

RILE COPY

The Pentecostal Evangel

Number 1950
September 23, 1951
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NOT BY MIGHT, NOR BY POWER, BUT BY MY SPIRIT, SAITH THE LORD



ONE MILLION CALLS FOR CHRIST
DURING OCTOBER *See back page*

PASSING and PERMANENT

NEWS BRIEFS FROM THE CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

Bad Movies Preferred

There are more bad movies made than good movies; and the reason, says the Executive Vice-President of a great motion picture organization, is that the majority of people prefer the bad ones. Writing in a recent issue of *Harpers*, the movie executive says that the "off-color" movies pay huge profits, while the better class of "good movies" often show a dead loss. It is not surprising that the unregenerate should show such taste as this; but if a professing Christian attends the movies and it is an admitted fact that most of the pictures are "off-color" there is reason to fear that he is following in the footsteps of Lot and pitching his tent toward Sodom.

No Disappointed Tithers

Five years ago a pastor in Santa Ana, California, deposited \$100 in a bank and offered that sum to anyone who had proved God according to Malachi 3:10 and had found tithing to be a disappointing venture. Up to now there have been no claimants, reports *Missionary Worker*. Recently he renewed the offer and agreed to add five years' interest to the sum.

Finds Door and Wins \$200

Don Fellers of Angola, Ind., recently found a door that dropped from an American Airlines plane in flight, and won a reward of \$200. An airline spokesman said the door was wanted for study to determine why it broke loose. Don Fellers found the door while herding cattle on his uncle's farm. It was a lucrative find—but far richer is the man who discovers the door to the kingdom of heaven. The Lord Jesus said: "I am the door: by Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved." John 10:9.

Reds Plan New "Church"

According to informed sources in Vatican City, it is reported that Moscow plans a "satellite" Catholic Church for all Communist-controlled countries. The new body will be called the "Orthodox Church of the Latin Rite," and will be first tried in Czechoslovakia.

Three Whiskey Products

A police court magistrate was approached by a distiller who asked him if he had ever tried his special brand of whiskey. "No," said the judge, "but I tried three men in court today who had tried it."

Unemployment in Israel

There are only about 5,000 persons registered as unemployed in Israel. The land is a hive of activity with thousands of houses and factories going up.

Agriculture in Israel

The mechanization of Israel agriculture has progressed rapidly since 1948. The number of tractors has increased from 439 to 1,770 and the number of combines from 206 to 554. In addition there are 376 compressors.

Blossoming as the Rose

Flowers grown in Israel are being specially packed and shipped by air to Europe and the United States. Gladioli, roses, sweet peas, and carnations grown in the Holy Land are gracing American homes. One American florist who visited Israel recently has ordered about \$50,000 worth of Israel flowers. It seems that Israel and California are the only areas in the world where flowers can be cultivated all the year round. The flowers are grown in the Jordan Valley, Samaria, and even the Negev area which formerly was desert, in fulfillment of the prophecy that the desert should blossom as the rose at the time of Israel's restoration to their ancient homeland. Isaiah 35:1.

Revival Among Mennonites

A sweeping revival of immense proportions has struck the Mennonite community of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, reports *Christian Life*. Several thousands of the plain-dress people have been either saved or restored to Christ. Some Mennonite farmers became convinced that it was wrong to grow tobacco and they plowed up their tobacco crops at great financial sacrifice.

Liquor Destroying Youth

George W. Crane, Ph.D., M.D., of Chicago, is a noted writer on psychology and social relations, and author of daily newspaper columns that are read across the nation. He writes:

"I receive over a thousand letters per day from Americans. These letters clearly show that liquor is destroying the morals of American youth! It is breaking up marriages and contributing to our tragic divorce rate. It is subversive in its influence on functional intelligence, thereby serving as a definite contributing factor to the spread of venereal diseases."

Are we doing all we can to point youth to Christ, the great Deliverer?

The Gospel at the Fair

Youth for Christ sponsored a tent crusade at the Iowa State Fair late this summer. Thousands visited the gospel tent and many made decisions for Christ. Cy Jackson, the director, had a continuous program each day, from 10 a.m. until nearly midnight, with preaching being done by such men as Merv Rosell, Theodore Epp, and Clarence Erickson.

COMPARATIVE MEMBERSHIP OF PROTESTANT CHURCHES

With further reference to the annual report on Church Membership given by *Christian Herald* (see last week's *EVANGEL*,

page 2) we are listing the fifty largest Protestant churches in the U. S. A. The totals do not include foreign members.

	Members 1950	Members 1949	Members 1950	Members 1949
1. Methodist	8,935,647	8,792,569	27. American Baptist Assoc.	240,315
2. Southern Baptist	7,079,889	6,761,265	28. Seventh Day Adventists	237,168
3. Natl. Bapt. Conv. USA	4,445,605	4,385,206	29. Church of the Nazarene	226,684
4. Natl. Bapt. Conv. of America	2,595,789	2,594,521	30. Salvation Army	227,008
5. Presbyterian (USA)	2,448,596	2,401,849	31. United Presbyterian (NA)	213,810
6. Protestant Episcopal	2,346,319	2,297,989	32. Church of the Brethren	186,201
7. United Lutheran	1,954,342	1,814,172	33. Reformed Church in America	183,178
8. Disciples of Christ	1,767,964	1,738,005	34. Christian Reformed	154,950
9. Lutheran—Missouri Synod	1,674,901	1,569,364	35. Latter Day Saints (Reorganized)	124,925
10. Am. Bapt Conv. (formerly Northern)	1,561,073	1,583,350	36. Church of God (Cleveland, Tenn.)	124,372
11. Congregational Christian	1,190,131	1,184,661	37. Societies of Friends	112,895
12. African Meth. Epis	1,166,301	1,066,301	38. Church of God (Anderson, Ind.)	107,094
13. Latter Day Saints	1,005,346	980,347	39. Gen. Assoc. Regular Bapt	94,822
14. Churches of Christ	903,000	814,200	40. Federated Churches	88,411
15. Evangelical Lutheran	825,465	757,352	41. Cumberland Presbyterian	80,140
16. Evangelical & Reformed	726,361	714,583	42. American Unitarian Assoc.	75,389
17. Evan. United Brethren	717,531	711,537	43. United Amer. Free Will Bapt.	75,000
18. American Lutheran	715,640	692,567	44. Primitive Bapt.	69,157
19. Presbyterian (US)	702,210	653,594	45. Ind. Fund. Churches of America	65,000
20. African M. E. Zion	588,000	520,175	46. Universalist Church of America	64,245
21. Augustana Evan. Luth.	454,742	439,231	47. Int. Church of the Four-square Gospel	59,984
22. Colored M. E.	381,000	381,000	48. Lutheran Free	59,860
23. Assemblies of God	318,478	275,000	49. Mennonite Church	58,330
24. Church of God in Christ	316,705	340,530	50. Nat. Bapt. Evan. Life and Soul Sav. Assem. USA.	56,934
25. Evan. Luth. Joint Synod of Wisc. and Other States	327,216	297,922		
26. Natl. Assc. Free Will Baptists	255,127	255,127		

The Ministry of Tears

Arne Vick at the General Council

Scripture Reading: Luke 16:19-31.

MANY MINISTRIES are available to the child of God. Many important ministries have been brought to our attention during this convention—the ministry of preaching the ministry of witnessing, the ministry of giving, the ministry of singing, but the ministry of tears is one of the most vital and important in the Book.

Although the Scripture reading is the story of the rich man and Lazarus, I do not wish to bring you a sermon on hell. I wish to trace with you the flight of a soul from earth into eternity, and chiefly I desire to look with you at the reaction of a man who finds himself lost.

"In hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom." This man who was lost began to cry, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame." You will observe that death had wrought no change in this man's character. His nature was the same in hell as it had been on earth—completely selfish. While he lived on earth, he lived only to get and to accumulate and to be ministered unto. He was able by his vast riches to command a retinue of servants and say, "Come here and do this," and, "Go there and do that." The same characteristic is found in this man, even in hell. He said, "Send Lazarus to *me*—my pain—my torment—my need."

People who expect death to sanctify them are surely doomed to be disappointed. There is no purifying power in death. If death were going to erase all my faults and wickedness and meanness and carnality, then why does God's Book devote page after page and chapter after chapter exhorting me and instructing me how to put off the old man *now*, how to get victory over the old nature *now*? If death were going to fix us all up, then these exhortations that abound in the New Testament would be utterly superfluous and non-essential.

This man bears stark and dramatic witness that death in itself has no sanctifying power and does not change our character or disposition. He was

selfish on earth and he was selfish in hell, wanting to be ministered unto by Lazarus. Only when Abraham informed him that his request could not be granted did the man in hell begin to have the slightest thought for anybody else. He prays again, and his second prayer does not mention self at all. His second prayer is for his unsaved brothers. "Abraham, if you can't send Lazarus to me, please send him to my father's house back on earth, for I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment."

Here we have the amazing scene of a man in hell with a burden for his unsaved loved ones. We have the paradox of a man who himself is a lost soul entering into intercession for his living brothers, his kinfolk back on earth. "Send him to my fathers' house. I have five brothers. Somebody must warn them of this awful place."

Jesus did not say that this man wept as he pleaded with Abraham, but we may assume that he did. There are tears in hell, my friend. The Bible gives the blessed assurance that in heaven there are no tears—"God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes," is the promise to the blood-washed—but in hell there are tears. There is "weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth."

How many unsaved brothers have you? How many sisters? How many loved ones? How do you feel about them in their lost estate?

