if he didn't have the proper outfit.

I was sitting at our dining room table trying in all ways I knew how to see where I could make a few more deliveries and get the money he needed. I had no other source from which to get this money. As I worked over my books Bob was outside playing ball with the neighbor boys in the vacant lot close to the house. I had just dropped my head on the table and poured out my heart to God for help when Bob came bursting in the back door and said "Mom! See what I found?" He dropped a dirty small square about the size of a postage stamp on the table before me. I said, "Bob, what is it?" He said to open it up and see. This I did and what I saw caused me to burst into tears and utter Praise to God for in my hand was a five dollar bill. Bob said at first he wasn't going to pick up the dirty square, but he reached down and that is what he found in the gutter across the street from where they were playing. The ball had rolled over there and he had gone to retrieve it. No one can make me believe other than God heard my prayer and answered my need. I could no more disbelieve that God is real and answers prayer (for there have been too many incidents in my span of life, soon 70 years now) than I could disbelieve one of my children's existence. God is so very real to me and I feel that I can go to Him in prayer and talk with Him as I used to do my flesh and blood father, and He hears and answers. Don't think I feel so worthy for I do not yet. I do know if we go to God in earnest, heart-felt prayer, believing, He will answer our need. We are told to pray over everything and that is the way I've lived my life. It is just as natural as breathing for me to pray, for I couldn't make it through the day if I didn't start the day by first talking to God in prayer. It truly is my life line.

The Piano

Just as the scripture, Matthew 21:22, was fulfilled many years ago for our sister it took on a literal meaning for me just recently.

For the past few years since my sister Carol moved to Texas I had the pleasure of keeping her piano. It was a nice little piano in an Early American finish that fit nicely with my furniture. When my niece, Becky, married and settled in her new home I knew I would soon have to give up the piano since it was to be hers. We began shopping for pianos, but much to our shock the price of a new piano was beyond our means. We then put the word out that we would like a used piano. A couple friends who work in positions where they run across pianos were looking for us, but a few months went by with no results. To make matters worse I am Sunday School pianist, and not being very good I must practice a lot. The day finally came when they moved the piano out. Feeling very down hearted about it I gave the problem over to the Lord. He knew my desire for a piano and as I prayed, though I didn't ask for specifics, my hope was it would be in fairly good shape. I decided the following Sunday I would have to ask someone else to take over my job until something turned up. This I never had to do because four days later my husband came home and announced he found a piano. Actually, a friend of his had found it and he had purchased it sight unseen. We were both thrilled with the price. It cost far less than we had anticipated. We were to pick it up that weekend, but as the week went on I did start to worry slightly about what it might look like.

I should have known that when you give something to the Lord don't try to take it back. When Steve brought the new piano home it looked almost identical to my sister's piano we'd just moved out. My dear Heavenly Father not only heard my vocal prayer, but knew my heart's desire also.

I can't begin to give enough praise to such a loving and caring Father.

Your sister in Christ,

Melissa McGhee

If there is a testimony in your life I can use in this series, please send it to:

Path Lights
c/o Melissa McGhee
2533 Glen Lane
Independence, Mo. 64052

Feast Upon The Words Of Christ

"Wherefore, I said unto you, Feast upon the words of Christ; for behold the words of Christ will tell you all things what ye should do." (2 Nephi 14:4)

"If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love." (John 15:10)

"Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." (John 15:14)

So we see that we must keep Jesus' commandments if we would abide in his love, and be a friend of Jesus. For it is Jesus who is speaking here. If we are going to keep His commandments we must know what His commandments are. Now how can we know His commandments unless we study His words? The truth is, we cannot know how Jesus would have us live unless we read His teachings with much prayer.

How often should we read His words? For just a short time on Sunday morning in Sunday School? Or just listen to the preacher read from them for a short period on Sunday morning or evening?

Is this what would be called feasting upon his words? No.

Jesus is life, and light eternal. If we are to have that light and eternal life, we must obey His commandments; we must study to show ourselves approved, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, learning and obeying His commandments.

We have been given an abundance of scriptures which teach the commandments of God and Christ, but they do us no good unless we study them, feasting upon them day by day with much, humble prayer.

