The Pentecostal

NOT BY MIGHT, NOR BY POWER, BUT BY MY SPIRIT, SAITH THE LORD

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

October 1, 1961

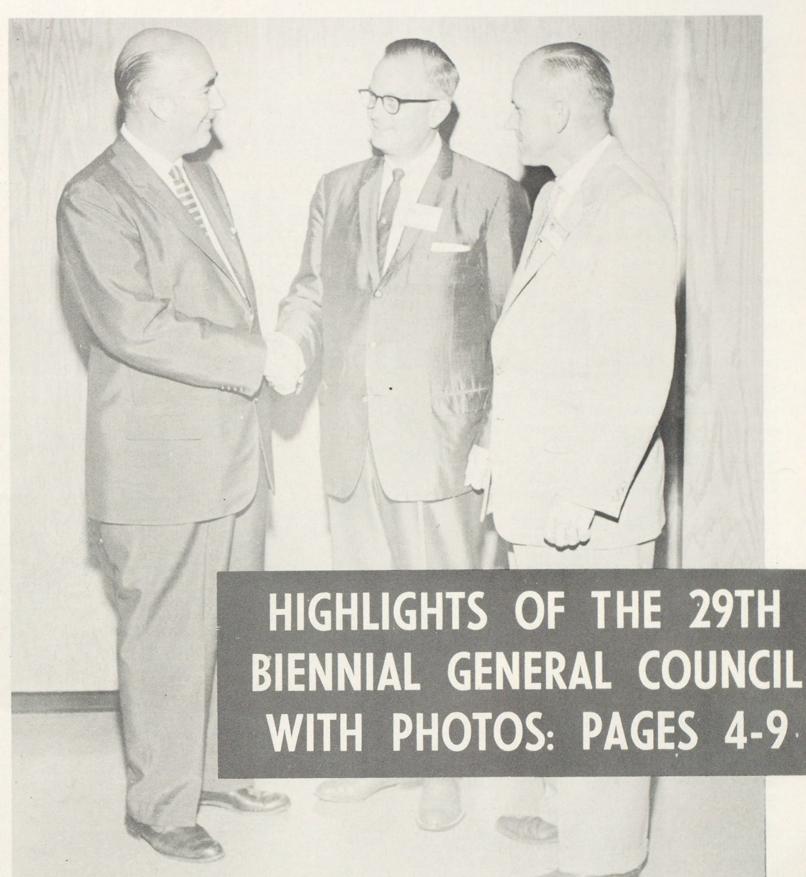


PHOTO BY ROMAYNE HERTWECK

N. D. DAVIDSON, ORGEON DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT (LEFT), AND R. J. CARLSON, NORTHWEST DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT (RIGHT), CONGRATULATE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT T. F. ZIMMERMAN ON HIS RE-ELECTION AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND SPIRITUAL LEADER OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD.

PUBLISHED CONTINUOUSLY SINCE 1913

OCTOBER 1, 1961

NUMBER 2473

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We believe the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God. WE BELIEVE that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. WE BELIEVE in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal future return to this earth in power and glory to rule over the nations. WE BELIEVE that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Christ.

WE BELIEVE that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation. WE BELIEVE that the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body in answer to believing prayer. WE BELIEVE that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who ask for it. WE BELIEVE in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy life. WE BELIEVE in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation.

Average paid circulation in August 171,929 copies weekly

A Pentecostal Christian

I want you to meet Saint Anonymous. He is a Pentecostal Christian. By that I mean he has been thoroughly converted, delivered from worldly habits, baptized with the Holy Ghost, and is walking up that path of righteousness that leads to everlasting glory.

If you will observe him closely you will see in him the Bible evidences

of a Spirit-filled life.

Saint Anonymous has the "upper room" experience. No, he has never visited Jerusalem and so he has not been actually in that "upper room" where the twelve disciples and scores of other followers of Jesus, including His mother Mary, were "all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance" (Acts 2:4). But he has had an experience similar to theirs. He knows what it means to yield every part of his being to the Lord, so that the Holy Spirit can come in and take control even of his vocal organs, causing him to speak in "other tongues" and magnify God for His wonderful works.

We call him a Pentecostal Christian because he has had a Pentecostal experience—an experience such as those early Christians underwent on that Day of Pentecost in Jerusalem so long ago. No doubt you have heard many people testify to having that experience. They are very happy about it—and no wonder. It is a glorious privilege to feel the blessed Spirit of God upon one's body and to know that He, the Third Person of the Trinity, has condescended to indwell this temple of clay. But some folk dwell so much upon this Baptism of the Holy Spirit that one would think they had reached their GOAL, when in reality they have only reached a GATEWAY. Saint Anonymous knows better than that. He knows that the Baptism is not an end, but rather a beginning. It is the beginning of a truly Spirit-filled life. And he is not the kind who would stop at the Jordan and be content to splash about forever in its refreshing waters. He would set his face toward the fertile fields of Canaan and not rest until he had tasted for himself the luscious "grapes of Eshcol" and had enjoyed for himself the "milk and honey" of the Promised Land.

Saint Anonymous is a happy person. He is a good advertisement for the gospel. One day he read those verses in Ephesians where the apostle says: "Be filled with the Spirit; speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your hearts to the Lord"-and he started doing just that. Even though he couldn't always stay on key, he began to sing or whistle the songs of Zion as he went about his daily duties, and somehow it made his burdens lighter and made him more conscious of his Saviour's love. It made a difference to the people who knew him, too. His presence became a benediction. Somehow he carries with him the atmosphere of heaven where there's nothing but peace, and love, and joy-where the air is filled with music as the redeemed give praise to the Lamb of God who loved us so much He gave Himself for us.

And Saint Anonymous is a practical person. He realizes that the world is filled with people who need the Saviour, and so he is always alert for opportunities to witness for Christ. He learned from his pastor that just before the Lord returned to heaven He said to His disciples,

(Continued on page twenty-three)

THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL is published weekly by the Gospel Publishing House, 434 West Pacific Street, Springfield 1, Missouri, U.S.A.—J. O. Harrell, General Manager. ADDRESSES IN THE U.S. AND U. S. POSSESSIONS: SINGLE SUBSCRIPTION—\$2.50 for one year—\$4.75 for two years—\$7.00 for three years. SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER—\$1.00 for twenty weeks. BUNDLE RATE (minimum of four subscriptions, all mailed to the same address)—65e for 13 weeks, \$2.25 for a year, on each subscription. POREIGN LANDS (except Canada and PUAS countries*) SINGLE SUBSCRIPTION—\$2.50 for one year—\$8.25 for two years—\$8.25 for two years—\$12.25 for three. BUNDLE RATE (minimum of four subscription.