Human nature is strange and contra-



Evangelist Arne Vick

dictory. We go along more or less care-free and indifferent to the terrible state of our unsaved loved ones, until suddenly death takes one of them. The moment one of our unsaved loved ones dies we are gripped with a frenzy of anguish and with a distress that is pitiful to see. We stand beside the open grave of a loved one concerning whose salvation we are uncertain, and wring our hands. It is easy then to shed copious tears, but it is too late. God is trying to give us that anguish while there is yet time. God wants to give His people a ministry of tears.

I was called to conduct a funeral in Washington. The man who had died was a railroad detective; he had been trying to put some hobos off a freight train one night when they turned on him savagely and killed him. I cannot remember a more tragic funeral than that. They had to hold an ice pack continually on the head of the widow or she would faint.

After the service, the broken-hearted mother came to me. Her face was a mask of unutterable grief and suffering. "Brother Vick, do you think my boy had a chance to pray out there in the night, when they shot him and stabbed him and rolled him off the train?" she said. "Do you think my boy had a chance to pray?" Tears rolled down her face. Her eyes were swollen and red with weeping. I looked into this tormented mother's face and I suffered with her. In my heart I said, "Oh, you grieving, broken-hearted mother, I wonder if you ever wept like that for your boy before he died. I wonder if you ever felt that burden about his soul's welfare while he lived."

In 1 Corinthians 2 we read that we who are filled with the Spirit have opened to us a marvelous avenue of approach to God in this regard. "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him." No human faculty can grasp eternal things. We are finite; they are infinite. But the next verse says: "But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." What a wonderful provision this is! The things my eyes cannot see, nor my ears hear, nor my mind grasp, God by the Holy Ghost can reveal by bring-

ing me into eternity, as it were, and I can partake of the powers of the world to come. I can receive a burden for my loved ones in this life such as the rich man in hell received for his unsaved brothers after he had died. I remind you, my friends, that God demands this ministry of tears.

In the great statement of Gods harvest laws in Psalm 126 we read, "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." In Pentecost we have learned to shout and rejoice, but how many altars are wet with the tears of intercession? Where shall we find those intercessors whom Ezekiel saw in his vision in the ninth chapter of his prophecy? Ezekiel saw six men, each with great destroying weapons by his side. Then he saw another man in white appear among these six. The man in linen had an inkhorn by his side. The voice of God said to the man in linen, "Take your inkhorn and your pen, and go throughout the city of Jerusalem, and whenever you find someone sighing and crying for all the abominations and the sins of men, put a mark on their forehead."

The man in linen went on his way and he searched throughout the city of Jerusalem. He found people doing everything in the world—eating, sleeping, buying, selling, going to work, coming home from work—but he found only a few praying, sighing, crying for the sins of man.

God said to the men with the weapons, "Follow him, and upon whomsoever the mark is not found in the forehead, slay them—slay utterly." Ezekiel watched the executioners go throughout the city and kill right and left until it seemed to Ezekiel that the entire city of Jerusalem would be annihilated. He cried in anguish, "Ah Lord God! wilt Thou destroy all the residue of Israel in Thy pouring out of Thy fury?" It would be interesting to know, if God should initiate such a test today, how many of us would escape the sword of wrath.

Throughout the Book of God you find this truth. You find all God's great men possessing this ministry of tears. It is my settled conviction that the great victories of the church of Christ are not wrought in our board meetings, nor in our committee meetings, nor in our song services—not even in our preaching services, nor in our shouting spells—but the great victories of the church are wrought in solitary seclusion when God's people are breaking their hearts praying at the Cross with a burden for the lost. In all of nature God

has decreed that travail shall precede and accompany birth. This is an infallible natural law, and the Word of God translates this natural law into the spiritual realm. "As soon as Zion travailed she brought forth her children."

A little boy came across a butterfly in the process of birth. This butterfly was emerging from its cocoon. Just about half of the creature had emerged and was undergoing the transition period between a caterpillar and a butterfly. About half of the creature had painfully drawn itself through the narrow matrix of the cocoon. The little boy watched the struggle for some time, and he felt so sorry for this beautiful butterfly in the process of birth that he decided he would help. He ran for a little pair of scissors and snipped the tight matrix of the cocoon to release the butterfly without any further pain, and out of the slit cocoon there crawled a shapeless, distorted creature. The first half of the body was normal, but the other half was swollen and misshapen. That creature never did fly, and it never became a beautiful butterfly. The boy thought he was helping but he was only frustrating nature and hindering it.

The application is obvious. God has decreed that in the birth of souls there must be travail. But today we want short cuts. People are looking for God's bargain basement. We try to help God out. We tell the people they don't have to tarry for the Baptism. We tell them they don't have to spend days praying through to a place of consecration and surrender to God. We are snipping the cocoon and the product that emerges is an evidence of how wrong we are. Many Pentecostal species of today resemble very little the old Pentecostal types of yesterday in their fortitude and power with God and with man. We do not pay the price and so we get an inferior product, so to speak.

This man in hell cried to Abraham, "Send somebody to my brothers." Abraham said, "They have Moses and the prophets. Let them read them and they will find the way to heaven." The man that was lost held on. "No, no, they don't read Moses; but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent." Through the corridors of hell there rings the word "repent." A man who was himself lost testifies to his belief in the doctrine of repentance. That should be an answer to all the modernism today.

Throughout the Book of God this truth is found. Abraham prayed his nephew, Lot, right out of Sodom. When God told Abraham He was going to destroy the city, Abraham stood before God and said, "I have some relatives there. Wilt Thou destroy the righteous

with the wicked?" Abraham stood in the place of intercession for his loved ones, and God answered by sending two angels to Sodom to bring Lot and his family out of it. But if Abraham had not interceded, all of his family would have been consumed.

When Moses came down from the mountain with the tables of stone, rejoicing that God had given the commandments to the people, he found Israel given to idolatry. He broke the tables in his wrath. The next day he called Israel together and said, "Oh, you have sinned a great sin, but I am going back up before God and peradventure I can make atonement for your sins." And a brokenhearted Moses trod back up the mountainside and fell heavily upon his knees and said, "Oh, this people hath sinned a great sin—; yet now if Thou canst, forgive their sin, but if not, blot me I pray Thee out of Thy book which Thou hast written." I understand Moses on this occasion to be offering his own soul for the redemption of the children of Israel.

The ministry of tears is the most neglected ministry in the Church today. You can get people to do everything but weep for souls. You can get them to sing in the choir, and play in the orchestra, and act as ushers, and serve on the board. They will give their tithes to the church and their offerings to foreign

(Continued on page fifteen)



ROBERT C. CUNNINGHAM, Editor

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Tested — but Triumphant

We can take the challenge of the devil at its face value and triumph over him in the name of the Lord.

J. A. Synan at the General Council



Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word. Acts 8:4.

A GREAT PERSECUTION was raging in Jerusalem. The young man Saul had seized the leadership and was furiously assailing the church. All except the apostles had been driven out by the fierce persecution. They had to leave their homes, their businesses, and everything that is dear to human hearts through years of association. They had to go out to seek livelihoods and opportunities for existence elsewhere. They were violently, viciously, and cruelly thrust out.

In such circumstances human beings might be expected to become discouraged, but these people did not. They were in such fine spiritual condition that all of them became evangelists. Everywhere they went they preached the Word and proclaimed Christ and exalted the glorious Redeemer. There was no distinction among them as professional or non-professional, educated or non-educated, male or female, but all of them were witnesses of Christ. Joyfully they told the story of His salvation and spread the fire throughout the land.

The devil in his panic had become so excited that, when he reached for his water bucket to put out the fire in Jerusalem, he got his oil can of persecution by mistake, and the persecution that he poured on the fire only served to spread it! Many a time the devil has played the fool in his frantic attempts to put out God's fire. I love that word "therefore" at the beginning of our text. They were scattered abroad—*therefore* they went everywhere preaching the Word. The devil often tries to put an end to God's program. In his malignity he writes the word "finis" to a chapter; but God in His own wisdom and power takes His great pen in hand and writes the word "therefore" following the devil's "finis," thus beginning a new chapter to the consternation of the devil, to the spread of the gospel, and to the glory of God.

I think about that time of old when the world was drowned because of the wickedness of man. I think the devil gloated over the flood and thought it ended everything; but God dipped His great pen into the vari-colored ink of His infinite providence and wrote a rainbow across the skies which in His language spelled the word "therefore" and began a new chapter in the plan of the ages.

In Egypt Pharaoh determined to bring an end to the hardy race known as the children of Israel, and he was having all the male children killed. But God dipped His great pen into the tears of a goodly child and across the sensitive soul of a woman He wrote the word "therefore." Thus a new chapter was begun in the history of Israel and in the plan of redemption.

In the days of Elijah the devil decided to write the words "the end" to the program of God. He made the worship of Jehovah so unpopular that there

was hardly a man or woman who had not bowed the knee to Baal; but God dipped his pen in the red-hot zeal of a courageous prophet and wrote "therefore" in the fires of sacrifice on the mountain. He began a new chapter that spread His glory over Israel again and brought the worshipers of idols into disrepute.

Perhaps the greatest upset Satan ever had was when he thought he had killed Jesus of Nazareth and prevented the salvation of man. He went back to hell and declared that the whole program of God had ended in ignominious defeat on the hill of Calvary. He wrote "finis" to the program of God; but God dipped His pen in the red blood of Emmanuel and wrote a great "therefore" across all the pages of time. God broke the seal of Caesar, and His Son arose from the tomb to write a glorious new chapter in the economy of God.

