

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;"*

I Nephi 3:187

Volume 68

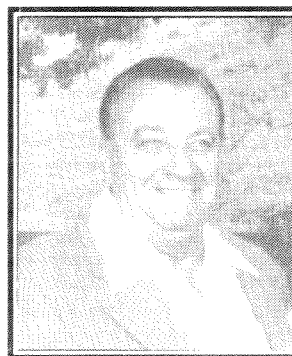
Independence, Missouri — October 1991

Number 10

We are now facing most frightful times with wickedness increasing on every hand. We were told that he that will not take up his sword against his neighbor must flee to Zion for safety. How close are we to that day? We have no time to waste! Let us "set to work" while it is yet day, lest the night fall soon and we have no time left. Let us labor for Zion with all our hearts, might, and strength.

Elder Nicholas Denham

Read "What Happened to Zion?" by Brother Denham
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Elder Edward H. Podhola

Elder Edward H. Podhola, of Lincoln Park, Michigan, passed from this life at the age of 75 years, on August 29, 1991.

Brother Podhola had been a member of the Church of Christ since 1942 and was ordained to the office of Elder in 1944. In 1947, he was elected to the office of Bishop for the General Church. See the obituary on page 147.

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Priesthood articles and sermons, testimonies for "Path Lights," submissions to "Apocalypse Now," and news items of Church-wide interest are requested, and should be sent to the Editor as listed above. Deadline for material requiring publication in any certain month is the 10th of the previous month.

Format of Submitted Material: Please type all submissions (if possible), on one side of the paper only. Do not use "eraseable" or textured bond paper. Please avoid overuse of underlining, ALL-CAPS, and italics. Finally, it would be

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Zion's Advocate is ...

To promote Jesus Christ as Saviour;

To promote His Teachings & His Church, the Church of Christ;

To be a voice of warning to His people; To be Zion's advocate.

helpful if you would be certain you are using a typewriter ribbon that gives a good, distinct image (not smudgy or too light). The most important thing, though, is to send the material — the staff can arrange for typing or otherwise prepare anything you send.

Word Processors/Computers: If you use a word processor, please use "letter quality" or "near letter quality" print. We can utilize text files on a computer floppy disk of any size or format, if it is IBM® compatible.

Declarations and notices authorized by the General Conference reflect the practices and beliefs of the General Church.

Guest Editorial ...

WHAT HAPPENED TO ZION?

One hundred twenty-five years ago this month, twelve families living in eastern Illinois and western Indiana were in the process of selling their homes, farms and businesses in preparation to remove to a small frontier town of western Missouri known as Independence, from which former brothers and sisters had been driven out at gunpoint thirty-four years earlier. This move was to be done in hope of establishing a long looked-for place of peace, harmony, congeniality and safety, called Zion. Today, after those one hundred twenty-five years, Zion is still a hoped-for dream.

It can become a reality instead of just a dream if those who really want it and truly desire it are willing to prove their desire by coming to God with real intent and lay their all on the altar of service with full purpose of heart and keep the commandments of the Lord in all things. In 3 Nephi 10, we find Jesus promising His people:

But if they (Gentiles) 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; ... that they may build a city, which shall be called the New Jerusalem.

That city is the hoped-for Zion in the western hemisphere, or Joseph's land.

Upon an occasion of visiting a branch of one of the restoration groups in Florida during World War II, the writer was asked where he was from. When he answered that his home was Independence, Mis-

souri, several members gasped, "You are from Zion!" He sadly thought, "Oh! You poor misinformed people! How far we are from having Zion!"

In an issue of the *Reader's Digest* in mid 1956 there appeared an article about a group of natives living on one of the Pacific Islands which was taken over by the American forces during WWII. These natives were Christian and were living the gospel so perfectly that they made a strong impression upon one of the military personnel. After the war he decided to return to the island to see how his native friends were faring in the midst of the corruption which had grown up around them. He was amazed to find that in spite of the corruption around them, they had held on to their faith and were a thriving Christian community after a period of several years. The editor of *Zion's Advocate* was so impressed with the article that, with permission, he printed it in a following number. If by their faith in God, repenting of their sins, and studying the word of God as given in the Bible which had been left with them, and humbling themselves, could bring them such wonderful protection from the wickedness which developed around them, how much more should we be able to enjoy the promises of God with the fulness of the gospel having been restored to us.

Like conditions bring like results. We do what we want to do! We obey or we rebel!

If we love God with all our heart;

If we put Him first in everything we do, not letting idols, whatever they may be, crowd out our concern for God's will and our obedience to Him;

If we seek to know His will

through study of His word and by prayer to be led of His spirit, and harden not our hearts toward His will or toward our fellow men, His children;

Then shall we begin to see the great promises of God develop before our eyes and Zion will begin to shine as a light in a dark place and our joy shall be full.