*PUAS—U. S. rates apply to all countries in the Postal Union of the Americas See your Postmaster for a list of these.

Printed in the U.S.A. Second class postage paid at Springfield, Missouri.

FOREIGN LANDS (except Canada and PUAS countries*) SINGLE SUBSCRIPTION—\$4.25 for one year—\$8.25 for two years—\$12.25 for three. BUNDLE RATE (minimum of four subscriptions, all mailed to the same address)—91c for thirteen weeks, \$3.50 for a year, on each subscription.

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Where Are We Now



Session of the United Nations General Assembly (photo by A. Devaney)

in Biblical Prophecy?

By R. M. Riggs

Can we know what is in the future? Will God reveal coming events to His children?

Yes, it is possible to inform ourselves concerning the portent of this present hour and to know what events to expect in the near future. In the Bible God has given us a revelation of future events.

"We have also a far more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place" (2 Peter 1:19).

In the confusion, complexity, and Stygian darkness of this hour it is not necessary for Christians to walk in darkness. For the Bible says, "But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief" (1 Thessalonians 5:4).

"Known unto God are all His works from the beginning of the world, (Acts 15:18). He has written out every detail as in a book and knows the sequence of future events as we can know the events of the past. And He has promised by His Spirit to "show [us] things to come" (John 16:13). "Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets" (Amos 3:7). We too are taken into His counsels, for "the secret of the Lord is with them that fear him" (Psalm 25:24).

There are five lines of thought in

Bible truth that can give real light as to where we are, at the present time, in God's unfolding plan. The first of these pertains to the revival of the Roman Empire. Possibly we should rather say the establishment of a great universal empire such as the Roman and Babylonian, Grecian, and Medo-Persian empires of past centuries. That such a world empire will exist at the time of the coming of the Lord is clearly stated in Daniel 2 and 7, and Revelation 12, 17, and 19. It is of interest to know whether progress is now being made toward the establishment of such an empire.

The League of Nations of four decades ago and the United Nations of the present hour are international developments in this direction. Although the United Nations cannot be called a world empire it certainly anticipates such an eventuality. One might say it is a world government in embryo. It clearly indicates a strong conviction that there must be a union of nations in order that peace shall prevail. The present-day world attitude in that matter is an indication of the approaching end of the age. Also the remarkable success of the European Common Market, where six European nations lying in the territory of the Old Roman Empire have united in economic cooperation, seems already to be the basis for political union of the separate states of Europe. In August 1961, the British Parliament voted to join the Common market also, making it a sevennation affair.

There are pangs in connection with the birth of a world government. The struggles now attending the operation of the United Nations are intense and apparent. All the nations of the world are caught in the conflict between the East and West and their contending idealogies. It could easily be that the rivalry between these opposing forces will culminate in a titanic world conflict. This introduces another phase of the world situation which is indicative of where we now stand.

Both Daniel and Matthew tell us that at the end of the age there will be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation. It will be so intense and destructive it will destroy almost the entire population of the world. (Daniel 12:1; Matthew 24:21, 22). This will involve the death of hundreds of millions of people, even more than those destroyed at the time of Noah's flood. It staggers the human imagination to think of approximately two billion people violently swept off the earth. This is the picture of the Great Tribulation as detailed in Revelation 6, 9, and 16.

How could so many people be destroyed without the repetition of another flood, such as the Lord has promised would never happen? The answer to

(Continued on page twenty-nine)

Fervent in Spirit

Highlights of the 29th Biennial General Council at Portland, Oregon, August 23-29

G on's blessing was clearly evident at all of the meetings in Portland during the 29th General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Attendance was excellent with 4,388 registered and as many as 7,000 in the night meetings. Above all, God was there in the midst of His people ministering grace and spiritual help to all.

Sweet fellowship characterized this Council, like the Council of former years, but there was a particular fervency of worship, a spiritual quality in the music, and a high caliber of preaching that made this convention outstanding. More notable still was the blessed unity of spirit that was demonstrated in the business sessions.

All officers of the General Council were re-elected for another two-year term, as follows: T. F. Zimmerman, general superintendent; Bert Webb, G. F. Lewis, C. W. H. Scott, H. S. Bush, and J. P. Hogan, assistant general superintendents; Bartlett Peterson, general secretary; M. B. Netzel, general treasurer,

Non-resident members chosen to serve on the executive presbytery for the next two years were: N. D. Davidson, northwest region; D. H. McLaughlin, southwest; G. R. Carlson, north central; K. A. Reneau, south central; R. H. Wead, Great Lakes; A. A. Wil-

son, Gulf; R. J. Bergstrom, northeast; E. W. Bethany, southeast.

The Statement of Fundamental Truths, adopted forty-five years ago, was reaffirmed in every respect and strengthened by certain additions. The largest single addition was a section on the deity of Christ.

The delegates voted to set up a special commission to inaugurate a gospel ministry on television.

A resolution authorizing the establishing of a graduate school of theology by the Assemblies of God was adopted.

A change in the distribution of Speedthe-Light funds was voted. In future 75 per cent of the funds will be used for foreign missions projects, 20 per cent for home missions (erecting buildings for pioneer churches), and 5 per cent for special ministries (Alaska, etc.).

Due to serious problems posed by the continuing lack of undesignated offerings for foreign missions, the Council voted to amend the traditional policy of distributing 100 per cent of all missionary funds exactly as designated. In future 2 per cent of the offerings will be placed in an emergency fund to bene-

fit the missionaries when emergencies arise.

An expansion program for 1961-71 was announced, the goal being to "double in a decade" in every department of the work. The program will be divided into five bienniums with a separate goal for each. Theme for the next two years will be "Breakthrough."

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The delegates received printed reports from all departments of the Assemblies of God concerning their activities during the past two years. The following interesting items are taken from these reports:

The general superintendent reported that the blessing of the Lord rested upon the eight regional Spiritual Life Prayer Meetings which were held the past year. These were sponsored by the Executives at the recommendation of the Spiritual Life Committee. In each, deliberate time was given to waiting upon the Lord in prayer and in ministry of the Word.

A most significant operation during the biennium has been the erection of the new administration building at Springfield. Ground was broken August 2, 1960, and construction began immediately. It is expected that the building will be ready for occupancy by the end of 1961. The total cost of the project, exclusive of furnishings, has been estimated at \$2,956,973.