In Jerusalem the devil had raised up Saul to put an end to the new church and its ambitious desires to carry the gospel to the ends of the earth. He killed Stephen, scattered the rest of the Christians around without means of income, and gleefully wrote the word "finis" to the little Pentecostal church. But God dipped His pen into His limitless resources and wrote the word "therefore," and began a new chapter. Deacons became evangelists. Ordinary Christians became heralds of the message of salvation. The housemaid testified to her mistress. The errand boy testified to the grocer. The man in the marketplace told his customers about Jesus of Nazareth. The fellow who took a new job at the factory testified as to how the Lord had saved him by His grace. The gospel spread more than ever, and the devil reproached himself for playing the fool in trying to end the thing that God was just getting started.

The devil has played those tricks all along. One of these days he is going to raise up the Antichrist. Through the tyranny of the greatest persecutor

(Continued on page fourteen)

FOURTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

Pentecostal Fellowship of North America

Detroit, Mich., Oct. 30—Nov. 2

You are invited to attend the annual convention of Pentecostal bodies in Detroit, Michigan. The day services will be in the Woodward Avenue Baptist Church, and the night meetings in the Cass Technical High School auditorium on Grand River Avenue.

J. A. Synan will preside. Brother Synan is Senior Bishop of the Pentecostal Holiness Church and is Chairman of the Pentecostal Fellowship of North America.

The convention will open with a youth rally on Tuesday night, October 30. The speaker will be Emil A. Balliet, Pastor of the Central Assembly of God at Springfield, Missouri.

For hotel rooms or other accommodations write to Pastor B. L. Bresson, 1161 Withington St., Ferndale 20, Michigan. Be sure to enclose postage for reply.

French Churches Grow

Harold S. Jones, Upper Volta*

GOD HAS BEEN working in hearts in France. It has been almost unbelievable how Pentecostal churches in the country have grown since our visit there at the time of the 1949 Pentecostal World Conference.

The Pentecostal church in Toulouse is a good example of the developments. The church was started some time ago, but it was about two years ago that God began to move. Now the rented hall has a capacity crowd of around 400 for services. An effort is being made to enlarge so 800 can be seated.

At Toulouse I saw one of the most outstanding miracles I have ever been privileged to witness. A young woman had come to the service for the first time. While waiting her turn in the healing line the power of God struck her and she fell to the floor. Later she testified that she did not realize that she had fallen—all she knew was that her soul was flooded with joy. When she rose later the bones in her right leg had lengthened at least an inch and a half so that both legs were the same length. She also had had a

*Harold S. Jones, missionary to Upper Volta, French West Africa, was in Europe several months this year making a survey of the work there in the interest of the Foreign Missions Department.

fallen stomach and that condition was corrected.

It has been reported that there are 68,000 spiritualist mediums in Toulouse. There are thousands of Spanish refugees in the city. Many of the refugees attend the Pentecostal services.

About two years ago a Pentecostal minister went to Grenoble, which has a population of approximately 100,000. A church became established almost overnight. Today the church has around 200 baptized members. The building, a lovely structure, is practically free from debt.

Inland from the coast invaded by Allied forces on D-day (June 6, 1944) is Caen, France, seventy per cent of which was destroyed in the heavy fighting of the invasion period. In Caen there is a real hunger for God. The Pentecostal church is so packed on Sunday that the pastor scarcely has standing room. There has been a revival without any special evangelistic effort.

Today is God's time for France. Some time in the future the Christians may have to go underground, but the door is wide open now. Let us remember to pray for France, and do all that we can to help in the continued advancement of the gospel message there.

Conference in Liberia

Florence Helen Bassett, Liberia

THE THIRD ANNUAL Prayer Conference of Liberia convened at Matroe Mission at Sinoe, Liberia from July 31 to August 3. Missionaries from all parts of Liberia came to attend, practically all of them coming in by the mission planes. How we do thank the Lord for the time and energy saved by planes in this land where the only other means of travel in the interior is by hammock and walking. Formerly it would have required many days and even weeks to get to a conference, but now, for instance, those who went from Monrovia made the trip in one hour and thirty-five minutes—a distance that would have taken, at the least, ten days of hard, weary, energy-sapping traveling by the old way.

Representatives from the following missions were present: Assemblies of God, Independent Assemblies, Open Bible Standard, and Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. In all, sixty persons including seventeen children, were present. The Matroe missionaries were our gracious hosts.

From the very first service there was a sweet sense of the presence of the Lord. We all had been looking forward to meeting together to seek Him, and had been praying that He would come down among us and manifest Himself to us. Our hearts were melted and flowed together as one as heart-searching messages went forth from the Word. We were all challenged to diligence in getting the gospel message out while there is yet time. Our vision of the work yet to be done was greatly enlarged. Much emphasis was placed on the importance of getting the Word in the minds and hearts of the people, and especially of the national workers. Bible Study courses, designed to instill in their hearts the fundamental truths of the Word in the simplest way, were offered.

One service was given over to those who wished to tell of some special victory or achievement in their lives or work during the year that had just passed. How it encouraged our hearts as we heard what God had done and is still doing! Praise His Name!

Workers Needed on Panay

Warren B. Denton, Philippine Islands

ON MONDAY afternoon, July 2, our jeep was packed to capacity with literature and equipment, and with four young men we started on a one-week trip north of San Jose, Antique, Philippine Islands, to take the gospel message to new areas.

One of the young men with us on the trip was graduated this past year from Bethel Bible Institute, and two of them were second-year students at the school. The fourth wants to attend Bethel, but has no funds so he is helping me for practical training.

During the week we held twenty-six services at twenty-two places. The boys sang, exhorted, distributed literature, and helped in the personal work. Contacts were made with influential persons in the communities visited. The people were happy to have the

Hurricane Damages Churches

Cyril C. Huckerby, Jamaica

FRIDAY NIGHT, August 17, Kingston, and the greater part of Jamaica, was struck by a hurricane. We managed to work in the heavy rains preceding the storm and got most of our tent down and the equipment safely stored. The section of the tent which we could not remove in time, as well as our piano, and some equipment, were completely destroyed.

I have not received reports from any of the country churches with the exception of the Spanish Town and Central Village churches. The Spanish Town church is damaged to the extent of approximately \$900 and the Central Village church, between Kingston and Spanish Town, has been completely demolished.

The latest report of the storm is 110 dead, with the towns of Morant Bay and Port Royal completely wrecked. When the full report comes in the damage will likely be greater than we are able to estimate at the moment.

This morning's paper estimates \$48,000,000 worth of damage done by the hurricane, with some damage not yet estimated.

Great confusion and looting spread throughout Kingston, and strong measures were taken to protect the homeless. Thousands were left homeless by the 125-mile-an-hour wind. Water and electricity were cut off. A tidal wave destroyed some sections of coastal villages. Ships were thrown by giant waves onto the beaches. Some ships were sent to the bottom of the sea. The tales of woe which continue to come in would distress anyone.

Editor's Note: It would be a fine gesture if bundles of used clothing and shoes could be sent by air-freight immediately to Mr. Cyril C. Huckerby, % Jamaica Federation of Women, Cross Roads P. O., Jamaica. Funds for the relief of hurricane victims should be sent to Foreign Missions Department, 434 West Pacific Street, Springfield 1, Missouri, marked "Hurricane Relief, Jamaica."

Send Foreign Missionary offerings to
**NOEL PERKIN, SECRETARY
FOREIGN MISSIONS
DEPARTMENT**
434 W. Pacific St., Springfield 1, Mo.

back issues of the EVANGEL and other literature.

Antique is an open door to the gospel message, but the laborers are few. There are no other Protestant missionaries stationed in the province. If we had workers and sufficient financial backing we would see great things accomplished for the Lord.

Without the Speed-the-Light jeep and loud-speaker we would not have been able to reach the number we did, or to have covered the wide territory. Without the Bible School in Manila there would have been no trained workers to help us. Without the Bible in the dialect, or gospel records in dialect, we would have been deprived of effectual presentation of the gospel. You can see that money is required to win souls.

The week prior to the visit to the north we conducted a meeting at the market in Dao. If you have a map of the Philippines, showing the towns on Panay, you will find Dao in the southwest corner. We have had several good open-air meetings at the Dao market, and have found the people hungry for the Word. Much literature has been distributed south of San Jose. We want to send national workers throughout the section to do follow-up work.

There are at least twelve young women here who do not have financial means to attend high school or Bible School. Last year we had a short-term Bible School and nine women studied for a month with profit. We have been asked to open another short-term Bible School. The matter has been discussed with the Filipino Christians and we have decided to erect a *nepa* house at the rear of the church, or to move one in, to serve for sleeping and eating quarters for the young people. The cost would be between \$150 and \$200. The church could be used for classrooms.

I have two prayer requests. One of the young men of San Jose has been dismissed from the hospital in Manila as a hopeless case. He has cancer of the throat. The young man's family is interested in our message. We have been asked to visit the home to pray for the young man, and are believing God to bring honor and glory to His name through complete deliverance and salvation. Please join with us in prayer for this need.

Pray also for a young man who has studied three years in a Catholic seminary for the priesthood. His health broke and he had to return home. He lives next door. He is in such darkness, but he is willing to listen.



GENERAL COUNCIL AT ATLANTA

One of the highlights of the General Council at Atlanta was the long, colorful parade of missionaries on Sunday afternoon. Nearly 120 missionaries representing the work in 56 foreign fields slowly marched down the center aisle and took their place on the platform as Noel Perkin, foreign missions secretary, gave their names and told of the work and needs of their field.

J. O. Savell and A. C. Bates, on behalf of the Texas District, received the banner for the first award for total district missionary giving. Noel Perkin, left, and Glenn Horst, right, represented the Foreign Missions Department in presenting the award.