Elder Nicholas Denham

During the 1930's, in the depth of the great depression following the stock market crash of 1929, times were hard and work was hard to find. At that time, Apostle Arthur M. Smith gave a prophecy that the Lord was going to bring a period of prosperity to this country for a time in order to give us opportunity to prepare to build up Zion. We had a rapid recovery beginning in 1941 and we prospered as perhaps never before. But did we forget as Israel of old?

We are now facing most frightful times with wickedness increasing on every hand. We were told that he that will not take up his sword against his neighbor must flee to Zion for safety. How close are we to that day? We have no time to waste! Let us "set to work" while it is yet day, lest the night fall soon and we have no time left. Let us labor for Zion with all our hearts, might, and strength.

Bible and Book of Mormon References to the ...

Book of Mormon

or the "Stick of Joseph"

Submitted by
Elder Alvin Harris

AMOS 3:7

Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants, the prophets.

EZEKIEL 37:15-20

(Read the whole chapter.)

The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying, Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions: And join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become one in thine hand.

And when the children of thy people shall speak unto thee, saying, wilt thou not shew us what thou meanest by these? Say unto them, Thus saith the LORD GOD: Behold I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick and they shall be one in mine hand.

And the sticks whereon thou writest shall be in thine hand before their eyes.

EZEKIEL 36:24, 34-36

(Read the whole chapter.)

For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into

your own land.

And the desolate land shall be tilled, whereas it lay desolate in the sight of all that passed by.

And they shall say, This land that was desolate is become like the garden of Eden, and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are become fenced, and are inhabited.

Then the heathen that are left round about you shall know that I the LORD build the ruined places, and plant that that was desolate. I the LORD have spoken it, and I will do it.

GENESIS 48: 13-19

(Read the whole chapter.)

And Joseph took them both, Ephraim in his right hand toward Israel's left hand, and Manasseh in his left hand toward Israel's right hand, and brought them near unto him.

And Israel stretched out his right hand, and laid it upon Ephraim's head, who was the younger, and his left hand upon Manasseh's head, guiding his hands writtlingly; for Manasseh was the firstborn.

And he blessed Joseph, and said, God, before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac did walk, the God which fed me all my life long unto this day.

The Angel which redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads; and let my name be named on them, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.

And when Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand upon the head of Ephraim, it displeased him: and he held up his father's hand, to remove it from Ephraim's head unto Manasseh's head.

And Joseph said unto his father, Not so, my father: for this is the firstborn; put thy right hand upon his head.

And his father refused, and said, I know it, my son, I know it; he also shall become a people, and he also shall be great; but truly his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his seed shall become a multitude of nations.

HOSEA 8:12

(Read the whole chapter.)

I have written to him the great things of my law, but they were counted as a strange thing.

Alma 8:3 *(Read all of Chapters 7 & 8.)*

And Aminadi was a descendant of Nephi, who was the son of Lehi, who came out of the land of Jerusalem, who was descendant of Manasseh, who was the son of Joseph, who was sold into Egypt by the hands of his brethren.

II NEPHI 2:5-7

(Read the whole chapter.)

For behold, thou art the fruit of my loins; and I am a descendant of Joseph, who was carried captive into Egypt.

And great were the covenants of the Lord, which he made unto Joseph; wherefore, Joseph truly saw our day.

And he obtained a promise of the Lord, that out of the fruit of his loins, the Lord God would raise up a righteous branch unto the house of Israel;

I NEPHI 1:165

(Read the whole chapter.)

Wherefore he knew that he was a descendant of Joseph; yea, even that

Joseph was the son of Jacob, who was sold into Egypt, and who was preserved by the hand of the Lord, that he might preserve his father Jacob and all his household from perishing with famine.

JOHN 10:16 *(Read the whole chapter.)*

And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice, and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

ISAIAH 56:8 *(Read verses 1-8)*

The Lord God which gathereth the outcasts of Israel saith, Yet will I gather others to him, beside those that are gathered unto him.

III NEPHI 7:15-22

(Read the whole chapter.)

And not at any time hath the Father given me commandment that I should tell it unto your brethren at Jerusalem; neither at any time hath the Father given me commandment, that I should tell unto them concerning the other tribes of the house of Israel, whom the Father hath led away out of the land.

This much did the Father command me, that I should tell unto them, that other sheep I have, which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

And now because of stiff-neckedness and unbelief, they understood not my word; therefore I was commanded to say no more of the Father concerning this thing unto them.

But verily, I say unto you, that the Father hath commanded me, and I tell it unto you, that ye were separated from among them because of their iniquity; therefore it is because of their iniquities that they know not of you.

And verily, I say unto you again, that the other tribes hath the Father separated from them; and it is because of their iniquity, that they know not of them.

GENESIS 49:22-26

(Read the whole chapter.)

Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall:

The archers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him, and hated him:

But his foe abode in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob; (from thence is the shepherd, the stone of Israel:)

Even by the God of thy Father, who shall help thee; and by the Almighty, who shall bless thee with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lieth under, blessings of the breasts, and of the womb:

The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills: they shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him that was separated from his brethren.