The general secretary's office each year processes 15,000 questionnaires for ordained and licensed ministers and more than 8,000 church questionnaires and reports. There now are 8,233 churches, 9,428 ordained ministers, and membership in the U.S.A. has reached 508,602.

The financial growth of the organization is somewhat characterized by the increasing number of offering receipts that are issued. In 1960 there were 713 receipts issued per day. This represented a 22.7% increase over 1957. During the past two years ordained and licensed ministers contributed \$426,009 toward the support of the General Council Executive Office and its particular ministries.

The Stewardship Division is charged with the responsibility of promoting the



The General Presbyters, including three official representatives of each district met on Monday and Tuesday preceding the General Council.

Cooperative Plan—a systematic program to provide recognition to Assemblies of God churches for all denominational giving—General Council, District Council, and regional.

The top three districts in percentage of churches participating in Cooperative Plan giving during the past year are: New Jersey 46.1%; Montana 37.3%; New York 32%.

The following churches were listed in the top ten for three of the four quarters last year: First Assembly of God, North Hollywood, Calif.; Calvary Temple, Seattle, Wash.; Calvary Full Gospel Assembly, Inglewood, Calif.

In the fall of 1959, the National Children's Home at Hot Springs, Ark., became known as Hillcrest—with "National Children's Home of the Assemblies of God" remaining a part of its official name. A new addition to Hillcrest is a \$41,278 home for teen-age boys, donated by Mrs. Hallie Garrison, of Texas. The capacity of Hillcrest is now one hundred children.

During the past year nearly three hundred ministers, missionaries, and their widows received help from the Aged Ministers' Assistance fund. AMA funds are replenished entirely by offerings from churches and individuals. Two special appeals are made each year—one on Memorial Sunday and one on Thanksgiving Sunday. Contributions to this fund have increased by almost 10 per cent during the past two years but there are some 5,000 Assemblies of God churches which fail to remember our aged ministers each year.

Since the 1959 General Council, a spacious and modern retirement home for aged ministers and missionaries has been constructed in Lakeland, Florida. This replaces the old Pinellas Park Home which was sold. The new home has accommodations for fifty-five persons. The Department of Benevolences owes \$95,000 on Bethany Retirement Home—which is being amortized in yearly payments of \$5,000 plus interest.

In addition to Bethany, there are some fifty homes for the aged operated by individuals, churches, districts, and other groups within the Assemblies of God.

There were 5,109 organized C. A. groups reported in 1960 with an estimated national C. A. membership of

1961 Circulation Totals (per issue) for English-Language Periodicals

The Pentecostal Evangel	172,674
Sunday School Counselor	
Superintendent's Planner	
C. A. Herald	
C. A. Guide	8,006
Team	
Pulpit	4,200
Adult Teacher	111,000
Adult Student	
Large Print Quarterly	
Quarterly Chart	
Youth Student	
Hi-Teen Instructor	
Hi-Teen Student	41,500
Hi-Teen Visuals	1,400
Teen Instructor	7,000
Teen Student	48,500
Intermediate Teacher	12,000
Intermediate Student	74,500
Search	19,000
Intermediate Visual Aid	3,600
Junior Teacher	23,400
Junior Pupil	147,000
Bible Explorer	76,000
Junior Visual Aid	11,900
Primary Teacher	22,000

Primary Visual Aid 1 Primary Picture Cards 2	
Filliary Ficture Cards Z	
	5,400
My Picture Paper13	
	5,000
Beginner Teacher1	
Beginner Visual Aid 1	
	3,000
	4,200
Beginner Handwork Packet 6	7,336
Nursery Teacher	
Nursery Picture Aids	
Nursery Remembering Pictures 2	
	9,000
Lesson Leaves10	6,000
God's Word for Today 3	
Deaf Student	
Annual Lesson Commentary	
Undated Quarterlies1	
Live19	
HiCall15	0,000
	0,000
Total in 19612,20	
	8,549
	9,708

96,600 and a weekly attendance of 102,000. All 44 districts have Christ's Ambassadors organizations, each with its own president.

* * *

More than 15,000 Assemblies of God students are enrolled in colleges and universities not affiliated with the Assemblies of God. The National C. A. Department publishes four times a year a college-oriented magazine *Campus Ambassador* which is mailed free to thousands of these students.

The National C. A. Department works very closely with the district-sponsored youth camps. Last year 88 camps reported 14,951 enrollees. Of these, 1,824 were saved and 2,306 were filled with the Spirit during camp.

In the calendar years 1959 and 60, Speed-the-Light giving totaled \$680,-422.62. Since the inauguration of this program \$3,666,891 has been raised by C.A.'s to aid World Missions. As of April 1, 1961, 1,808 vehicles had been purchased; \$128,076.38 had been used in the purchase of radio equipment; \$40,000 had been invested in evangelistic centers (this phase of Speed-the-Light has been terminated); \$2,343,-364.77 in vehicle purchases; \$163,158.-71 in printing equipment; and \$411,-537.30 had been returned to districts for home missions buildings under the World Speed-the-Light plan.

Approximately 26,500 young men from Assemblies of God churches are servicemen but the Servicemen's Division numbers only 8,000 on its mailing list.

Reveille No. 32 has recently been released as a twentieth anniversary issue. The new Sentinel Series of servicemen's tracts have been in circulation about a year and have received ready acclaim. A new quarterly servicemen's publication At Ease began circulation early last spring.

* * *

We have 21 active-duty Assemblies of God chaplains (Air Force 6, Army 9, Navy 6); 1 V. A. hospital chaplain; 28 available reserve status chaplains; and 4 men in seminarian programs preparing for the chaplaincy.

The Department of Education reports enrollment in our Bible institutes and colleges increased from 2,767 in the fall of 1959 to 2,856 in the fall of 1960. The percentage of the student body enrolled in theological programs continues to decrease while the enrolling in the liberal arts program continues to increase. If this trend continues we could experience a ministerial shortage in a few years.

More churches are writing the cause of education into their budgets. Through Cooperative Plan Giving,

(Continued on next page)

\$201,067 was contributed to our schools in 1960.

Central Bible Institute had an enrollment of 438 for the last spring semester. There were 68 enrolled in the first summer session of CBI.

The first annual CBI Bible Lands Study Tour was inaugurated last summer and included the World Pentecostal Conference at Jerusalem. A number have already signed up for the credit course of the 1962 Bible Lands Tour.