During the presentation of the Women's Missionary Council on Monday afternoon a brief skit was presented depicting the great joy brought to the missionaries by a notions "doll" sent by the W. M. C. Mrs. Hiram Brooks, Mrs. Daniel Marocco and Paul Bruton are shown giving the skit.

SUNDAY'S LESSON

A PREVIEW OF NEXT WEEK'S LESSON BY E. S. WILLIAMS

ELISHA STEPS OUT IN FAITH

Lesson for September 30

2 Kings 2:14-22

When Elisha saw Elijah ascend to heaven, he exclaimed, "My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and the horsemen thereof" (v. 12). Verse 11 indicates that the reason he thus expressed himself was because he saw "the chariot of fire, and horses of fire," when "Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven."

The Chaldee translation of verse 12 reads as follows: "My master, my master! who, by thy intercession, wast of more use to Israel than horses and chariots."

Both versions can teach us. It is wonderful, when God calls us home, to have "an abundant entrance into the everlasting kingdom," but in order to have a glorious translation we must have left a good testimony. Hebrews 11:5. Elijah, whose life and ministry to Israel had been of more use to Israel than horses and chariots, came to the climax of his life in a way befitting such a person. When our time comes, may we have a "promotion" befitting faithful saints and servants of God.

1. A Sorrowful Elisha

Elisha had a definite objective in refusing to leave Elijah. He was devoted to his master but knew that the time was at hand when they must part company.

One might expect Elisha to be filled with joyous feelings as he saw his Master taken from him, for did that not make way for him to demonstrate what he could do? The record reads otherwise. When "he saw him no more, he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces." Sorrow at the loss of his loved companion filled his heart. The rending of his garment was an expression of this. See 2 Sam. 15:32; 2 Kings 22:11, 19; Ezra 9:3, 5; 2 Chron. 34:27. No position divinely ordained for a person can possibly induce an inward pleasure that his predecessor has been taken out of the way. True humility and godliness are too great for that. If there is inward joy that another has been removed and that we might take his place, such joy is carnal. The real man of God loves and honors those who have been useful servants of God, and he feels his own inability and dependence on God. Before greatness, for Elisha, came humility.

2. An Empowered Elisha

Sorrowful at the loss of his master and friend, and humble in his sense of responsibility, yet quickened with the faith of God, Elisha, took up the mantle which Elijah had dropped "and went back, and stood by the

bank of Jordan." How long he stood there we do not know. What he did while standing there we are not told. The responsibility of his calling no doubt filled his vision. His need of God's power possessed his soul. To face the Jordan in "the spirit and power of Elijah" was no small calling.

Were we to quote from the Latin version (the Vulgate) we could obtain a nice lesson, but it seems to be at variance with the Hebrew from which it was translated. The Vulgate would read, "And he smote the waters, but they did not divide; and he said, 'Where is the God of Elijah even now? And he struck the waters and they were divided hither and thither.'" The thought of this rendering would be that he went confidently to the Jordan, esteeming himself sufficient to be the successor to Elijah. In such a spirit he smote the waters, but nothing happened. Then, remembering the spirit of humble dependence on God that had graced the life of Elijah, in humility he smote the waters again, and they divided. God help us to see that spiritual success comes only to those who are "lowly of heart." A holy boldness of faith is needed, but it must be coupled with humility of spirit and a sense of dependence on God.

3. Skeptical Onlookers

While Elisha was gone to the other side of Jordan with Elijah, the sons of the prophets at Jericho were on the watch to see what the result might be. When Elisha returned, having turned back the waters of Jordan, they exclaimed, "The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha." The evidence was there. They came out to meet Elisha, "and bowed themselves to the ground before him," implying that they saw the power of God with him and were willing to yield the same respect to him that they had for Elijah.

But their unbelief was still very evident. Fifty men of the sons of the prophets had gone out to see Elijah and Elisha go over Jordan. v. 7. It seems to be this same fifty who acknowledged that the spirit of Elijah rested on Elisha. v. 15. It was they who expressed their concern and doubt concerning the person of Elijah. Whether they wished to be appointed to look for the body of Elijah, or whether there were others whom they would like to see appointed, we may not know. They said, "Behold now, there be with thy servants fifty strong men; let them go, we pray thee, and seek thy master." How subtly self sometimes acts. How it likes to hide itself, yet to get its own way. If these men were itching to be appointed, they did not like to say so. They just suggested that fifty be sent, but they

probably were hoping that Elisha would say, "You are good fellows, I appoint you to go and see."

4. Disappointed Doubters

The sons of the prophets urged this plan upon Elisha until it embarrassed him, and he said, "Send." So they went and searched for three days "but found him not." v. 17. They had intimated that Elijah had been caught up all right, but that he could not be sustained in the air; therefore he must have fallen somewhere "upon some mountain, or into some valley." The inference was that God had begun something and was unable to carry it through. He had taken Elijah up, but could not keep him up. Isn't that just like unbelief? If it concedes anything as the work of God, it has to limit it and warn that the final results will be disastrous. The Pentecostal Movement was regarded that way. Men said: "These people are fundamental in their beliefs. They love the Lord, but their emphasis on a Pentecostal experience for 'whosoever will' can only lead to disaster." Time has spoken otherwise. If God begins that thing, He can bring it to a satisfactory conclusion.

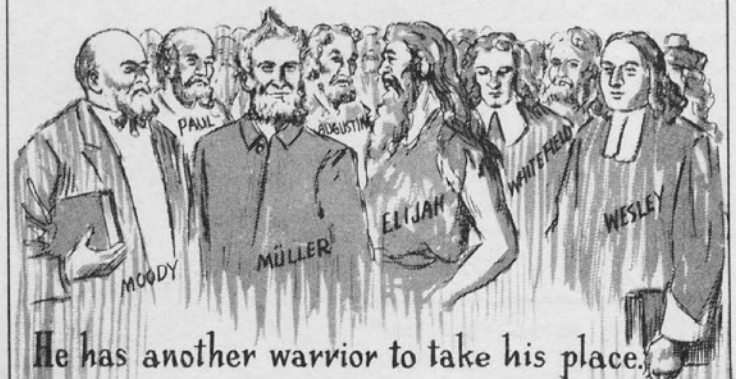
When the sons of the prophets returned to Jericho they had no evidence that the body of Elijah was fallen on some mountain or into some valley. Of course not. His translation was a work of God, and what God begins He is able to carry to completion. May we be "not faithless" (without faith) "but believing."

THIS WEEK'S LESSON

God Calls Elijah Home (lesson for Sunday, September 23). Lesson text: 2 Kings 2:1-13.

OLD SOLDIERS DO DIE, BUT—

For every hero that God calls home—



He has another warrior to take his place.

Fennell

The General Council at a Glance

A FEW PHOTOS

1. Some of the Southern brethren whose hospitality made the Atlanta convention so enjoyable: Pastor Grover Langston, Atlanta; E. E. Noland, Mississippi District Secretary-Treasurer; J. F. Ballard, Mississippi District Superintendent; Evangelist Will Smith; Pastor Ralph Byrd, Atlanta; Pastor J. D. Stevens, Prichard, Ala.

2. Brother and Sister Gayle F. Lewis.

3. Visiting in the lobby of the auditorium.

4. Deeply in thought as the reports were being reviewed: D. B. Ballard and D. P. Holloway.

5. Robert Barrie of Scotland; Elton Hill of California; Pastor E. J. Robison, North Hollywood, Calif.; Evangelist Victor Smith of Texas; and Singing Evangelist Jack Holcomb.

6. Glenn Horst at the pulpit during the Sunday afternoon missionary rally.

7. Victor Trimmer and George Hillestad with visual presentation of Sunday School Calendar for 1952.

8. Vivian Whitford assisting the General Secretary, J. R. Flower, in keeping minutes of the business sessions.

9. Visual presentation during the Sunday School program.

10. Bartlett Peterson, President of Central Bible Institute, and Wayne Fagerstrom, Promotional Director, at the Educational Exhibit.

A FEW FACTS

1. All twelve members of Executive Presbytery re-elected (the first nine on the nominating ballot).

2. J. O. Harrell appointed General Manager of the Gospel Publishing House.

3. Pension Plan provided for all ministers who want it, with provision for churches to contribute to the Retirement Fund if they wish.

4. Resolution concerning the obtaining of Social Security benefits for ministers referred to committee for further study.

5. Formation of Men's Fellowship in each church encouraged, and appointment of an adviser at headquarters authorized.

6. Formal request made by Women's Missionary Councils for recognition as national organization, and for full-time national director.

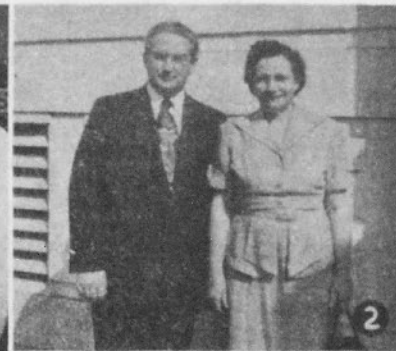
7. Paragraph added to Bylaws recommending to local assemblies that persons who have been divorced and remarried should not serve in "official capacities."

8. All local churches urged to use "Assembly of God" as their church name or to display the fact that they are affiliated with the Assemblies of God.

9. Constitution amended to state that "any certain extent of academic education shall never be a requirement for credentials."

10. Report received from Educational Committee favoring liberal arts college and recommending that uniform Sunday School lessons be supplemented with graded lessons.