DEUTERONOMY 33:13-17

(Read the whole chapter.)

And of Joseph he said, Blessed of the LORD be his land, for the precious things of heaven, for the dew, and for the deep that coucheth beneath.

And for the precious fruits brought forth by the sun, and for the precious things put forth by the moon,

And for the precious things of the earth and fullness thereof and for the good will of him that dwelt in the bush: let the blessing come upon the head of Joseph, and upon the top of the head of him that was separated from his brethren.

His glory is like the firstling of his bullock, and his horns are like the horns of unicorns: with them he shall push the people together to the ends of the earth: and they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Mannaseh.

ISAIAH 18: 1-7

(Read the whole chapter.)

Woe to the land shadowing with

wings, which is beyond the rivers of Ethiopia:

That sendeth ambassadors by the sea, even in vessels of bulrushes upon the waters, saying, Go, ye swift messengers to a nation scattered and peeled, to a people terrible from their beginning hitherto; a nation meted out and trodden down, whose land the rivers have spoiled!

All ye inhabitants of the world, and dwellers on the earth, see ye, when he lifteth up an ensign on the mountains; and when he bloweth a trumpet, hear ye,

For so the LORD said unto me. I will take my rest, and I will consider in my dwelling place like a clear heat upon herbs, and like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest.

For before the harvest, when the bud is perfect, and the sour grape is ripening in the flower, he shall both cut off the sprigs with pruning hooks, and take away and cut down the branches.

They shall be left together unto the fowls of the mountains, and to the beasts of the earth: and the fowls shall summer upon them, and all the beasts of the earth shall winter upon them.

In that time shall the present be brought unto the LORD of hosts of a people scattered and peeled, and from a people terrible from their beginning hitherto; a nation meted out and trodden under foot, whose land the rivers have spoiled, to the place of the name of the LORD of hosts, the mount Zion.

ISAIAH 29: 11-12

(Read the whole chapter.)

And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I cannot; for it is sealed:

And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith I am not learned.



50 Years Ago

Zion's Advocate October 1941:

Notice to Local Sunday Schools:

At the convention of the General Sunday School Association in Independence, April 1941, a resolution was passed asking all Sunday Schools to contribute to the General Sunday School Association 10% of their collections.

Young People's Department:

Is it up to us?

Dear Young People: "It is up to the young people now." How often have you heard this statement, or one similar in the last year? I believe I have heard it a dozen and one times every place I have been. And always when I hear it repeated, my mind echoes the question, "Why?"

Why is the responsibility of bearing the Church of Christ through "Gethsemane," and past "the anguish of the cross," on the final victory, laid on our young and inexperienced shoulders?

It is true, of course, that we cannot depend on our elders forever to do our battling against the forces of evil that seek to destroy the work of God, to keep the Church in a peaceful condition for us to enjoy, to do our thinking and our praying. Life comes and goes like the wafting of the breeze. As they watched their elders, so must we watch ours prepare for eternity, and yet try to leave as much of their knowledge and experience as possible for us to profit by. Then we must take their places and carry on the work that has not yet been accomplished.

These facts alone do not satisfy my mind as being the only reasons why it is now up to the young people. Other possible reasons seek consideration.

One is the bit of scripture found in I Corinthians 1:27: "But God hath

chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;"

I am sure I feel both foolish and weak, even attempting to add my bit to our paper, nor do I have any presumption that my effort will do more than perhaps encourage another who may feel as weak and shy as I, to do their bit in another issue. Yet, undoubtedly, God works in mysterious paths and ways, and he may have some special work for even the shyest of us to do, that the best and most efficient person in his church could not perform as well.

It will be well for all of us to consider what kind of a victory we are helping each other win for the church. Are we preparing ourselves to do the part that God is holding for each of us? Can we, as the young people, be depended on to take over the work of the kingdom, when the time comes that it is necessary for us to do so? What kind of a record will we make for it?

(Signed) "Just one of you"

Michigan News: Belding: An all-day meeting was held at the home of Brother and Sister Dick Hoskins - Brethren Welch, Burns, V. Peacock, and W. Graves participated in various ministerial duties. Missionary Trip: Our state missionary, Brother L. E. Welch, and Brother E. M. Orton, have been touring around the state doing missionary work. Flint: The Flint branch had a corn roast at the home of Brother and sister James Wright, 30 miles northeast. Brother C. W. Morgan of Flint has been doing some missionary work also.

1941 World News:

General escalation of Hitler's German military presence in Africa and most of Europe; Air raids on London resumed; British ship HMS Hood is sunk by Germans; Japanese step up activity in the Pacific; Plutonium discovered by two U.S. scientists.

25 Years Ago

Zion's Advocate October 1966:

East Independence Local News:

Our local has purchased twenty pews to complete our auditorium. They really enhance the beauty of our chapel. Also, the building has been painted white on the outside. Spiritually, we are being fed, but time will tell how much we are digesting. -

Adair McCubbin, reporter.