* * *

The enrollment at Evangel College has increased from 93 to 607 in six years. Plans are being prepared to erect the first permanent building on the Evangel College campus. It is recommended that the new building be a library to cost not more than \$200,000. This indebtedness is to be completely underwritten by supporters of the college through regular contributions.

The business office of the Gospel Publishing House handled 429,961 orders during the past two years. This was an average of 800 per working day. During an average hour it handled 60 orders for our own publications and 40 orders for other books and supplies—a.total of 100 orders per hour.

The Merchandising Division shipped a total of 176,143 orders the last two years.

In addition to the churches of our

own organization, about 8,000 churches from other denominations purchase Church School Literature from the Gospel Publishing House.

God's Word for Today has replaced the former Family Altar Guide as a devotional quarterly. It has been well received.

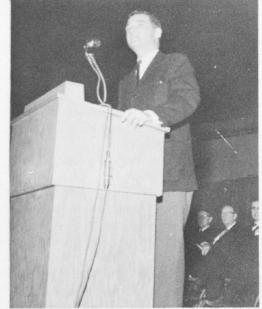
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The Pentecostal Evangel is the official organ of the Assemblies of God. The circulation increased from 167,500 per week in 1959 to 172,674 in May 1961. This magazine is now being printed on a much better quality of paper. Though this has meant an increase in cost of production, there has been no price increase for the Evangel.

Pulpit magazine is now about three years old. Restricted to ministerial subscribers only, it has a circulation of approximately 4,200.

The National Sunday School Department is formulating a new standard for the grading of our Sunday schools. The objective of this revision is to simplify the text and to eliminate some of the unnecessary exceptions and technicalities.

We now have 8,127 Sunday schools with a total enrollment of 919,351. The average enrollment per school is 113 and average attendance is 81. There were 81,270 souls won to Christ in the past two years according to the Checkup reports.



Governor Mark B. Hatfield welcomed the General Council to Oregon.

* * *

The Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade received offerings during the past two years totalling \$222,551. A good share of the B.G.M.C. money is being used for the purchasing of paper, as well as the translation and printing of gospel literature for the people of foreign lands.

The Child Evangelism Division has supervised the writing of a new B.V.S. manual, *Building Better Vacation Bible Schools*, by Ruth Copeland. In 1960 there was 2,151 VBS's with 182,709 pupils enrolled.

The Sunday School Department reports there were 70 boys and girls camps in 1960 with 9,578 campers. There were 1,818 saved and 1,867 received the Holy Spirit at these camps.

Distribution of the 41 different pieces of service literature for the help of Sunday school workers reached a total of 398,683 for the past year.

The Workers Training program continues to show increasing interest. According to the Checkups there has been a 3 per cent gain over the past two years in the number of schools conducting a training course. This year there were 40,717 training certificates issued.

The training book for 1962 will be Into the Highways and Hedges, by Raymond Brock. This book deals with ways of perpetuating evangelism in and through the Sunday school.



Delegates held up their soul-winner wallets in Council service.

Revivaltime — Our Radio Voice

BIENNIAL REPORT BY BARTLETT PETERSON

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RADIO DEPARTMENT

R EVIVALTIME, THE RADIO VOICE OF the Assemblies of God, is the main project of the National Radio Department. This broadcast service continues to enjoy the blessing of God, for which we indeed are grateful.

The versatile and provocative ministry of Speaker C. M. Ward has attracted attention to the full-gospel message from around the world. Testimonies to salvation, healing, and answers to prayer have continued to come to the broadcast every week.

The music ministry of the broad-cast service has likewise continued to gain in acceptance. The *Revivaltime* choir, under the direction of Cyril McLellan, has made a marked impression in the field of gospel music. The popularity of the choir record albums is evidence indicating that the type of music heard in the broadcast service is the type that blesses the hearts of people and encourages worship and response to God.

The number of stations on which the service is heard currently is 340, with 86 of these being ABC network, 214 independent, and 40 foreign. The lag in finances forced the cancellation of several stations in an effort to balance the budget. However, churches have added stations by locally sponsoring them, resulting in the broadcast being heard on almost as many stations as two years ago. In some instances the department, in consultation with the districts, has consolidated by cancelling two or three small stations and picking up one larger station.

The response to the broadcast can be measured partly in the letters received and literature requested, as well as by the testimonies received. Of course, many who have been helped never take the time to write. Many of the good testimonies received have been reported to department personnel during field ministry. A total of 243,000 letters were received by the department during the past two years. This is an average of slightly over 10,000 letters per month.

As a result of the heavy mail response to the broadcast, there is a constant need for counselling by corres-

pondence. Friends with personal problems or doctrinal difficulties continually ask for help. Supporting this counseling ministry, and indeed becoming a broad ministry in its own right, is the free literature distributed. During the past two-year period, 851,924 sermons, tracts, and books have been distributed. The total such literature distributed since going on the network is over two and one-half million pieces.

The possibilities of foreign releases of Revivaltime continue to pose a great challenge. Many English-speaking areas of the world are open, and the broadcast could be placed in them were finances available. Currently there are forty foreign releases. Many of them have resulted in strong response. Within this two-year period the Revivaltime team-C. M. Ward, speaker, and D. V. Hurst, department secretary—conducted two Revivaltime crusades in response to requests from the mission fields. The crusade in Georgetown, British Guiana, saw up to 12,000 attending night after night and 1,986 decisions for Christ made. The San Fernando, Trinidad, crusade saw up to 5,000 at-



Bartlett Peterson narrated at Portland during the Revivaltime broadcast.

tending each night—this is a much smaller city—and over 500 decisions for Christ. The correspondence from these fields following the crusades indicates a very solid work was done.

One of the abiding problems in this radio ministry is keeping expense and income in balance. Stations are available and could and should be added to the *Revivaltime* list if funds were available.

There are blank spots in the United States due to incomplete coverage. There are other areas where there should be overlapping coverage—not just to make the program available to our own people who desire to hear it, but to reach into populace areas at differing times to pick up additional audience. This can be done only as additional church and personal support is forthcoming!

One of the promotionally helpful activities of *Revivaltime* is the outside-of-Springfield originations which have taken place. These originations testify of the acceptance of the service in the crowds that attend and provide opportunity of acquainting many more friends with the full ministry of *Revivaltime*. During the past two years such originations occurred in eighteen areas.