We are to teach these commandments of the Lord to our children. So we cannot just nibble a little at his words and be able to teach them as we should.

There is so much reading on every hand, and so much set before us continually that is contrary to the laws and commandments of God. We are lost easily if we do not read the words of Jesus Christ, our Savior. We must feast upon the words of Christ each day.

Lovingly, your sister in Christ,
Stella Winegar

AMERICA

God built him a continent of glory and
filled it with treasures untold;
He carpeted it with soft-rolling prairies
and columned it with thundering mountains;
He studded it with sweet-flowing fountains and
traced it with long-winding streams;
He planted it with deep-shadowed forests, and
filled them with a song.
Then he called unto a thousand peoples and
summoned the bravest among them.
They came from the ends of the earth, each
bearing a gift and a hope.
The glow of adventure was in their eyes, and
in their hearts the glory of hope.
And out of the bounty of earth and the labor
of men,
Out of the longing hearts and the prayer
of souls,
Out of the memory of ages and hopes of the
world,
God fashioned a nation in love, blessed it with
Purpose sublime — and called it America!

God Bless America!

By Meredyth Baskett
(as found in "The Hand of
Fellowship")

The World of Spiritual Expression

The Word, consequence of God's thought,
From which all things are wrought,
Was all there before the beginning,
And will yet endure after the ending.

Beyond the comprehension of the mind,
Is a world of spiritual expression,
That doesn't equate with man's understanding,
And completely beyond our verbal confession.

But someday in the spiritual realm,
When we've had an enlightenment of vision,
We will understand the words and the music,
And know all truth in perfect submission.

Larry L. Shaw

Thank You

May 27, 1984

To all the Church abroad:

I take this opportunity to thank each of you for flowers, cards, phone calls and visits while I was hospitalized this spring. And above all for the many prayers. I had both hip joints replaced. I came home April 13 after 60 days in the hospital. I am learning to walk all over again and making good progress. I drove a car Saturday and performed a wedding for a young Indian couple at the Heart of America Indian Center in Kansas City, Missouri. I was tired but happy.

Again, thank each of you and may God bless you abundantly.

Your brother in Christ,
LeRoy Wheaton

OBITUARIES

Darl Tucker Hunholz

Darl Hunholz, formerly Darl Tucker, was born May 12, 1917, to Nelson and Dora Tucker at Black River Falls, Wisconsin. She passed from this life on June 4, 1984, at the Independence Sanitarium and Hospital in Independence, Missouri, after a long illness.

She was united in marriage to Ray W. Hunholz on April 15, 1939. To this union was born two daughters.

Darl was a baptized member of the Church of Christ on the Temple Lot, Independence, Missouri. Most of her married life was spent in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where her husband was employed by the Milwaukee Sentinel newspaper as a photographer for many years, and was pastor for the Church in that area. In recent years the family moved to Independence, and was active in the East Local Branch here.

She leaves to mourn her passing, her husband; two daughters, Susan Brickhouse and Cheri Pennington, both of Kansas City, Missouri; two sisters, Doris Hutchinson of Independence, Missouri, and Evelyn Ulrich of Los Angeles, California; six grandchildren, and a host of friends within and outside the Church.

The memorial service was held Thursday, June 7, 1984, at the Floral Hills Funeral Home in Raytown, Missouri, with Apostle William A. Sheldon officiating.

Elmer Leon Yates

Elmer Leon Yates, son of the late James and Lilly Mae Crawley Yates, was born April 22, 1907, at Seeling, Oklahoma, and passed away May 14, 1984, at the Cox Medical Center at Springfield, Missouri, at the age of 77 years and 22 days.

Leon was an Apostle of the Church of Christ and attended services at Collins, Missouri, at the time of his death. He was missionary to Yucatan, Mexico, for over 20 years. He retired as a city fireman from Phoenix, Arizona, before moving to Missouri.

Survivors include his wife, Frances of the home at Macks Creek, Missouri; one daughter, Marlene Cobb of Buffalo, Missouri; two sons, Leon Yates, Jr. of Urbana, Missouri, and Ronald Yates of Tempe, Arizona; three sisters, Esther Caviness of Preston, Missouri, Evelena Sills and Ruth Willard both of Phoenix, Arizona; one brother, Joseph Yates of Preston, Missouri; twelve grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; other relatives and many friends.