Here and There ... Harvey and Irene Seibel wrote (to Sister Margret Gill, *Zion's Advocate* correspondent) that they really enjoyed the Young People's Wake-up Camp. "It is just the thing which the young people need and I hope that with this spark of interest which has shown itself, many more of the young people might be drawn in and thus find themselves identified with a cause they can work for."

Donna Gill wrote that "The weekend of the 13th and 14th (August) we went up to Elder Hubert Yates' ranch and had a marvelous campout as the whole Phoenix local went. A couple weeks before the campout, young Hubert Yates was ordained a teacher. He preached his first sermon out under the peaceful evergreens of his Dad's ranch during our campout. It was an excellent sermon from God. No one would have guessed it to be Hubert's first."

1966 World News:

Mrs. Indira Gandhi, Nehru's daughter, becomes Prime Minister of India; The United Brethren and Methodist Churches vote to merge as the United Methodist Church with a combined membership of almost 11 million; Soviet and U.S. spacecraft make 1st unmanned soft landings on the moon; color TV becomes popular.

Missing Zion's Advocates!

The editorial staff is starting a new monthly feature (adjacent - page 146) recounting bits of our Church history a half century ago and quarter century. If the staff hears favorable comment about this series from Z.A. readership, we hope to make it a permanent feature.

One problem we have, however, is that we are missing several back issues of Zion's Advocate. In trying to retrieve a complete set a few years

ago from where the General Church stored all of its past issues, I failed to locate the issues listed below.

If anyone has any of these missing issues and are willing to part with them (or a photocopy), please write to me advising exactly which issues you have. After some time passes so that I have heard from all who have some of the issues listed, I will write back stating just which ones I need - and include a big

"thank you!" I will reimburse for costs of photocopies and postage if you will indicate the amount.

Please do not send any actual Advocates or copies until I write back. Thank you.

Please let me know which ones you have. Your help will be deeply appreciated - Editor

Gary Housknecht
11308 E. 78th Street
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Missing issues: -----

1922 - Volume #1, Numbers 1 and 4
1923 - All
1924 - All
1925 - All
1926 - December
1927 - June; August
1928 - January; March; April; June; September; November
1929 - June; July; August
1930 - March 1; April 15; May 1; August 15; October 1; November 15
1931 - January 1; March 1; April 1 & 15; June 1 & 15; July 1; August 1 & 15; September 1 & 15; October 1
1932 - April; June; July; August; November; December
1933 - January; February; June; August; September; October; November; December
1934 - February; March; April; September
1936 - January; February; June; September; October; November; December
1937 - January; April
1938 - March; May; December
1941 - January; February; April; July; September; December
1942 - January; March; May; July; September; October; November
1943 - February; June; September; November; December
1944 - October
1957 - January

Edward H. Podhola

Brother Edward Podhola, age 75, resided at 3021 Chandler Street, Lincoln Park, Michigan, until ill health forced his admittance to the Allen Park Convalescent Home in Allen Park, Michigan. He passed from this life on August 29, 1991, while still a resident of the Allen Park Home.

Brother Ed was born August 27, 1916, in Cadott, Wisconsin, of the union of Edward John and Vila Mae Podhola. He was baptized May 10, 1942, and first entered the Ministry of Jesus Christ when ordained as a Priest on November 1, 1942. He was later ordained to be an Elder on October 22, 1944, and accepted the office of Bishop in the Church of Christ, on April 12, 1947.

Brother Ed was preceded in death by his wife, Helen Gertrude and his son Dale. With his passing, he leaves

two sons, Phillip and Michael, and two daughters, Mrs. Susan Deters and Mrs. Maryse Kocsis. He is also survived by 12 grand-children and five great grand-children.

The funeral services for Brother Ed were conducted by Elder Edward Toulouse of the Church of Christ, Flint, Michigan, at the Peters Funeral Home in Lincoln Park, Michigan. The place of interment was Parkview Memorial Cemetery, Livonia, Michigan.

In a recent letter from one of Brother Podhola's daughters, Mrs. Susan Deters, she speaks of the period just prior to his death and we quote: "Many days were spent reading his favorite passages of scripture and singing familiar hymns, both with tape and a capella. My father's greatest gift to me was the time we shared discussing the importance of our love of Jesus in our lives."

Defining The Day In Which We Live

The early church fathers, those yet living in the days of John the Beloved wrote plainly that the Lord Jesus would not return again to this earth until the 6000 years were ended. Based on Biblical and astronomical chronologies, I believe that day is now only 10 years away. Yet the Lord was explicit that no man knew the day nor the hour. He also told us that except those days be shortened no flesh would be saved but for the elect sake those days would be shortened. One study based on Daniel's 1335 day prophecy gives the final date as 2005. There it says "Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days." According to the book, "He Walked The Americas" the final date given in the Indian prophecies is 2012 which is the end of the fifth cycle of the white man in Americas since the discovery in 1492.