The backbone of the Revivaltime service is the church support it receives in addition to the personal contributions that can be solicited. Primarily, Revivaltime is an evangelistic voice reaching to the unsaved. Hence the appeal for funds must be limited. Further limitations in appeal for funds is due to the broadcast being on the network. Nevertheless, personal contributions to Revivaltime during the 1959-'61 fiscal years totaled \$497,686.72. Church contributions for the same period totaled \$483,231.98, giving a grand total of \$980,918.70. (This includes "given direct" offerings reported.) Expenses during this same period totaled \$988,100 (including "given directs").

The percentage of church participation in support of *Revivaltime* showed improvement. Nevertheless, it is far from what it should be in order to enable *Revivaltime* to "blanket" the nation with the full-gospel message. During 1959-'60, an average of 1,736 or 21.4% of our churches supported the broadcast each month. During 1960-'61, an average of 1,881 or 22.8% of our churches supported. It is not difficult to imagine what could be done if all of our churches shared by way of support. (Continued on next page)

Districts covering the airtime cost of the releases within their districts through personal and church contributions during the past two years were:

Northern California Alabama and Nevada Appalachian Northwest Arizona Oklahoma Arkansas Oregon Georgia Rocky Mountain Illinois South Dakota Indiana South Florida Kansas Southern California Louisiana Southern Idaho Minnesota Mississippi Southern New England Montana West Central

New Mexico Wisconsin and
New York Northern Michigan
North Dakota Wyoming
Districts failing to meet their own
airtime costs were:

West Florida

West Texas

Eastern Ohio
Kentucky Potomac
Michigan South Carolina
North Carolina South Texas
Northern New England
North Texas Tennessee

The future of *Revivaltime* presents an even greater challenge. The possibilities for enlarging and broadening the scope of this ministry are unlimited.

The many requests to place the service on additional stations, which were turned down during the year because of financial problems, should be accepted. The service should grow steadily in coverage until the nation is blanketed. The foreign outreach of the service and the other attendant ministries should likewise develop. It is our belief that under God, with prayer and careful planning and the full cooperation of our constituency, this will be the case—and Revivaltime will be heard even more fully "across the nation and around the world."

Advances on the Home Front

Nebraska

New Jersey

BIENNIAL REPORT BY G. F. LEWIS Executive Director, Home Missions Department

A N UPSURGE OF INTEREST AND Activity in Home Missions is evident throughout the country. At the request of the District Home Missions Representatives, a Long-Range Planning Committee was appointed. The committee has chosen "Breakthrough" as the theme for a new Church Extension thrust and has suggested ambitious goals for the ten-year period ahead.

FINANCES

The financial picture during the past two years has been encouraging. As of March 31, 1961, Home Missions income (including the 5 per cent return from World Missions) and Speed-the-Light totaled \$768,292. Income as of March 31, 1961, totaling \$388,105, showed an increase of \$7,918 over last year's income of \$380,187. Likewise, last year's income was \$29,413 more than the \$350,774 total for the period ending March 31, 1959.

The Home Missions Department handled a transfer of Speed-the-Light funds to districts for construction of pioneer churches as follows: As of March 31, 1961, \$54,879; as of March 31, 1960, \$58,672.

The Krause Loan Fund for building new churches had a working total on March 31,1961, of \$212,243. This represents a gain of \$16,307 in the last two years. The Accommodation Loan Fund working total is \$6,800.

PERSONNEL

As of March 31, 1961, 310 home missionaries were under appointment, as compared with 263 a year earlier.

Home missionaries are required to itinerate for their support as foreign missionaries do.

A new project encouraging churches to pledge at least \$2 per month to the Alaska Children's Homes Staff Support Fund is meeting with fine response, but many more pledges are needed before the department can underwrite the salaries of Children's Home Workers. This project was initiated because most of the staff members of the Homes are not ministers and therefore find it difficult to arrange successful itineraries. Some of them have been working in the Homes for little more than board and room.

CHURCH EXTENSION DIVISION

Over 100 million Americans have no vital contact with any church! In 1959 and 1960 the Assemblies of God opened 464 new churches as compared with 423 in the previous two-year period. The goal for new assemblies to be opened in 1961 is 300.

Mission U.S.A. Rallies

OPERATION HOME BASE was the theme of the Mission U.S.A. Rallies in 1961. Offerings in 1961 were \$14,796 compared to \$14,667 in 1960. These offerings are used for church extension purposes.

Share Plan

This Plan provides for offerings to be divided as follows: 25 per cent returned to the district; 50 per cent is added to the Krause Revolving Loan Fund; 25 per cent goes to the National Home Missions Emergency Fund.



The Church Building and Planning Commission set up in 1955 has saved pioneer churches over \$50,000 in architectural fees. The Blueprint Program is expanding rapidly. Six new plans were added to the original twelve in the planbook, "Plans for Pioneers," early in 1960. Blueprint sets totaling 109 have been sold.

The Needy Districts Fund

Sixty-one grants totaling \$50,343 were made to districts for churches under three years old during the past two years.

MINISTRY TO AMERICAN INDIANS

Nearly 1,500 Indian people were saved in the past two years. Approximately 500 were baptized in water, and 270 were baptized with the Holy Spirit. Thirty-three Indian camp meetings and 190 evangelistic meetings were conducted. Seventy-five Indian young people attended Bible schools. Sunday school attendance for the two-year period at our Indian churches averaged 53.5.

We are ministering to the Indians of more than 100 tribes on over 70 reservations. Still there are approximately 172 tribes and 227 reservations (including rancherias, pueblos, and colonies unreached by the Assemblies of God. In the past biennium we gained fourteen Indian churches and fourteen new outstations or preaching points.

MINISTRY TO THE JEWS

Missionaries among American Jews reported 100 conversions through their ministry, including a few non-Jews. Approximately 31 Jews were baptized in water, and 11 received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Assemblies of God Hebrew Missions are located in Philadelphia, Chicago, and San Francisco. Nearly six million Jews live in the United States, most of them concentrated in the larger cities. We have only 14 missionaries appointed to this great field.

Alaska Ministry

The Assemblies of God has a church in every Alaska town of 1,000 or over population, with one exception. We now have 33 churches, at least eight outstations, and three orphanages in Alaska. Only four of these assemblies are completely self-supporting.

Due to the excessive cost of living in Alaska, the National Department is often called upon to help missionaries in emergencies such as insurance payments and building and equipment repairs or replacements. There are nearly 90 appointed missionaries in Alaska. About 70 children reside in the Children's Homes. Seven airplanes, individually owned, have been operating to reach the remote interior villages.