11. Chaplaincy Commission of National As-



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Missouri

sociation of Evangelicals named as official agency to represent the Assemblies of God in processing applications for commissions in the armed forces chaplaincy.

12. Up-to-date statistics of General Council given, as follows: 5,854 assemblies, 318,478 members, 7,210 ordained ministers, 6,148 others holding credentials.

13. Enrollment in Assemblies' Sunday Schools increased from 481,045 to 599,872 in past two years.

14. Approximately 100,000 converts reported by Sunday Schools in two-year period.

15. Foreign missionary work reported to be under way in 56 different countries. Staff of 662 missionaries plus 3,519 native ministers. Total of 3,374 foreign assemblies with 220,000 members.

16. Approximately five million dollars given for world missions in past two years.

17. Weekly circulation of Pentecostal Evangel increased from 123,000 to 144,000 in past two years; similar increase reported in circulation of Sunday School literature.

18. Resolution passed concerning religious liberty in Italy.

19. Permission given for any District Council to retain its District C. A. President in office until he passes the age of 38.

20. Provision made for Districts to retain 20% of undesignated Speed-the-Light offerings and to use this money for erecting church buildings for new assemblies.

21. Over 2,400 registered in Atlanta. Next General Council invited to meet in Milwaukee, St. Louis, or Long Beach.

MISSIONS AT HOME

New Fields . . . Deaf Mutes . . . Prisoners
Jews . . . American Indians . . . Alaska
Foreign Language Groups in U.S.A.

"I WAS IN PRISON . . ."

From behind the walls of our state penitentiaries come notes of praise to God and gratitude to those of our fellowship who are making possible the study of correspondence courses and the distribution of Pentecostal literature to men and women "doing time."

We were thrilled as these testimonies came in, and want to share them with you who have been helping us carry on this vital ministry to the "forgotten men of society."

"God Bless You"

Nearing the end of his fourteen-year term for murder, this man found Christ, and wanted to study His Word. Here in his own words is his testimony:

"About sixteen months ago, I accepted God's salvation once again and went all out for Him. I started studying the Word through correspondence from just any and all schools that would supply me with studies. Most of these studies didn't correspond with God's Word, and I just didn't feel right about studying that sort of teaching. So I went to inquiring about some Pentecostal magazines. Finally I came to a fellow inmate, a brother who takes the *Pentecostal Evangel*. In this paper I read the testimony

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With Scripture Texts

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Gospel Publishing House

Springfield 1, Missouri

of an inmate in another prison. This was about seven months ago. I just borrowed the *Evangel* and wrote for the Correspondence course. I was more than glad to receive it, because I did believe in Acts 2:4. These studies have taught me great truths of which I was ignorant, and they have brought me closer to the Lord. I receive some wonderful blessings as I study and meditate upon God's Word: I prayerfully thank all persons who have made it possible for me to receive these wonderful courses through the Home Missions Department. May God richly bless each and every one of you."

Filled With the Spirit

Here is another letter from one who is taking a correspondence course. "I enjoy studying by correspondence, and am ever thankful to God for the opportunity I have in studying His Word in this way under these circumstances.

"Some time ago I wrote you for information on receiving the promised Comforter. After receiving your letter of instruction I claimed the promise with new faith, and received Him on December 8, 1950. God has continued pouring out His blessings upon us to the end that two more have received the Holy Ghost, and two more re-filled, along with several souls saved through our Sunday School. My

cell-mate was baptized in the Spirit the night of December 25th, 1950. We both have classes in our Sunday School and I earnestly covet your prayers that we may give ourselves wholly to Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own precious blood."

"Richest Blessing of My Life"

The following is an excerpt from a letter written by a brother who was reclaimed while in prison: "As I knelt in my cell one night, God met me again in the wondrous power and glory that I had once known. At last I knew again the joy of free and full salvation. He made me know that He wanted me to study His Word, and I did not hesitate to promise to do so. The opportunities to study were limited, and I had no way to finance a course of study. It was not long until I was led of the Spirit to write to Springfield and inquire into the possibilities of securing a study course. God directed that letter to the proper persons and it was not long till I found myself deep in the study of His Word. I can never thank Him and those dear people at the Correspondence School enough for what they have done for me. It has been truly the richest blessing of my life, except for Christ Himself."

We were thrilled to know how this brother is being used of the Lord in witnessing in the

prison where he is. He writes: "I had exhausted many efforts to obtain creditable and sound Christian study courses. . . . The very first *Pentecostal Evangel* I saw at this place carried the good news of the work of the Home Missions Department in offering correspondence Bible Study courses to prisoners, because of the love of many Christians. Today I am delighted to report that a large number of men here have availed themselves of this opportunity to study."

You Can Help

These gratifying letters have only come to us because there have been those of our fellowship who have caught the vision for prison work, and have sent offerings to pay for Bibles, Testaments, and correspondence Bible Study courses to be sent to the boys behind the bars.

At present our funds for prison work are running low; and if we are to continue this ministry, offerings are urgently needed. Surely there are those who will respond now to this need, and help us meet the challenge of liberating souls in spite of prison bars.

Offerings should be sent quickly for the PRISON FUND to the Home Missions Department (Fred Vogler, Director), 434 W. Pacific, Springfield 1, Missouri.



84-Year-Old Cripple Discards Crutches

Ex-Congressman Walks Without Crutches After 59 Long Years

William D. Upshaw, "the Abe Lincoln of the South," served in the U. S. Congress eight years (1919-1927). For the past 59 years he has been unable to walk without crutches.

On February 8, 1951, God performed a miracle of healing in his body. Read this thrilling account in which he tells of that great night and the events leading up to it.

I walked into that meeting loving God and His blessed Word, and leaning on my crutches that had been my "buddies," my inseparable companions, for 59 of my 66 years as a cripple (seven years of which I spent in bed). I walked out that night leaving my crutches on the platform, a song of deliverance ringing in my heart in happy consonance with the shouts of victory from those who thronged about me.

But my story will be a truer story, and far more helpful to those seeking what I now enjoy, if it deals in something besides Hallelujahs and "Hosannahs" to the Lord. It was a stony path that led through Gethsemane to Golgotha's cross and the resurrection that lifted a fallen world up to God.

My father was a farmer, as well as a teacher and general merchant, and when I was eighteen years old I fell on a crosspiece in a wagon frame, fracturing my spine. But, thank God, I was converted just before I was hurt, and the Lord Jesus walked with me through the valley and for seven years He made that vale of tears a lily-strewn path of joy and victory. For He is the Lily of the Valley.

Naturally, I prayed to be healed; but I know now that there was "too much Willie Upshaw" in that prayer. I wanted to be suddenly healed, to dash down to the lot, saddle a mule or a horse, and go galloping to my church at Powder Springs or Lost Mountain or Mount Zion, and run up to the pulpit, stop the pastor with his hands uplifted toward heaven, and shout: "Stop, Brother, I have been healed—let me tell my story!"

Every time I prayed to be immediately healed, the Lord seemed to say to me: "Not yet! I am going to do something through you in this condition that could not be done otherwise—leave it to Me!" He smiled as He said it, and my tranquil heart replied: "Even so, Lord, if it seemeth good in Thy sight. If Thou wilt Thou canst make me whole." I rested under the shadow of His wings. Certain it is that if He had healed me then in my impetuous youth, lying amid the wreckage of my shattered dreams, I could not have written the book that I sold from my rolling chair, earning the money to enter Mercer University at Macon, Georgia; and I never could have taught millions of students my motto: "Let nothing discourage

you—never give up," inspiring their young lives with "a purpose linked to God."

I mention this for the comfort of those who "serve and suffer," showing how God can bless the ministry of sufferers.

"But," said my Bible-loving wife and some of her devout friends, "that contract with the Lord was long ago. He has brought you victoriously through many trials. Now it would honor Him if, after being healed, you would testify for Him everywhere, not only as the personal Saviour of your soul but also as the Great Physician who has healed your body." And I knew it was true.

No one knows how I suffered as I sat under the preaching of various men whom God is using in the great salvation-healing meetings of today. Evangelist Wilbur Ogilvie, under God, prayed away the incipient cancer on my face two years ago, after medical help had failed; but still I could not "take hold and walk." I kept praying for "appropriating faith."

Then came God's humble servant, William Branham, and his co-worker, Ern Baxter. I sat entranced under Brother Baxter's preaching still praying for "appropriating faith," but held in bondage somehow by that word which I had received from the Lord sixty-odd years ago.

Others were being healed all around me. Then Brother Branham lifted his hands and said, "Everyone lay your hands on your loved one as we pray." A great volume of prayer ascended throughout that congregation of more than three thousand. Angels were hovering near! I knew my precious wife and her "prayer warriors" were wrapping me in prayer. I remembered how she said: "When you are trying to lead a sinner to Christ, you say, 'Accept, confess Christ, and step out—He will do the rest and bring the joy of answered prayer.'" That was the secret.

Just then Brother Branham said, "The Congressman is healed." My heart leaped. I stepped out and accepted the Lord as my Healer. I laid aside my crutches and started toward the pulpit. The bottom of heaven fell out! "Heaven came down our souls to greet, and glory crowned the Mercy Seat."

Now at eighty-four, with no gray hairs and no crutches, I begin a new life, joyously testifying that my Saviour not only can save the souls of wicked men and women, but also can heal the sick, the maimed, the deaf,

the blind (Matthew 11:5), bringing heaven down into the hearts of those who believe.—by William D. Upshaw, 2524 Fourteenth Street, Santa Monica, California.