The memorial service was held Saturday, May 19th, at the Collins, Missouri, Church of Christ with Apostle Don McIndoo officiating and Apostle William Sheldon assisting. Interment was at the Little Niangua Cemetery at Macks Creek, Missouri.

Tribute To Darl Hunholz

The spirit of Sister Darl has fled its earthen home, of late beset by affliction and pain, and is no longer shackled by the burden of mortal life. She has returned to her God, the Father of all, and thence, we trust, to the abode of righteous spirits, a Paradise of rest, and there to remain until the resurrection of the just.

If human judgment is ever true and good — and the discerning gift of God can make it so — our sister has laid up heavenly treasures where thieves cannot break through and steal, neither moth nor rust to corrupt. Only God discerns every thought, motive and action; yet human judgment may be quickened by the Holy Ghost. By our fruits we are known perfectly of the Lord; and by our fruits, one may be attractive or repellant to others; and so the spirit of kindness, of genuine love and mercy strikes a responsive chord in the children of light. Even so it was with Sister Darl.

Within her was a bright gem of cheerfulness, a radiant beauty of soul, evoking an unflinching response in kind.

Another gem was patience in suffering, as specially noted by those who had her care to the last. There was no spirit of irritation, nor even a demand for

service, but rather, gratitude for whatever received.

She had compassion for others afflicted or ill, and sought to comfort their distress. For those deprived of life's necessities, she often gave of herself in temporal assistance.

Sister Darl loved the family of her flesh, and those through marriage bond. No less did she love her brothers and sisters in Christ of whom she was aware. If there were any who were not disposed to return the love which came so naturally and freely from her heart; if there was anyone of antagonistic spirit toward her, who thought or spoke unkindly of her, or was disposed to do her harm, perhaps none else but God could have known; such could not have been provoked by similar intent within her. If she voiced disapproval, indignation or condemnation, it was toward unrighteousness, and only incidentally or seldom toward people; and this, too, in the spirit of meekness. Hers was a gentle spirit.

May it not be truly said of her: she was a lover of mankind, a child of God, a saint of latter days? The lives of many have been enriched because she passed their way and touched them in gentle goodness.

I Love To Hear The Stories

So often, we have sung the words to a familiar hymn, "I Love To Tell The Story." Yet, for so many years I have been blessed with the sounds of that story being told by some of the Lord's best storytellers.

For all those who knew Apostle Leon Yates knew the joy of his stories. When he sat down all ears turned his way awaiting another tale of his experiences. More often than not these tales of laughter and love were really sermons or parables of the Lord's hand in

Brother Yate's life. I will never forget the light in his eyes as he twirled his lariat around his listeners. Nor will I forget the willingness of his listeners to be lassoed, for many times I was one of them. His warmth, his laughter, his love was truly that of our Lord's shining through.

Thanks, "Skeet," for all the love around the campfires, around the fireplaces, around the hearts of the saints.

A Man Of Dedication

When I was young and restless
And I thought I knew it all,
I dreamed I saw my grandfather
Standing there straight and tall.

I was being tempted and the pull
Of the world was strong.
But just to see him in my dream
Assured me that sin was wrong.

The impact of his Godly life
Has touched many a soul,
For I know I'm not the only one
He's taught that sin will take it's toll.

He has preached Christ's gospel,
Because it has been his life.
Planting seeds of love and goodness,
Trodding down envy and strife.

A man of dedication: What an
Inspiration he has been to me.
It's taken him to Yucatan jungles,
Filled with numberless trees.

Years have passed, and his body
Is consumed by disease.
So, does he complain? Or sit
Back and live a life of ease?

No. He is still a man of conviction.
If a church service is held, he is there.
No matter how much effort or struggle,
He doesn't care.

So in this world when men's hearts are failing them,
And the word "commitment" is unknown,
What a lesson I have learned; for through him,
Christ's love has shown.

There's so much I want to tell him;
That I love him so,
To thank him for his example
That has helped me spiritually grow.

I think of this scripture and I know
He must feel this way:
"For to me to live is Christ
And to die is gain."
For you see, my grandfather has not lived in vain.