Churches reported nearly 500 souls saved, 104 baptized in water, and 71 baptized in the Holy Spirit during 1959 and 1960. Sunday school attendance for the two-year period averaged 46. Twenty-six young people from our Alaska churches attended Bible schools.

Of all the denominations making a real effort to reach the native population of Alaska, the Assemblies of God is operating on the smallest budget.

Two different denominations have expended more money on one village alone than the Assemblies of God has invested in the whole Northern Section (and possibly the whole state of Alaska) during the same period of time! They have more personnel and more equipment. In spite of this God has enabled the Assemblies of God to make the greater progress, for it is "not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord."

There are several villages left in A-laska that do not yet have any evangelical witness. Alaska is and will continue to be a mission field for some time to come, mainly due to the problems of transportation and communication in this yast state.

Ministry to Foreign-Language Groups

The six foreign-language groups, operating as separate districts under the supervision of the National Department are reaching thousands of foreign-speaking people in the United States and Puerto Rico, as well as displaced persons all over the world, through their literature ministry. The Latin-American Branch has two Bible Institutes and the Spanish Eastern District has two (one in New York City and one in Puerto Rico).

MINISTRY TO THE DEAF

Forty-five appointed missionaries to the Deaf minister in 92 cities and 23 states. Four deaf young people have been assisted in attending Bible school through the Deaf Training Fund set up by the National Department. Three of our workers minister in state schools for the Deaf. Seven Assemblies of God Bible schools offer courses in sign language. During the two-year period, eight camps for the Deaf were conducted.

Due to the small attendance of some local deaf groups, the average Sunday school attendance is about 16. Of the 47 groups who reported, approximately 230 deaf people were saved, 75 were baptized in water, and 37 were baptized in the Holy Spirit in the last two years. Maximum attendance of any one deaf group has been 75.

MINISTRY TO THE BLIND

In March, 1961, Mrs. E. W. Whitney became the first appointee to the Blind. She has been assisting the department for several years in producing Braille literature. The department purchased a multigraph machine for Mrs. Whitney in 1959. This Braille ministry is growing rapidly. The subscription list has doubled in the last two years.

PRISON MINISTRY

The prison ministry continues to expand under the supervision of our national prison representative. Several Assemblies of God ministers are serving either as full-time or part-time chaplains, and the number of local churches conducting jail services is increasing. The second Sunday in November is always observed as National Prison Sunday to encourage local churches to conduct services in jails and penitentiaries.

Each year, the literature ministry of the Prison Division increases. In the past two years 30,767 of the seven free Bible study courses for prisoners were distributed and 10,166 of these were completed. A quantity of other gospel literature, Bibles, and New Testaments was also distributed. Nearly 8,500 prisoners have taken these free courses and new enrollees in the two-year period number 1,168.

Numbers of prisoners have been saved through these Bible study courses. Prisoners who satisfactorily complete the seven courses are permitted to continue with the more advanced courses offered by the Berean School of the Bible, sponsored by the Education Department.

The Home Missions Department pays for these courses that are sent to prisoners. It also pays for subscriptions to The Pentecostal Evangel mailed to all state and federal institutions in the United States and Canada and to many young people in reformatories. The department depends entirely on the contributions it receives to finance this and every other one of its far-flung ministries.



The registration desk was a busy place during General Council.

O LD GREY-BEARDED KING TIGIRI WAS the longest reigning monarch in Mossi country. He was burning with fever. Animal sacrifices by the fetish priests, Moslem charms, a French doctor—all were employed to prolong his life. I was one outsider beside the doctor who was allowed to talk with him, as an honor because of long acquaintance. But—he died.

The nightly drumming which had been maintained for years to lull his sleep now ceased. A hole was dug. The corpse was set over it and all excreta expressed from the body to help preserve it longer. Small gobs of fresh clay were plugged into the ears of the corpse to prevent it from hearing anything said about him.

A SHEEP SKINNED ALIVE

A sheep was placed on the raised, circular grinding-place and skinned alive. Its throat was then cut as a sacrifice. Its fresh skin was wrapped around the corpse of the king. Then a cow was sacrificed by cutting its throat and the fresh hide was also wrapped around the corpse. This was now rolled in a brand new mat and tied with a new cord.

Centuries-old customs were carefully observed. When the time of the funeral arrived, a hole was dug through the compound wall and the corpse passed through it feet first. Then the hole was hastily blocked in with adobe and fresh mortar to keep his spirit from re-entering the compound to bother the family. The Mossi believe that the disembodied spirit roams at will until the burial.

A TUMULTUOUS PROCESSION

A gaudily-dressed guard of honor carried the bier counter-clockwise three times around the outside of the palace grounds, followed by a funeral cortege of thousands. I was given a low stool among the old Mossi counselors seated beside the entrance. The king's two hundred wives of all ages pulled straw from the roof of the hut where he had died and marched with it in hand four times around the grounds outside. Numerous Mossi hunters fired their muzzle-loading flintlock guns repeatedly. The great clouds of blue smoke enveloped the crowd of several thousand who milled about the place. Important chiefs on horseback followed the cortege. Drums and African musical instruments kept up an incessant rhythm.

The King Is Dead

By JOHN F. HALL Missionary to West Africa

The grave was prepared in the royal cemetery five miles away where there were seventeen dynastic graves. Three large stones lay by the small hole which was left purposely for the spirit to go out and return.

PROVISIONS FOR THE NEXT LIFE

The grave was about seven feet deep with a shelf cut in on one side where the king was laid on his right side facing the east. (Women are laid on their left side facing the west.) With him were placed the following: a live rooster, a live dog, a live cat in a leather sack, a bag of cowry-shell money, a pot of honey, two slabs of salt, his night blanket, his fan, and his royal leather cushion with military decorations pinned on.



John Hall in native dress

When the grave was halfway filled the eldest daughter, dressed in all her dead father's royal clothes, was led by two of the fetish priests to the foot of the grave. There they inclined her forward partially into the grave four times, straightened her up, turned her about and told her to go home without looking back. She was the interim ruler until the time the eldest son should complete the precoronation requirements. (Prior to the French occupation, the Mossi would inter one of his favorite wives ALIVE with him. Who knows whether or not they did this after my leaving! The grave was only half-filled when all departed leaving me alone in the moonlight at nine o'clock.)