SHE DIED FOR THEM

Years ago, a terrible blizzard came to North Dakota. A little country school was dismissed early because of the blizzard. Hazel Miner started home with her two little brothers. The blizzard became so bad that they could go no farther. Hazel arranged some shelter for the small boys. She wrapped them in her coat, then she herself lay over them to help keep them warm. Many hours later, when they were rescued, the two little boys were safe and well; but their sister, who was lying over them, had frozen to death!

Hazel gave her life for her two little brothers. The Lord Jesus gave His life for you upon the Cross. Will you take Him as your personal Saviour?



FLOOD VICTIMS ASSEMBLE IN CITY PARK FOR MEETINGS

KANSAS CITY, KANS., August 26—It was raining this morning. Surely there wouldn't be many at the pavilion today, we thought—but to our surprise and delight quite a crowd gathered. It was the regular Sunday morning service of the Victoria Tabernacle congregation. The assembly has not been able to meet in the church building since the flood struck six weeks ago.

The flock has been scattered to a large extent, but quite a number of families are holding on. Their homes were destroyed or badly damaged. Their clothes were ruined. Most of their belongings were lost. But their faith still is anchored in God, and they are holding their meetings in one of the city parks by permission of the Mayor.

We looked about for our beloved pastor and his wife—Brother and Sister Herschel Barnett. There they were, a worried look on their faces. Were they discouraged? No, but they were concerned about the needs of the people. How they longed to have a building where they could meet until the church has been repaired.

A widow sat huddled in a blanket. Her little home was gone; her coat was gone, too. Mothers were wrapping blankets around their children. It was cold and damp in the park this rainy day, and the children had no coats to wear. Some women were more fortunate; though they had no coats of their own, they had their husbands' jackets!

We noticed that Vicki Barnett, the pastor's little daughter, had a grown-up's jacket tucked around her. Her big eyes looked around in amazement, wondering why everything was so different since that Friday, July 13th. Their parsonage was ruined in the disaster and they are living with others, but the faith that the pastor and his wife are showing is an inspiration to their people.

Every sermon is encouraging. The people sing, "Though God slay me yet I'll trust Him." A favorite chorus is, "I know the Lord will make a way for me."

During the testimony time, someone said: "I know of a two-room apartment; is there someone who wants it?" A poor widow with seven children said she would take it, but the rent was beyond her means.

The pastor said, "Take it; we as a church will stand by you." And the tears flowed as the people praised God and worshiped Him who is a very present help in time of need.

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CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL

434 W. Pacific St., Springfield 1, Mo.

The pastor asked, "Where is Sister —? Has anyone heard?" He is concerned for each member of his scattered flock. Then he said, "Let us pause now and pray for Sister —; she is a widow and her home is gone

We thank God for Brother and Sister Barnett and all who are remembering the flood victims. Help has been coming. "Our Pentecostal brethren are wonderful!" the pastor said. The flood victims are grateful—but the needs are greater than most people realize. Many are homeless. Pray for them, and do whatever you can to assist them.—Mrs. D. Kinney, Kansas City, Kansas.

(Note: Offerings may be sent to the Home Missions Department, 434 W. Pacific St., Springfield 1, Missouri, marked "Flood Relief.")

NEW CHURCH SURVIVES FIRE— "A MODERN DAY MIRACLE"

DAYTON, OHIO—In March, 1950, a small band of believers met together for prayer meetings in a home here. They had a desire to build a new work for God. They prayed and sought the Lord, and this was the beginning of a chain of events that I would like to call a "Modern Day Miracle."

The blessing of God was with them from the very beginning. In April they moved into the I. O. O. F. Hall. I was invited to preach for them the first Sunday they were in the hall. I was pastoring in Chillicothe, Ohio, at this time. Periodically I heard of the progress of this new work.

In October, 1950, I accepted the invitation to come to Dayton to be their pastor. They had begun with 20 in Sunday School and now the attendance was over 100. The Lord had also blessed them financially, and they had several thousand dollars for a building program.

In November we signed an option to buy the East Fourth Street Baptist church for \$13,000 cash, as the Baptists were building a new church. We paid \$2,000 on the option and God had led us to an individual who was willing to lend us the rest of the money.

Early in the morning of December 31, 1950, we were aroused from sleep and told that this Baptist church was on fire. It was a sad hour for us, even though we had not yet begun to occupy the church. The damage was estimated at \$15,000. After we had estimates from a number of contractors, we decided to complete the purchase of the church. We met with the board of the Baptist church and obtained the building at a salvage price of \$2,900.

The men got together and began cleaning and painting the building. By February, 1951, we were able to move into the Sunday School auditorium, which seats 400.

It is marvelous how God has met us financially in repairing the church. One business man donated 200 song books; another wanted to know what we needed as he also wanted to make a donation. The workmen on the job did more than their contract called for. One of them said, "It is the talk of the town how God is blessing this church." The building is not finished yet, but it has been appraised at \$27,500 and we have an indebtedness of only \$6,000.

We purchased a Sunday School bus, and painted and repaired it until it looks like new. For the first six months of this year the Sunday School averaged 154 in attendance.

In less than a year's time God enabled this group of people to move from the cottage prayer meeting into the hall, and then to a beautiful church home of their own.—Irwin W.

Philips, Pastor, Calvary Gospel Tabernacle, 1420 E. Fourth St., Dayton, Ohio.

LOCAL CHURCHES GROW THROUGH UNION MEETINGS

YAKIMA, WASH.—"Of all the meetings we have attended, this is the greatest visitation of old-time Pentecostal power we have ever witnessed," declared many of the ministers and people who attended the union tent meeting conducted here by Evangelist A. A. Allen. Denominational lines were forgotten as ministers and people of the Assemblies of God, Pentecostal Holiness, Church of God, and other Full Gospel churches worked and prayed side by side for the salvation of souls, and deliverance of those oppressed of the devil.

On the last afternoon of the meeting the ministers stood together in the baptismal tank under the tent and baptized 75 converts in water.

From the very first service on July 4, the mighty power of God began to move, and signs followed as the Word was preached in power. The gifts of the Spirit were manifested in the meetings. The Yakima Valley was stirred and many visitors from other states took the fire of revival with them as they returned home.

Our faith was inspired as we witnessed the lame walk, the deaf hear, and various manners of sickness healed. Brother Allen has the pastors' work and problems at heart. He encouraged the people to be faithful in the support of the local churches with their tithes and attendance. The Sunday night offerings were given to the local churches.

Our own church, the Full Gospel Tabernacle, was greatly blessed by these meetings. Many of our people were healed. One was healed of sugar diabetes, one of eczema, another of cancer, others of nervous troubles and various diseases. I had known about these cases before the meeting, and I know them to be healed now. The Sunday School has increased 40 per cent. The first Sunday after the meeting, a number of new members were received into the church.

The other co-operating churches benefited in similar ways from this meeting.—Pastor B. V. Jones Chairman.

AMONG THE ASSEMBLIES

SALLISAW, OKLA.—Evangelist Everett Hogan of Greenwood, Ark. was with us for three weeks. Nineteen were saved and a Baptist preacher received the baptism of the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in other tongues.—D. C. Callahan, Pastor.

ALBUQUERQUE, N. MEX.—Several months ago we felt the leading of the Lord to start a new work on the south side of Albuquerque. God has blessed us and we have been able to gather a small group of people together in a tent. We averaged 35 in Sunday School for the past two months. The Rosenquist Evangelistic party was with us in June and several people were saved.—Everett Smith, Pastor, Valley Gospel Tabernacle.

SERVING OUR SERVICEMEN

We are in touch with a large number of pastors who stand ready to minister to our servicemen, wherever they may be. If you have a loved one in service and you desire a pastor to contact him, send us his name and address and we will forward it to a minister in his area.

Or if you are an Assemblies of God minister located near a military establishment and you are willing to contact the servicemen in your area, let us know. Our office is a link between the servicemen who need spiritual help and the ministers who can give it.

We write to a long list of servicemen regularly, and send them gospel literature.

This is only one of the ways in which we are serving our servicemen.

Kindly address all letters and offerings for this work to the SERVICEMEN'S DIVISION, C. A. Department, 434 W. Pacific St., Springfield 1, Missouri.

PAW PAW, MICH.—In August we had special meetings with Robert Palmer of St. Louis, Missouri. Two were saved, three backsliders returned to the Lord, and two were filled with the Holy Spirit. We were all drawn closer to the Lord. Many came from surrounding towns and other churches. The services were held in the basement which has just been completed. The people of the town were made to realize that a full gospel church is in their midst. Lyle Phillips is pastor.—Frank R. Leslie, Church Secretary.

(Near) CLIO, ALA.—We had a wonderful outpouring of the Holy Spirit (June 10—July 4) in a meeting with W. T. Wilkins, pastor of the assembly in Troy, Ala. There were 97 saved, and 51 received the baptism of the Holy Ghost as on the day of Pentecost.

People for miles around attended the meeting each night, and many were unable to get inside. A number have been saved and filled with the Spirit since the close of the meeting.—Clarence Hagler, Pastor, Blue Springs Assembly.

TULSA, OKLA.—Vacation Bible School has become a tradition here in Faith Tabernacle, but each year the problem of transporting the children to and from the school was ever before us. For some time we had felt that adult religious education had been sadly neglected, so our fine staff of workers solved two problems at once by having V.B.S. at night.

We planned our school this year as usual, except that the time was set for 7:00 p.m. The parents were urged to bring their children and remain for the adult classes. Stanley Horton, instructor at C.B.I., was our adult teacher. It was a blessing to see the enthusiasm with which the adult class gathered around the Word. Brother Horton's teaching actually brought a spirit of revival to us all.—T. E. Hollingsworth, Assistant Pastor.