His cause in life has been righteousness,
For all men must live and die for something.
And so I know when he goes back to God,
He will hear the angels sing.

And now my grandfather has gone back
To that God who gave him life.
He's left his friends and family
And his beloved wife.

He knew the God whom he served
His life throughout.
So their meeting is a joyful
Reunion, no doubt.

He loved God's people and all mankind
And also the beauty of this earth.
His zeal and love for life was
Greater than most will ever find.

I thank God for the spiritual heritage.
He has given to me.
But, Oh, what a challenge to all who remain;
We must carry on the warfare as dedicated as
did he.

He was a preacher and a cowboy
And a fireman, too.
Yes, my dear grandpa, there never
Was a fellow like you.

Becky Sheldon

TO LEON - MAY FIFTEEN 1984

We said goodbye just days ago;
 So ill in pain you lay —
 Your face so drawn, your voice so low,
 In sad farewell that day.
 "If this should be our last goodbye,"
 I said, with moistened eyes,
 "I'll meet you there beyond the sky
 In wondrous Paradise."

"I'm Oh so tired, and want to go,"
 You whispered, near my ear.
 Such longing only few could know;
 "Of death I have no fear."
 From such great faith was born a wit
 With twinkling eye expressed;
 You vocalized your witty bit
 In scintillating jest.

But in your heart abiding trust
 In immortality;
 Though flesh and bone return to dust,
 You knew the soul was free!

And now you've gone; Death's Angel came
 And took you by the hand.
 He very softly called your name
 And led you to the Land
 Where pain and sorrow terminate:
 Where joy and light hold sway —
 Where righteous souls in peace await
 The Resurrection Day.

Our last goodbye in sorrow said —
 Unhappy, sad, forlorn;
 But Oh the joy that lies ahead
 On Resurrection Morn!
 I'll answer soon *my* clarion call.
 Oh what happy meeting!
 There'll be no more goodbyes at all —
 Just a joyous greeting!

Your Sister in Family Ties,

Evalena

Collins Local News

It's time for me to send our greetings to you again. We've held our annual election of officers and as you can see, you have me as your reporter for another year. Briefly, here are the results of our election: Pastor: Jack Martin; Asst. Pastor: Allen Kauffman; Secretary: Betty Martin; Treasurer: Shawna Coberly; Chorister/Pianist: Czerna Kauffman; Youth Leader: Marlene Cobb; Sunday School Superintendent: Allen Kauffman; Asst. Superintendent: Larry Shaw; Sunday School Pianist: Larry Shaw; Sunday School Secretary: Pam Shaw; Primary Teacher: Shawna Coberly; Junior Teacher: Norma Cook; Young Adult: Allen Kauffman; Adult Class: Oren Caviness.

We have been blessed with several guest speakers during the months of March and April. Brother Maynard Case of Independence came to speak to us March 11th. He asked the question, What is the gospel for? We can't MAKE people live like they should. We must put forth all our strength in prayer for one another — 'cause we're gonna need it to withstand the pricks of life that are to come.

Brother Jerry Case, also of Independence, spoke to us March 18th. He began by reading Psalm 117, stating that God loves to be praised. He spoke of humility. If you love God you'll want to be with Him — "If ye love me, keep my commandments." If you keep God's commandments you will abide in his love. The law of God is never broken — it always stands. When

we talk about love we have to have a realistic idea of WHO we're going to be loving. The sermon we preach every day — the sermon of our example — is the sermon that will bring people around.

Our speaker for March 25th was our own Brother Allen Kauffman. He used as a text, Ecclesiastes 11:1 where it speaks of casting your bread upon the waters. He related this as the deeds you do and more specifically, two things we can give: our money, tithing, etc. and our time. He gave as an example, Acts 3:1-7 where Peter and John had no silver or gold to give to the lame man begging for alms, but they gave their time and the word of God. What do we do with our time? There's a time to give money and a time to give time. We must take time to visit, to share what we have with others.