The departed king's spear was taken to Gourcy, fifteen miles away, to be placed in the fetish hut along with the seventeen other royal spears. One of the ceremonies observed prior to the next coronation is that the new king enter this hut at midnight in the dark of the moon and choose a spear in pitch darkness. It is believed that his reign will be like that of the former king whose spear he picks.

ANOTHER KING DIED

A THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED YEARS ago, in the mid-East, a King died. Outside the city of Jerusalem on a bleak hill stood three crosses. The inscription on the center one read, in three languages:

Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews

He was hanging there in agony, held by great spikes driven through His hands and feet. He refused a stupefying drink in order that He might be fully aware of the tremendous victory He was accomplishing when He completed the redemption of fallen man. He pardoned his enemies. He pardoned one of the two thieves crucified beside Him. He committed His own mother to the care of His disciple John.

No fetish priests or doctors strove to prolong His life. Nor could He be killed; He had never sinned. He had said Himself, "I lay down my life...no man taketh it from me... I have power to lay it down and... power to take it again" (John 10:17,18).

For six long, agonizing hours he hung on that cross, the symbol of a curse. At precisely "the hour of the evening sacrifice" He gave His life—voluntarily—an expiation for the sins of the whole world. He accomplished the prophecies of centuries. He ful-.



Witnessing Through a Downtown Chapel

By ALMA WARE CROSBY

During World War II, with our large shipyards, merchant marine boats coming into our port, and a large army camp nearby, the downtown section in our city was crowded day and night.

God laid a heavy burden on my heart to have gospel services for this great mass of people. The Lord seemed to say to me, as He said to Joshua, "If you tread upon the ground I will give it to you." But I found, as he did, that "there were giants in the land." Every corner that could be rented was full. But as I continued to "tread" I ran across an empty chapel on the second floor of an office building—just what I needed.

I hastened to the owner, a doctor, who had inherited this building from his godly mother. When I explained what I wanted, he told me she had it built for that purpose and died before her plans worked out. He said he would be delighted for me to have it.

It really took an act of God, with war on, for me to get chairs and other equipment. But here, too, God provided.

We had nightly services, with a loud speaker in the window near the broad steps that led up to the chapel, and we invited the crowds to come up. We often had street meetings on the corner and gave out tracts and *Reveille* to the servicemen.

Many were the heart-stirring meet-

ings. One night a young man from a merchant marine ship fell on the altar and wept his way through to salvation. He got up with shining wet eyes and said, "Oh, to think I may not get another chance to go to church for months, and to think that my mother begged me, all the time at home, to go to church and I wouldn't." He then told us how his buddy had just died at sea, and as his body was being lowered with no service he had stood and read a chapter from the little Testament his mother had given him. And on this night, his first visit to land, he heard our gospel songs while passing down the street and came up to seek God. He took a large number of Gospels of John and tracts with him, saying that there were other boys on the boat who would read these now.

One night a soldier, in testifying, tearfully held up four fingers and told us he had come home on furlough after two years of fighting overseas, and that when he neared his home to surprise his father and mother he saw "only four chimneys" standing. The home was burned! No one had told him about it. He was heartbroken as he went back to sea, and it was our privilege to pray with him and get him to seek God's comfort.

A Catholic boy said, "Oh, I'm off the merchant marine boat for only a couple of hours and have no time to find a priest to confess to." I invited him to use our altar and to confess to Jesus, his great High Priest. He did and poured his heart out, tearfully. I then knelt and suggested he give his heart to Jesus and ask Him to keep him from sin. He left happy.

Summer came on, and we had just one small fan, so it was hot in the chapel and people would leave. One could hardly buy a fan during the war, but I decided to put an ad in the paper offering to trade our small fan for a big one. A lady answered, and I met her at the chapel. She told me that she had a very large fan she had planned to use in a health bathhouse, but her daughter had become an invalid and her plans changed; now she needed just a small one for her daughter's room. She said, "Yours will serve my purpose; what difference will you pay?" I named an amount that we could pay, and she exclaimed, "Oh, I couldn't think of such a thing; mine is a big new one, and yours is old and small!" I told her it was just our best, that I was sorry, and suggested that she and I pray for her sick daughter before she left. We knelt at the altar, and she wept and prayed as I led her to God; then together we prayed for her daughter. She arose and said, "I'll take the amount you can pay and let you have the big fan!"

Just then a man from a merchant marine boat rushed in, so glad to find me there, and said he had to go back to the ship before night service. He asked me to play his favorite gospel record, "I Choose Jesus," and then said good-by, to go out again on the treacherous waters. After he left, the lady with shining eyes said, "You can just have the big fan for the little one—I can't take your money."

I'll be forever glad "my feet trod on this land" (Joshua 14:9).

filled the ancient hopes of His Father's ancient people and "they shall look on him whom they pierced" one of these days soon. Even in His voluntary death He was King and the calloused Roman centurion, hearing His triumphant shout of victory just before death said of Him: "Truly this was the Son of God." He was KING of the universe even in death.

A TEMPORARY, TOMB
He was buried in a borrowed tomb;

He needed no permanent one. Loving hands enveloped His body with bands of cloth including layers of preservative spices. No articles for a long sojourn in the place of the dead were placed in His grave. He would be there only three days and would "preach to the spirits in prison." No hole was left for His spirit to go out and return at will. A huge stone was rolled over the entrance and sealed by the Roman government at the instigation of His

most hateful enemies, and a Roman guard set to watch it.

He needed no cowry-shells to buy water in hades; He was the water of life. He needed no phantom rooster to waken Him; "He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep." He needed no phantom dog to bark and announce the arrival of a visitor; He is omniscient. He needed no sack of salt nor pot of honey for a prolonged

(Continued on page thirty-one)

THIS PRESENT WORLD

Divorce

DIVORCE RATE CLIMBING

The number of divorced persons not remarried increased between 1950 and 1960 at a rate twice as fast as that of the population growth, the U.S. Census Bureau reports. The 1960 census showed a record number of divorced persons who are now single.

Persons 14 years of age or older in the U.S. toal 126,276,000—an increase of 12.6 per cent. Divorced men total 1,312,938—an increase of 21.6 per cent. Divorced women total 1,839,322—an increase of 33.5 per cent. (Census statistics have long shown that divorced men remarry more frequently than divorced women.)

The number of divorced persons who have remarried is not known to the census takers.

Capital Punishment

FBI CHIEF BACKS DEATH PENALTY

Charging that the "death penalty stands condemned before the bar of informed penology as well as the Christian conscience," 142 Protestant ministers in Pennsylvania have signed a statement asking for abolition of capital punishment by the state.