So what is the bottom line and where do we now stand in the scheme of history? In 1957 Apostle E. Leon Yates had a dream that warned us that it was even then 5 minutes minutes to midnight. Thirty-four years have since passed. Matthew 24 speaks of a great tribulation which is to be followed by tremen-

dous heavenly signs and the appearance of our Lord in the heavens. This appearance of Christ is referred to as the day of the Lord in the prophecies. 2 Thessalonians 5:2 tells us that the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night and we who are of the day are warned not to



by Harvey E. Seibel

sleep as do others. For when they shall say peace and safety then comes sudden destruction. Ezekiel 30:3 tells us that when the day of the Lord is near it will be the time of the heathen. 1 Peter 3:10 also tells us that the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night in which the heaven will pass away with a great

noise. Revelation 6:12-17 says that when that day comes the wicked will cry for the rocks and mountains to fall upon them, because with the appearance of Christ in the heavens the great day of his wrath is come. The second chapter of Joel says that those who will in that day call upon the Lord will find deliverance in Zion and in Jerusalem (verse 32). Joel also says that those same heavenly signs that Matthew told us would terminate the great tribulation would also usher in the day of the Lord (our Lord's advent as given in Matthew 24 and the day of wrath as given in Revelation 6).

In point of time we are now in the latter end of the 5th Seal just preceding the opening of the 6th Seal which is the seal ending the tribulation and commencing the day of the Lord. This means that we are already passing through the Great Tribulation. This tribulation began in 1917 with the rise of the heathen to power - atheistic communism - a power which has since extinguished the lives of close to 100 million people. The climax of this tribulation will be achieved when the image to the beast stands complete and the worldwide economic bondage is fully in place. Then will the end come.

----- We need your help! -----

Since this column, "Apocalypse Now!", was started a few months ago, we have received very little response, and no material submitted that directly pertains to the purpose established. Intentions in starting this column were not to burden Brother Seibel with having to do it all himself. We will continue this column at least through the end of the year. If usable material is not submitted, about which Brother Seibel may base a submission to "Apocalypse Now!", we will have no choice but to discontinue the column.

Once again, the purpose of the column is to demonstrate partial or complete fulfillment of prophecy relative to our day - or perhaps more appropriately, "the day of the Lord." This prophecy may be from the Bible, Book of Mormon, or latter-day revelation. For that matter, you may not know exactly where a prophecy is to be found that is applicable to

some material you have found ... send it in anyway! That is what Brother Seibel is for: He will attempt to find applicable scripture and then present your material with some insight as to how it may be at least a partial fulfillment of some prophecy. You may submit your own commentary if desired.

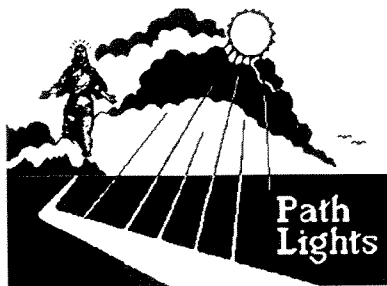
The "material" of which I speak, is any news item or feature article found in any reputable magazine, newspaper, book, or even items from radio or television. Anything from the last decade or so is fine. If you only have a *hunch* that it may pertain to some prophecy about our day, send it in! Perhaps Sunday School teachers could make this a class project occasionally. Please state your source, date, etc. - if it is not obvious. Thanks - Editor

Send to: Harvey E. Seibel, 9800 E. 32nd Street, Independence, Missouri 64052

My husband Joe, back when we lived in Sedona, Arizona, operated (along with a filling station business), a small charter flying service. It didn't make us much money, but it did pay for our own flying, which we dearly enjoyed.

Once in awhile, someone would charter the four place plane for only one or two people. With Joe, the pilot, this left an empty seat or two. I sometimes got an invitation to go along. On this particular occasion there were two empty seats, so I had the back seat to myself, giving me lots of time to meditate. Com-

ing back toward the home airport in Sedona, we were flying west, just at sundown. We were following the



sun, so it was a longer-than-usual setting.

As I gazed, entranced at the beautiful sight, I thought of the lovely

melody "Beyond the Sunset." Suddenly, the cabin seemed filled to bursting with the glorious sound of an angelic chorus singing those inspiring words! of course, no one else was conscious of what I heard with an inner ear. But, for me it was like being in a heavenly cathedral for a few blissful minutes. As I think back now, I am almost surrounded by that celestial sound again. And, it is a wonderful memory!

*Love to all,
Donna Moser
Phoenix, Arizona*

Temple Lot News

Steven Eric Gill was baptized August 25th, in the pond behind the Cowgill church, by Elder Glenn Gill, confirmed by Elder Scott Harris. Steven is Glenn and Margaret Gill's son. He lives with his wife, Lisa, and their daughters, Jennifer and Cassandra, in North Kansas City.

We mourn our loss, with the passing from life on August 29th, of our brother Ed Padhola, an Elder and Bishop, whose generosity and love to the Temple Lot Local members will be remembered always.