PRICE, UTAH—We had a meeting with Evangelist R. E. Hencke of California. Out here in Utah, the stronghold of the so-called prophet Joseph Smith, a moving of God of this measure can be called a real revival.

God was good to us and we praise Him for five who sought the Lord for salvation, and one who was baptized with the Holy Spirit. Among those healed were a number of rheumatism and arthritis sufferers, several with ruptures, one with hemorrhoids, many with chronic headaches, and others with heart trouble.

Recently a Japanese-American lady was saved, filled with the Holy Spirit, and healed of a heart ailment which had kept her confined to her room for several years. Now she is able to work again. May God be praised!—Henry E. Mock, Pastor.

COMING MEETINGS

Notices should reach us three weeks in advance, due to the fact that the Evangelist is made up 18 days before the date which appears upon it.

AUBURN, N. Y.—First Assembly of God, Sept. 30—Oct. 7; Evangelist David Leigh, E. Orange, N. J.—by L. L. Miles, Pastor.

ASHTABULA, OHIO—Assembly of God, meeting in progress; Evangelist and Mrs. Stanley P. MacPherson.—by R. J. Ferguson, Pastor.

FLINT, MICH.—Riverside Tabernacle; Sept. 9—23, Evangelist C. S. Tubby. Sept. 25—27, Sol Hoopii.—by M. A. Jollay, Pastor.

TYLER, TEX.—Union tent meeting (3,000 seats), 900 W. Irwin, Sept. 20—Oct. 14; A. A. Allen Evangelistic Party. Full Gospel churches of area co-operating.—by M. L. Fauss, Chairman, 802 W. Second St., Tyler, Tex.

KANSAS S. S. CONVENTIONS, Sept. 17—Oct. 4. Raymond White, National Sunday School Representative, speaker. Series of 15 conventions. Services at 2 and 7:30 p.m.—By Paul Witten, Kansas Sunday School Director.

BURLINGTON, VT.—Sectional Fellowship Meeting and C. A. Rally, Oct. 1; speaker, A. W. Earle, District C. A. President. Services 3 and 7:30 p.m. Evangelistic campaign, Oct. 1—9; Grady I. Fannin, Assistant Superintendent of New England.—by Ralph W. Peterson, Jr., Pastor.

CANEY, KANS.—Sept. 18—; Evangelist Gerald Eden and party, Coffeyville, Kans. (W. C. Crowder is Pastor.)

CLEARWATER, FLA.—Sept. 23—; Evangelist Eugene Smith, Cheyenne, Wyo. (D. N. Asbury, Jr., is Pastor.)

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.—West Side Tabernacle, meeting in progress; Evangelist and Mrs. F. R. Davidson. (Thomas Paino is Pastor.)

SALEM, OHIO—Assembly of God, W. State and Howard Sts., Sept. 16—30; Evangelist Erla Mae LaDow. (C. W. Hahn is Pastor.)

BRISTOL, VA.—Sept. 11—25 or longer; Evangelist and Mrs. O. E. Gaddis. (J. E. Rasnake is Pastor.)

MISHAWAKA, IND.—Assembly of God, meeting in progress; the Musical Vanderploegs, Toledo, Ohio. (Fred L. Deckard is Pastor.)

DALLAS, TEX.—Mt. Auburn Assembly, Sept. 23—Oct. 7 or longer; Evangelist David R. (Pete) Pulley.—By Lonnie R. Mullen, Pastor.

SCHUYLKILL HAVEN, PA.—First Assembly of God, Oct. 9—23 or longer; Evangelist and Mrs. Arthur E. Davis, Shamokin, Pa.—by Clifton Wilkins, Pastor.

WYCKOFF, N. J.—Assembly of God, Sept. 30—Oct. 14; Evangelist Norman Love, Corning, N. Y.—by Frederick Smith, Pastor.

CALAHAN, COLO.—Meeting in progress; Evangelist and Mrs. Robby Ray, Fort Smith, Ark. (Jimmy Gyles is Pastor.)

OTIS, COLO.—Assembly of God, Oct. 2—14; Evangelists Virgil and Edythe Warens of California.—by R. C. Pagel, Pastor.

SHERBURN, MINN.—Meeting in progress; Mathan Musical Evangelists' of Kansas City, Mo. (Gene Nicely is Pastor.)

RAPID CITY, S. DAK.—First Assembly of God, Sept. 16—; Langford Party of Canada.—by Bernard Ridings, Pastor.

EL CAJON, CALIF.—Evangelistic Tabernacle, Sept. 18—; Evangelist Vernon Murray, Los Angeles.—by S. E. Linzey, Pastor.

LAUREL, MISS.—First Assembly of God, Sept. 12—30; Evangelist Jonas E. Miller, Sarasota, Fla.—by Nolan D. Lee, Pastor.

TEXAHOMA, OKLA.—Assembly of God, meeting in progress; Evangelist Grover Hazel.—by Glen Hannan, Pastor.

GRAPEVINE, TEX.—Sept. 24—Oct. 7 or longer; Evangelist and Mrs. Edward Willis, Fort Worth, Tex. (C. O. Wiley is Pastor.)

GARDEN CITY, KANS.—Oct. 2—; Evangelist Gerald Eden and party, Coffeyville, Kans. (Glen Ahlf is Pastor.)

DALLAS, OREG.—Assembly of God, cor. Birch and Stump Sts., month of October; Evangelists Frederick and Sarah Byers.—by Alfred R. Brown, Pastor.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.—Glad Tidings Temple, Sept. 30—Oct. 14; Evangelist William L. Andrews of Seattle, Wash.—by Leland R. Keys, Pastor.

TOPPENISH, WASH.—Union meeting at City Armory, Oct. 7—21; Evangelist Robert Fierro, San Jose, Calif. For accommodations write Warren D. Combs, 703 S. Toppenish Ave., Toppenish, Wash.

ERIE, PA.—Glad Tidings Assembly, 1612 Sassafras St., Sept. 25—; Evangelist and Mrs. D. Fred Leader.—by C. Eugene Bell, Pastor.

SCRANTON, PA.—Prayer Conference of Eastern District, Scranton Pentecostal Church, 825 Green Ridge St., Oct. 9—11 (not Oct. 2—4 as previously announced).

ELIZABETH, N. J.—Trinity Pentecostal Church, Sept. 30—Oct. 14; Evangelist Lillian Overstreet, Philadelphia, Pa.—by Allan A. Swift, Pastor.

CINCINNATI, OHIO—Revival Tabernacle, 3647 Montgomery Rd., meeting in progress; Evangelist W. O. Ziegler, Fall City, Nebr.—by Clarence A. Kindschy, Pastor.

JASONVILLE, IND.—Assembly of God, Sept. 16—30 or longer; Evangelist and Mrs. T. L. Vibbert, Springfield, Mo. (Mrs. Zella Anthony is Pastor.)

LOMETA, TEX.—First Assembly of God, Sept. 23—Oct. 14; Evangelist and Mrs. E. C. Lagmay, San Jose, Calif.—by Vernon L. Johnson, Pastor.

ALBANY, N. Y.—Sept. 19—Oct. 7; Evangelist Rudy Cerullo. Night services 7:30 p.m. at Fourth Presbyterian Church, 181 N. Pearl St. Day services 2:30 p. m. at Italian Christian Church, 153 Jay St. Prayer for the sick.—by Morris S. Williams, Chairman.

NORTHWEST DISTRICT S. S. RALLIES AND SEMINAR—Sept. 28, Port Angeles; Oct. 2, Yakima, Stone Church; Oct. 3, Walla Walla; Oct. 4, Spokane, First Assembly. Seminar for District Representatives, Oct. 1 and 2, at Yakima. Paul Copeland, National Sunday School Director, speaker.—by Vernon W. Skaggs, District Director.

TEXAS DISTRICT BIBLE CONFERENCES—Sept. 25 to Dec. 7. Services the first day, 10:30 a.m., 2:30 and 7:30 p.m.; services the second day, 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Yoakum Section, Sept. 25—26, Victoria; San Antonio Section, Sept. 27—28, Seguin; San Angelo Section, Oct. 2—3, First Assembly, San Angelo; Wichita Falls Section, Oct. 4—5, First Assembly, Wichita Falls; Fort Worth Section, Oct. 9—10, Hemphill Assembly, Fort Worth; Dallas Section, Oct. 23—24, Victory Assembly, Dallas; Greenville Section, Oct. 25—26, Full Gospel Tabernacle, McKenney; Paris Section, Oct. 30—31, DeKalb.

For information write Texas District Council, 1200 Sycamore, Waxahachie, Tex.—by J. O. Savell, District Superintendent.

TESTED—BUT TRIUMPHANT

(Continued from page five)

and God-hater that the world has ever known he is going to seek to write an end to the chapter of God's kingdom. But God by His mighty power will rend the heavens and roll them back like a scroll and across the sky He will write the word, "therefore." The Antichrist will be dashed into the lake of fire and brimstone, and the false prophet with him. The devil will be bound and thrust into the bottomless pit. And God will begin a wonderful new chapter in which the kingdoms of this world will become the kingdoms of our God and of His Christ, and He shall reign for ever and ever. All tyranny shall be put down, all wickedness shall be swept away, and the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.

Yes, God is going to have the last word in this matter. When the devil is finally and forever put down, and his kingdom swallowed up in the lake of fire, the kingdom of our God shall unfold in all its infinite beauty and perfection, and God's eternal chapter of universal holiness shall begin, never to be marred by the enemy or hindered by his malice.