Another welcome guest speaker was Brother Bill Malone from Phoenix, Arizona. He gave a wonderful sermon that I can't begin to do justice to. He said we can see the scriptures being fulfilled. It's happening right now, today. Wants us to all be a part (not just members) of presenting this gospel to others — who are hurt, disillusioned, or angry with their church or such. Must take a stand for the Lord. We are the bride of Christ. We have the opportunity to be any one of the five wise or five foolish virgins. By the grace of God we've been given an opportunity to accept — and have accepted — but we must remember it's not a free ticket.

Due to Conference, we have had several guests

visiting here at Collins. I'll try to give a quick account and hope I haven't left anyone out. Visiting from Phoenix were: Bill and Karen Malone and sons Dennis, Darrin, and Daniel; Jay and Chris Moser and children Aaron and Erica; Jim Yates; Don, Betty, and Louise McIndoo. (Brother McIndoo showed slides of Yucatan Sunday night after Brother Malone's sermon.) Brother Marvin Ely, from Grand Junction, Colorado was a guest in April. Two weeks later Mike and Belinda, Wendy and Holly Smith of Independence joined us. Also the Bruner family, Rodger, Martha, Dennis and Cynthia also of Independence have been our guests from time to time. You know, of course, we thrive on these visitors and consider ourselves fortunate to have them come and worship with us.

Brother Marvin Ely gave a sermon on our "Un-changing God". He said we're living in an ever-changing world; a time of great trial. God doesn't need a new set of rules — He laid them down from the beginning. He doesn't change. (Psalm 102:24-27) We have the "way" and there is no other way. There is no shadow of turning with God. We must continue in the word of Christ.

We joined together at 6:30 A.M. with the Christian and Baptist churches for Easter Sunrise Services. Brother Jack Martin was the speaker. Afterward we all gathered in the Christian Church basement for a good hot breakfast and fellowship with our neighbors. After breakfast, we came back to our own church where we had a little volunteer Easter program in place of our regular Sunday School hour.

Brother Oren Caviness was our speaker Easter Sunday. He said Christian religion is the only religion that boasts an empty tomb. We worship a King who is triumphant — who is risen. Faith is our hope. We must believe what Christ has said — that God so loved the world — of mankind — that whosoever believed on him should not perish, but have everlasting life. Faith is our strongest (or weakest) link in the chain that anchors us to Christ.

Brother Rodger Bruner of Independence came to speak to us April 29th. He gave us a powerful sermon in a quiet manner. He spoke to us on something we need to consider every day of our lives—and that is: Our attitude! Attitude is a frame of mind, a viewpoint or outlook. It's HOW you see things, how you react to situations and people. He said what we teach at home is an advertisement of what we believe. What's our reputation? What do we advertise? What's our attitude toward our brothers and sisters at church? Must go back to the principles of the gospel (Consider James 1:22-27). Our attitude IS our advertisement. What are we teaching and what are we practicing?

I have one announcement, then I'll let your eyes rest. The Collins Local Rally will be held on October 20th AND 21st beginning at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday and 9:00 A.M. on Sunday. For more information contact Jack Martin at 417-275-4608. Please put this on your calendar of appointments you want to keep, and come worship with us at Collins. We need you.

Your reporter,
Czerna Kauffman

Houston Local

We had an unusual spring here in the Ozarks. I would like to greet you with this prayer.

Thank you, God, for spring again . . .
Green grass coming up,
Daffodils that guard their gold,
Sunlight in a cup.

Thank you, God, for lengthened days,
Warm rain and the wonder
Of the lightning in the sky,
And the sound of thunder.

Thank you for rose trees, and winds,
Sweeter now and tender;
For the symphony of praise.
All outdoor things render.

Thank you that the birds come home;
For the warm, bright giving
Of the swift pulse in the soul . . .
Thank you, God, for living!

Helen Welshimer

Our heavenly Father helps us to appreciate the beauty of sunshine by taking it away for awhile. I pray that we will be quick to thank Him for all the beautiful things in life. Sometimes the clouds are thick and dark, but once we stop and say thank you for all our blessings, the clouds begin to be lighter.

We have been blessed this spring with the ministry bringing food for our souls. I hope I can recall some of the beautiful thoughts left for us over the past few months.