We are thankful for the long life of our eldest Elder. Nicholas Denham celebrated his 81st birthday August 29th. He came to the old church building when he was a few weeks old. His father laid that building's foundation. He has had health and strength, allowing him to actively participate in hands-on work on the new building, as well as contributing as a Bishop, a part of the committee overseeing the construction.

God Bless the Teddy Bears! Jean Chapman has been making collector bears. All money is for the new building, and all supplies are donated. They cost Seventy dollars each. She has sold 11 and has 11 more on order, as of September 1.

Don Case is landscaping the

church lot, assisted by his Dad, his brother Jim, and assorted volunteers. After Elder/Bishop Charles Brantner, from Lone Jack, finished the grading, Don planted grass seed and started watering (and praying, for an end of dry weather). Now there is a green "glow" covering the lot. Don will plant trees in October.

Warren Sarratt refinished the old pulpit. Miraculously, it survived the fire, in spite of the intense heat that melted the organ and destroyed the piano. The burning roof fell in on it. But, when the pulpit was moved, underneath it was an unharmed twenty-dollar bill. "Here's the first donation to the building," someone said. One corner of the pulpit was damaged, but "redeemable," as Warren said.

Virgil and Grace Rudd gave the elevator, in memory of their parents, who were unable to attend church the last part of their lives - too many stairs. The elevator is key operated.

Dan Lawrence, Sunday School Superintendent and our long-time "sound man," is finishing the installation of the sound system he designed.

Elder Leslie Case has given dawn-to-dark effort, supervising volunteers, and participating himself, in the interior finish work. He was the General Church Bishop's supervisor, checking the General

Contractor's supervisor. But, it is as a life-long local member that he has lovingly put final finishing touches to the building. I cannot list all his local helpers - I would fear to miss a name, if I tried. Some came an hour or two (as they could), some a day, and some have had time and energy to work beside Leslie many days. All are thankful for the opportunity and ability to serve.

Debbie Vogel's 2nd - 5th grade Sunday School Class gave the adults this PARABLE: Consider the big hairy tarantula. He waits at his hole in the ground for his prey: grasshoppers, beetles, sometimes frogs or lizards. People think he's ugly, scary, hairy, weird, dangerous. They've heard he can bite and kill you sometimes. But, unless you're allergic, you don't have to worry. His bite is like a bee sting. People fear the tarantula, because of the bad things they've heard about him. They don't want to be around him. Can you grownups tell the meaning of this parable? ANSWER: By telling bad things about other people, we can give them a bad reputation. People will believe the bad things, sometimes, without checking the facts. LUKE 3:14 - Don't accuse people falsely.

Joyce Harris, Reporter

Missouri Reunion - 1991

The 1991 Missouri Reunion officially began at nine o'clock on Friday, August 9. But a Reunion isn't just the being there, it's also the getting there. This one really began in the middle of the 1990 Reunion when the Committee met together to ask themselves, what have we done right, What have we done wrong, What can we do better? Before the day was done, those responsible had begun the countdown for Reunion 1991. Then it began for each individual sometime during the year when each made his own decision to attend. The planning and preparation are part of the enjoyment of the Reunion.

The first meeting of this Reunion was a prayer meeting. Those from the farthest away are usually there, others are arriving. The trip to the Reunion is an enjoyable one. You know that somewhere someone is praying for your safe arrival. So, as your vehicle covers the miles, your thoughts fly faster and already you are coming together, reuniting.

Evangelist Hubert Yates gave the first sermon. (It is the only one not available on tapes.) Brother Hube said, Before we have a Zion, we have to have a special spiritual condition. He quoted from King Benjamin's speech at that second Zarahemla Reunion, saying that we are nothing until we take upon us the name of Christ. He asked, "What do you think Zion is? Is it a gathering of those who haggle and backbite, who can't get along?" The things we find in Zion are peace, forgiveness, love, unity and compassion. Is the body of Christ preparing itself? Zion is a spiritual plane that we must achieve. The first thing in our life must be Christ. If he came into this room now, we'd think, "Oh, goodness! I shouldn't think that. I should have" If we say Zion, let's live it. It's a fortress prepared in an individual by the power of his Holy Spirit.

It seems like the way we sing

tells a lot about us. The first song services at a Reunion seem a little ragged around the edges. We're used to singing with a different piano. We're used to harmonizing with different voices. Here and there we are little pockets of different congregations. Gradually, following the song leaders (this year it was Nicholas Denham and Margret Gill) we draw together and learn harmony. We become one congregation.

In his sermon Apostle William Sheldon spoke of a desire to kindle afresh the idea of a literal place of Zion. He asked, Don't we want to be a part of the building of New Jerusalem? The gospel of Christ has to be demonstrated. We can not develop the spirit of Zion within us unless we have communion one with another. How do we develop that pure desire to become indeed the people of God? And he read in answer the first few verses of Isaiah 26. The last part of his sermon has to do with the instructions for the gathering of saints.