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persecuted spread the message of Christ everywhere. Its spiritual condition was so fine that circumstances did not block its progress. The child of God is never at the mercy of circumstances. There is a great deal of truth in the little verse that says:

"One ship sails east and one sails west
By the selfsame winds that blow.
It's the set of the sail, and not the gale,
That determines which way they go."

Set your sail in the direction of God's will and you will find that no gale of the devil can wreck your boat. By God's grace you can actually transform calamity into opportunity.

Bud Robinson once said, when he was praying: "Lord, You know about my circumstances," and the Lord answered, "Bud, will you explain circumstances to God?" Bud said: "I couldn't explain circumstances to God, so I quit talking about circumstances." That would be a good thing for us to do. Let us realize that God is the Master of circumstances and that any difficulty He permits to come our way is only a challenge to test us and see whether we will rise above it and do God's will.

Some people are always waiting for more favorable circumstances. They would preach if they had a fine church and a good parsonage and a good salary guaranteed them. They would go all-out for God if this or that circumstance were altered. Well, they will have to wait a long time. If you mean to do something for God, begin right where you are. Take hold of your circumstances and transform them into opportunities. Take the challenge of the devil at its face value and triumph over him in the name of the Lord. God will give you victory and help you to succeed.

The Pentecostal Movement is God's answer to rationalism and formalism and modernism. Rationalism thought it had written an end to the progress of God's everlasting kingdom. It thought the power of God's Word had been broken. Rationalism tried to tear God's Book to pieces with its pen-knife, but God took up His great pen and wrote the word "therefore" in a thousand tongues. He raised up a people who believe His Book from Genesis to Revelation and who are determined to preach every part of it.

When this Pentecostal revival broke out they told us that it would blow over in a few months. It did. It blew all over the world, and it is still blowing the world around, a mighty flame of fire, bringing salvation, healing, spiritual power, holiness, and hope to earth's perishing millions. After half a century it is still burning on, spreading the good news of Christ, proclaiming the message of His second coming, offering rich fellowship to all, and moving on under the blessing of God, knowing that victory is assured through the blood of the Lamb and the power of the Holy Ghost.

THE MINISTRY OF TEARS

(Continued from page four)

missions, but few of them know anything about the ministry of tears, the compassion of Christ poured through us for a world that is lost. The tragedy of it is that we know it is lost, but we are not greatly concerned.

I just came home from India three months

ago. I couldn't eat without weeping when I first came home. I would bow my head to thank God for the food and begin to cry. Before my eyes came the vision of things I had seen in 7,000 miles of travel in India. I thought of the 2,000,000 homeless. I thought about the hundreds of thousands with one pitiful meal of rice a day. I thought about the sights in the railroad stations when my train would pull in at night. One can hardly make his way through the stations at night for the homeless masses sleeping on the concrete floor of the railroad stations.

I thought about the pathetic back streets I saw, where people by the hundreds gather around a little charcoal fire when night shades fall. When the babes are to be put to bed there is no bed. They lay them in the street. This goes on all the time. The thing that breaks my heart is that nobody cares. In all those months in India I never saw any welfare agencies doing anything for those people. Those who have money are indifferent, like the rich man in Luke 16. He fared sumptuously every day but he wouldn't give a crust of bread to the beggar at his gate. Oh, friends, the love of Christ should constrain us. If we have been drinking of the Spirit of our Lord, we should know something about the ministry of tears.

I was working in a lumber mill years ago and I would spend my noon hours with the Lord. I was in a grip of prayer one day. The Spirit possessed me and I prayed and wept in tongues, but I didn't know what the burden was about. The intensity of the anguish deepened upon me, and I began to detect that the Spirit was saying through me one word more and more, and that word was "Charley." With travail and anguish I prayed for "Charley," and as I prayed there came before my mind's eye a man who worked with me in the factory. His name was Charley. He was a very evil man. He was grouchy and didn't have a friend in the plant. My burden seemed to be for Charley.

This happened to me for about three days, and then it left me. I didn't feel led to say anything to Charley. Two or three weeks later we were in revival meetings at our church, and one night I had a great surprise. The evangelist gave the altar call and a number of people responded. The evangelist was about to dismiss the audience when someone asked permission to say a few words. I could hardly believe my eyes as Charley came to the platform. His eyes were red but his face was shining. He stood before that crowd of four or five hundred people and said, "Friends, I thank God for His great salvation. I wasn't saved at this altar tonight. I was saved before I came here, but the Spirit of God told me to come forward and make a public confession of my faith in Christ."

He said, "I was saved in my home two nights ago, and here is how it happened. Lately my life had grown so miserable that I didn't want to live any more. Two nights ago, after I got home from work, I put a gun in my pocket and climbed up into the hayloft in the barn fully determined to end my life. As I began to raise the gun to my head the Lord Jesus Christ appeared to me. I fell on my knees, and instead of eternal death I found everlasting life."

Do you think my experience in the lumber-



The Romance of Doorbells

By Eugene Dinsmore Dolloff

In a manner that is as engaging as it is informing, the author shows that pastoral calling does not need to be what it so often is—the bane of the minister's existence. By the adoption of a few simple measures, fully explained, "this business of ringing doorbells" can be transformed from drudgery to romance. Each call can be made a new and thrilling spiritual adventure.

Dr. Dolloff does not write as a mere theorist. The suggestions which he offers have come out of his own experience as a pastor. The reader quickly discovers how largely faithful visiting has contributed to the fruitfulness of Dr. Dolloff's pastorates; and in so doing, he perceives how he himself, by adjusting his schedule, can find time for more pastoral calling.

In addition to showing the importance of pastoral calling, this book tells, in lively and entertaining fashion, when and how these calls should be made. It explains the simple techniques which Dr. Dolloff himself employs and finds so profitable.

This is the most practical and complete discussion of parish-wide, pastoral calling ever to have been published. It anticipates all the questions which the young minister will ask, and answers them clearly; at the same time, it takes full and sympathetic account of the complex situation faced by the older and more experienced minister in a large church. Underlying every suggestion and imparting significance to every plan is a sincere and warmhearted evangelistic purpose.

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One Million Calls for Christ in October

October is Enlargement Month for Assemblies of God Sunday Schools. The month has been set aside for a concerted effort to make new friends for Christ and His kingdom. Theme for the 1951 campaign is:

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Enlarge for Advancement

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The challenge of the campaign is to visit at least a million homes in an effort to gain Sunday School members. The Sunday School Department of the Gospel Publishing House has prepared the supplies you need to carry on an effective Enlargement Campaign. It offers free of charge a 16-page booklet which contains week-by-week suggestions for the Campaign. It has printed Sunday School tracts for distribution. Church bulletins, pencils, rulers, and other give-away items have been prepared especially for this Campaign.

For your free sample packet of Enlargement Campaign supplies write immediately to the Sunday School Department, Gospel Publishing House, Springfield 1, Missouri.

Important Announcement

A recent issue of "Christian Life" Magazine featured the Pentecostal Movement in a way that caused a great deal of favorable comment among our people. It was a photographic interview with our General Secretary, J. R. Flower, entitled, "Fifty Years of Signs and Wonders." The article was published in recognition of the fiftieth anniversary of the twentieth-century outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon all flesh.

We have obtained permission to reproduce this article and it will be one of the features of our special "Get-Acquainted" Issue of October 7th. It is just the article you would like to hand to your neighbors and friends during the Enlargement Campaign to introduce them to our Pentecostal Movement. In easy-to-read question-and-answer style it tells who we are and what we believe.

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yard had anything to do with Charley's experience in the hayloft? I am sure it had. It was the ministry of tears. By the Holy Ghost the burden of that man's soul had come to me, not because I was so pious or spiritual but simply because I was open to God.

Perhaps the reason I feel so strongly on this subject is because I am a product of this very ministry. We talk about Mother's prayers having great effectiveness. Why do Mother's prayers have something not found in most other prayers? Does God give special consideration to Mother's prayers? He couldn't do that and be without respect of persons. The reason a mother's prayers are so potent is because a mother gets her heart into them. She feels it. When she pleads for her unsaved children it isn't just words. It is the anguish of the heart.

A scientist can take a mother's tear into his laboratory and analyze it. He can say the tear is composed of one part water, one part mucous, and one part salt. That is all the chemist can discover. But the mother who shed that tear can tell him how much more there is in that tear. There is anguish in that tear. There is heartache, longing, yearning untold. So I say the reason I feel so strongly on this thing is because I am a product of the ministry of tears.

I was saved in a Pentecostal revival meeting, but I don't remember a word the preacher said. My mother's prayers had brought me under such conviction that I found myself suffocated until I could get relief and release from my sins.

I have three brothers, all younger than I. Back in those days when I was in my mid-teens and unsaved, we four boys slept in two double beds in an upstairs room. Mother and Father had a bedroom downstairs. The year before I was saved I grew increasingly incorrigible. It was breaking the hearts of my father and mother day by day. I was running with the wrong crowd, loving the world of sin and all it offered me. Sometimes I would get in at one, two, and three o'clock in the morning. Fifteen or twenty minutes after I would get in, I would be awakened to find that my mother had left her bed downstairs and had tiptoed upstairs in the darkness. She would quietly kneel between the two big double beds in which her four boys slept, and such agony of praying I never heard. Even though she tried to stifle it, the anguish of her soul was a horrible sound to me. I would cover my ears and pile the pillow over my head to get away from that sound.

My name was in Mother's prayers. She didn't preach at me. She didn't nag at me. But she exercised the ministry of tears, and this boy was snatched as a brand from the burning, out of the darkness of sin into the kingdom of our God.

Saints of God, this is for everybody—no matter what age you are, no matter what spiritual status is yours. Your education, your background has nothing to do with it. This ministry is open to every child of God.