Brother Tony asked us, "What did the rich man need to do?" Jesus said, "Sell all things and follow me." He had a decision to make. The issue here was "attitude." What did he do, what will we do? What do we sinners need to do?

Brother Ely admonished us to walk as children of light. Jesus tells us in John 8:12, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." "And He loveth those who will have Him to be their God," 1 Nephi 5:131.

Our pastor, Brother John Jones warned us about being deceived by the devil. John 8:44, "When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it." We must always beware of this evil one. He will attack any age, and will find our weaknesses.

We must come to God with a broken heart and a contrite spirit continually. We must give our life to Jesus Christ, with unconditional surrender!

We need a firm will-power and determination to carry the instruction of God.

On Easter Sunday, we were happy to have several visitors. Walter and Florence Kommer, Jane Ann, Justin and Trevor Stancil of Springfield; Joan, Eric, Jeff and Bethany Hawkins of Memphis; Stanley and Lois Janks of Moore, Oklahoma. They are parents of Ike Medders. Vickie Tucker of Columbia was also present. Ike Medders was our speaker and he spoke on "Other Sheep." He used Bible and Book of Mormon scriptures showing that Christ was speaking of the people on this continent. He also related some of the beautiful Indian legends from "He Walked The Americas." We know the Savior did walk the Americas, and I thank God for this.

Brother Gus Schwegler reminded us that the fullness of the gospel is contained in the Bible and Book of Mormon. Christ asked Peter, "Who do you say that I am?" Peter answered, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God."

We must call upon Christ. He never passed up one person that needed help and called for help.

Brother Leslie Case gave our Mother's Day sermon. He reminded us of the important responsibilities of mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters. Families need to serve God. Use our lives to the best of our abilities. Our goal in life is to work together in the family of God. We are to build His Kingdom.

Mothers must teach their children great faith. Mothers and fathers must pass on our great heritage, the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Mary Jane Medders

Northern Michigan Campout

The 1984 Northern Michigan Campout will be held the third weekend of July (July 21-22) at the home of Jay and Evelyn Lee, near Marion, Michigan. So pack up your campers, trailers, tents, or whatever, and head for the North and a weekend of fun and spiritual enrichment.

Refer any questions about the campout to:

Jay Lee
Rt. No. 1

Marion, Michigan 49665
Phone: 616/743-6617

Missouri Reunion

DATE: Friday, Saturday & Sunday, August 10-11-12, 1984. First meeting to begin 9:00 a.m., August 10.

PLACE: Warrensburg, Missouri at East Hudson Conference Center.

LOCATION: East Anderson St., east off Hwy. 13 in Warrensburg.

LODGING: Rooms are \$14.00 for a single room & \$20.00 for a double room per night. Pay as you enter, linens are furnished.

FOOD: Meals will be furnished, desserts included. Donations will be accepted from those who dine with us. We would like to know approximately how many plan on attending so the menu can be prepared. Please notify Jeanette Cunningham, Rt. 5, Warrensburg, MO 64093.

There is plenty of room for all. Arrangements can be made for disabled if we know ahead of time.

Let us all try to attend and worship and associate together to make this the best Missouri Reunion ever.

The Tri-State Reunion For 1984

The Minneapolis Minnesota Church of Christ has obtained the use of the Group Camp at Whitewater State Park, about ten miles north of St. Charles, Minnesota for the 1984 Tri-State Reunion. It is reached readily on State Highway 74 which runs through the center of the park.

The dates for the reunion will be August 31 through September 2. Entry into the camp for our use will be from 2:30 p.m. on August 31, and we expect to decamp on the morning of September 3.

We find the camp ideal, with clean sleeping facilities, a new sanitary facility this year with hot and cold showers, and, we think, very satisfactory facilities to meet together and be fed spiritually and physically. Ample space and facility for spare time recreation is everywhere at hand.

Some warm blankets, clean, plain clothes and yourself, are all you need to bring. A nominal park-use stamp must be procured at the park office for each car entering the camp. Inquire for day rates.

We welcome the news if you plan to meet with us. Your card or letter may be addressed to Merlin Eddy, 12115 - Rich Valley Blvd., Rosemount, Minnesota 55068.

We would like to see (and hear) you there.

The Minneapolis Minnesota, Church of Christ