Friday evening and Saturday are always special times at the Reunion as we watch for the arrival of friends and family. Elder Frank Fann was the preacher Friday night. His sermon was on the Complete Life. Not the complete life you expect from owning your first car, or marrying the girl of your dreams, not the complete life of a family and your own home, or even becoming a grandparent. "Believe in God," he said, "and believe that He is." Repent. Be like Him. Have a complete love for Christ and our fellow man.

An interesting thing happened with the singing of the closing song that night. "The Old, Old Path" had been chosen and enough of the crowd knew the words that they did not need to keep their eyes on the song book. They began to look around and to see those who were sharing the path with them. It was nice to see friends as the people of the third verse.

There is a curious blend of the past and future at a Reunion. Little

kids running around looking so much like their parents at the same age that you wonder which generation it is that you almost don't remember. One year two little boys, hardly more than toddlers, were very impressed with Kenneth Smith's wheelchair. With a smile as big as theirs he let them hitch a ride. The boys were at the Reunion again this year and one of them offered a prayer in behalf of Brother Jensen after he became ill during prayer meeting.

The sadness of the people is heard in their singing at the prayer services. In the past prayers have been asked for the sick and hurting bodies of our loved ones. Now we are hearing of the sick and wounded souls. Often these are in our own families, so we come together burdened with caring.

Elder Joel Yates, in his sermon, emphasized local congregations as the most effective missionary effort. He reminded us that where two or three are gathered together the Lord has promised to be with them. But what good is that to us if we aren't there too. We need to be willing to bear one another's burdens. These tough times are to make us come closer together. There's a work for all of us.

Elder Joseph Smith took it one step further. He preached the responsibility of the individual. "Ye are the children of light," walk ye in it. God is doing what He said He was going to do, and you can be a part of it. Zion will be built, with or without us. We have developed a peculiar philosophy, "Let the missionaries do it." If you've got the love of God in you, it will shine out all over the earth. You are the light that is to shine to lead these people that won't even listen to us. "How long, children of light, will we stand idly by?"

Elder Alvin Harris emphasized that no matter what we believe about Zion, our real goal is to be ready for it. There were ten virgins; all were righteous but only five were ready.

Like several before him, he read from King Benjamin's address and I Thessalonians chapter 5. Believe that man doth not comprehend all that the Lord doth comprehend. Abstain from all appearance of evil. we're not dealing with some little thing, we're dealing with real evil. We have the greatest hope in the world, Jesus Christ. We need to strap Him on like a life preserve. Get your priorities in order and let's get to work.

It seems impossible to report on a prayer or sacrament service. If you are not there to hear with your heart you may not understand the worlds. One testimony, though, was important to this year. Loren Bryant said, "A healing cannot always accomplish what is most important. Nothing is so important as presenting a soul ready to stand in the presence of God." And there was one little picture that was a testimony in itself. During prayer, one little girl, sucking

her thumb, snuggled against her father as he knelt there, a familiar place in a strange land.

The talent service is another thing it seems we must be selfish with. There's no way we can share on paper the sound of singing or the poetry, or Georgia Tate's quilt. There were a few neat little "snapshots" of what made it enjoyable. One was four year old Cody Fann singing, lightly accompanied by his Bruner grandparents. Another - the touch of the piano keys was a little different. When Martha made a mistake during the congregation's singing, her head rose from behind the piano to look at her sister in apology, with a smile like the sun coming up. Another - Eleven youth camp girls silently signing while Kim Yates led them and softly sang the song as if interpreting it.

Apostle Smith Brickhouse had the last sermon of the weekend. He

said, "The Reunion isn't worth much unless you take it back home with you." He spoke of 100% responsibility, which means 'everything in my power'. Let us follow after the things of peace...that edify, having our hearts knit together in unity and love. Be steadfast, abounding in good works. Leave here with a commitment.

There was a little child. Joel and Jennifer Yates' tiny girl, not yet a year old, was tired of being held, tired of being confined, and maybe just plain tired. Joel had allowed her to crawl around under his chair and the one next to him. As she played there she saw his Books stacked near at hand. She crawled to them and laid her little cheek upon them. It seemed the most loving gesture, a sign of complete trust and security.

Ella Engle, Reporter

Recipes Wanted

Preparations for the new **CHURCH OF CHRIST 1992 COOK BOOK** have begun. The East Independence Local is collecting recipes for the cook books from all church members until December 15, 1991.

Please send recipes with your name on them, to:
Cheryl Taylor
1210 West Waldo
Independence, Missouri 64050.

Questions?? Call her at 816-461-7273. We hope to have the books ready by the April 1992 Conference.

Wedding Announcement



Pam Adams and Todd Bowman were united in the Holy bonds of matrimony in the presence of our Heavenly Father, family and friends, on the 10th of August, 1991, by Priest Adam Porter. The ceremony took place at the home of sister Pam, in McBain township, Michigan. We were blessed with a beautiful day.

Would you all ask our Heavenly Father to bless the path they are to take together?

Priest Adam Porter

Our Common Plight

Whoever you are that reads these lines, with us you have something in common aside from being human; - We both face a final ending day that will find us out for that which we are, the imprint of us upon our selves.

Considering this soberly, hopefully with a degree of appreciation of what it may entail for the masses of human kind, the thought becomes awesome. But it shall surely be. It has to be in order to provide the harvest of righteousness which God desires.

For the sake of our eternal souls we are forced to consider whether or not we can do anything about it, And it is ours to assert, with some assurance, that we can. That you

can. And that we may face that day with some success.

Faith and Holy Scripture asserts that proper use of the facilities of God's Son in our cause can provide well against the events of that day. Not to dismiss our concern, but to give us means in hand to meet that concern with hope of success. The Son of God says it this way: "Now this is the commandment, Repent all ye ends of the earth, and come unto me and be baptized in my name, that ye may be sanctified by the reception of the Holy Ghost, that ye may stand spotless before me at the last day." 3 Nephi 12:34

Elder Thomas Maley

From Church of Christ Reporter, Summer 1990. Used with permission.

CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The 1992 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ will commence Sunday, April 5. The business sessions will start at 9:00 A.M., Monday, April 6. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, April 3 and 4. All services will be held on the Temple Lot.

The 1992 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ will be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, August 19 through 21, at Independence, Missouri.

CHURCH OF CHRIST PUBLICATIONS

Send all orders to the Church of Christ, P.O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051-0472

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Members (optional)	\$ 4.00
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Changing of the Revelations	.50
Comprehensive Comparison of Changes to the Revelations	1.30

The balance of these General Church Publications are free of charge:

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- The Principles of the Gospel - Faith & Repentance
- The Principles of the Gospel - Laying on of Hands
- The Principles of the Gospel - Baptism
- The Latter Day Restoration
- The Book of Mormon (tract)
- Articles of Faith & Practice of the Church of Christ
- Articles of Faith & Practice (Spanish)
- Sermonettes on the Teachings of Jesus
- What the Church teaches about Matrimony (Spanish)
- Mighty Acts of the Ages (Spanish)
- Priesthood - Divine Authority
- Why? (Amplifies absence of a "First Presidency" in Scripture)
- A Synopsis (Compares beliefs of 3 Restoration churches)
- First Presidency or First Apostles?
- Marriage for Time and Eternity? - A Fallacy
- Baptism for the Dead? - A Fallacy
- Zion and the Temple of the Lord
- Does it Make a Difference to Which Church You Belong?

NOTE: Donations accepted to cover postage & printing costs.
(Multiple copies available: 6-50¢ / 100-\$5.85 plus postage)

Sunday School Materials

Send orders for SS Materials to Becky Sheldon, 31607 E. Major Rd, Grain Valley, Mo 64029. All materials are free of charge to members of the Church of Christ except as noted. Donations will be accepted to cover postage.

Church History for Juniors - Includes a Teachers Guide

The Book in the Stone Box - About the Book of Mormon

Bible Stories to Grow By - 52 lessons about God and Jesus for ages 5-7;
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The following materials are available on loan to members of the Church of Christ from the Audio, Video, Visual-Aid and Archeology Committee:

Slide Programs with Taped Narration

Specify program(s) wanted, anticipated dates of use, and the make of your projector. Slide projectors and tape players are not provided except in the Independence, Missouri, or Phoenix, Arizona, areas.

Allow adequate advance time for handling and shipping, and for your own preview of the programs. Write to Gary Housknecht, 11308 E. 78th St, Raytown, Mo 64138.

Mexico, Land of Contrast (39 minutes) — Illustrates how modern archeological finds in the Americas lend credence to the Book of Mormon and the story it tells of the continents' former inhabitants.

Out of the Dust (45 minutes) — Tells the story found within the Book of Mormon.

Light at Evening (27 minutes) — Story of the bringing forth of the Book of Mormon and the restoration of the Church of Christ in the 1820's and 1830.

A Lamp Unto My Feet (32 minutes) — Directed specifically toward American Indian viewers, compiled from the three programs listed above.

The Return (12 minutes) — Reveals the significance of the return to the "land of Zion" in 1867 by the members of the Church of Christ especially as holders of Title to the previously dedicated Temple Lot.

Holy Scriptures on Audio Cassette Tapes

Complete sets narrating the King James Version of the Bible New Testament and the entire Book of Mormon. Write to Dan Lawrence, 8420 Lee's Summit Rd., Kansas City, MO 64139.

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For a sermon on cassette tape write to Mike Kelley, 1949 E. Libby St., Phoenix, AZ 85022, or Ron Temple, 5621 Logan Rd., K.C., MO 64136.

PRIESTHOOD VISITATION

If you or someone you know (member or non-member) would like to be visited by a member of the Priesthood of the Church of Christ, please call or write to the Council of Apostles at Church Headquarters in Independence, Missouri. The phone number and address are listed on the inside front cover.