But law enforcement officials are convinced capital punishment is Scriptural and is necessary as a deterrent to murderers. J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the FBI, recently criticized "misguided do-gooders" who think otherwise. In an editorial in the Bureau's law enforcement bulletin he said opponents of the death penalty like to quote "those portions of the Bible which they believe support their lavender and old lace world where evil is neither recognized nor allowed." He added that "there are many passages in the Old Testament which refer to capital punishment being necessary to enforce the laws of society. Certainly, the moral laws of the Old Testament remain with us today."

Mr. Hoover said that a "realistic approach" to the problem demands that the public live their lives "free from fear" of "bestial killers."

The FBI chief qualified his criticism by writing, "There can be no doubt of the sincerity of many of those who deplore capital punishment."

Legislation

CLERGYMEN'S CONFIDENCES PROTECTED

A bill signed into law by Gov. Otto Kerner of Illinois provides that ministers, priests, and rabbis may not be compelled to disclose in court, or to any public officer, information confided to them in their capacities as clergymen. This provision has been respected previously by Illinois courts but now becomes an official statute.

NEW ANTI-SMUT LAW IN CALIFORNIA

Gov. Edmund G. Brown signed into law a measure which strengthens the state Penal Code for curbing the traffic of pornographic literature in California. The law became effective Sept. 15.

Aimed at "filth merchants," the law represents the first major revision in 75 years of the code governing obscenity.

GARY MAYOR INVOKES SUNDAY LAWS

Mayor George Chacharis of Gary, Ind., has ordered city officials to enforce that city's Sunday closing laws. He said that demands by citizens, ministers, and some store owners—voiced after the U. S. Supreme Court upheld the Pennsylvania Sunday closing law—prompted his decision. Some store owners said the only reason they were opening their places on Sunday was to meet competition.

Businesses offering necessary services, such as drugstores and restaurants, were to be allowed to remain open on Sunday, the mayor said.

Geology

STONE TELLS ABOUT PONTIUS PILATE

Four lines written in Latin on a limestone slab more than 1,900 years

old are being studied eagerly by scientists at Caesarea, Israel. The slab was found in the ruins of a Roman amphitheater ten miles south of Haifa. The letters "...tius Pilate" (Latin for Pilate) stand out. Scholars claim it is the first concrete evidence of Pilate. Previously he was known only through the Gospels and the writings of the Jewish historian, Josephus Flavius.

Social Gospel

NAE LEADER COMPARES PAPAL ENCYCLICAL TO SOCIAL GOSPEL OF LIBERALS

The recently-issued papal encyclical on social issues by Pope John XXIII is similar in many ways to the social gospel of the Protestant liberals, in the opinion of a leading Protestant evangelical leader.

"As a social ideal," said George L. Ford, executive director of the National Association of Evangelicals, "the encyclical just issued is highly commendable. However, like the social gospel of the Protestant liberals, it presupposes man's ability to solve his own problems."

The end result, warned Dr. Ford, is that groups holding such beliefs, whether Protestant or Catholic, often apply strong pressures upon government to enact their program. Consequently, there is a tendency to replace individual responsibility with government responsibility, and to shift the attention of people from God to man, as far as providing an answer to man's needs is concerned.

"Evangelicals," said Dr. Ford, "have always been concerned with the social needs of people. The Wesleyan revival which changed all of England was based on the message of the power of God to change the individual. It so built conviction and character and social concern in the lives of the converts that they were able to change the society in which they lived. Its results can be seen by the fact that its converts brought about the abolition of slavery in the British empire, the correction

of child labor abuses, prison reform, and vast social betterment for all people."

The Catholic church has not lived up to its publicized social concern in the past, charged Dr. Ford. He cited Latin America as a prime example. He called for the Catholic church to "demonstrate by action its concern for the social needs of people."

Miscellany

NATIONAL MOTTO DISPLAYED IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Miss Ora O'Riley of Durant, Okla., is promoting a campaign to hang plaques bearing our national motto, "In God We Trust," in public buildings. One has been presented to President Kennedy for the White House, and others have been installed in the office buildings of the Senate and House of Representatives at Washington.

Another goal of Miss O'Riley is to have a picture of Christ in every public building in the U.S. and her townsmen are cooperating in the campaign. Recently Vice-President Lyndon B. Johnson accepted a copy of Sallman's "Head of Christ" for his office.

CHURCHES URGED TO FIGHT LIQUOR

Mrs. Fred J. Tooze, president of the National WCTU (Woman's Christian Temperance Union), called on all churches to fight liquor and give this country "a great spiritual awakening." Addressing the Union's 87th annual convention, she challenged American Christians to "bend your knees, not your elbows, if you are to solve the world's problems."

The temperance leader urged churches to abandon "cocktail Christianity by recognizing drinking as an offense against God." She charged that churches "have not been living up to their obligation as the keeper of men's conscience and the guardian of morals."

KOREAN CHAPLAINCY TEN YEARS OLD

The Chaplains Corps of the Republic of Korea army observed its tenth anniversary recently. More than 650 chaplains have given full time to the work of spreading the gospel in the fourth largest army in the world today, since President Sigmund Rhee created the chaplains' program ten years ago. It was the first time in history that a non-Christian country had allowed a full-scale chaplaincy program in its armed forces. As a result, Christian evangelism has had an unprecedented opportunity.



ANSWERED BY ERNEST S. WILLIAMS

When does a person begin to have a soul?

The soul is the life. It begins with the formation of the body.

Will a person go to heaven by being good?

We humans are fallen, sinful, and without saving merit. Our only hope of salvation is through accepting the perfect righteousness of Christ, imputed to us, and His atonement to pay the price of our redemption.

Is it right for a former pastor to move back to town and visit among the people, seeking financial benefits from them?

When a pastor resigns he should commit the church and its activities to the guidance of the new pastor. It is not good for him to return, circulating his influence among members of the church. How would he like it if a former pastor came to *his* church and sought to divide the interest of the people between himself and another?

I have been warned that if I earnestly draw nigh to God I will arouse the devil and my children may become demon possessed, contract polio, or suffer some other affliction. This has given me a fear. Is it true?

The Bible says, "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you." (James 4:8). Do you think God would tell us to draw nigh to Him and then fail to protect us from all the power of the enemy? Jesus said, "Seek and ye shall find." Obey His words and you need not fear. Should members of the family be afflicted it would be because of natural conditions, not because you seek the Lord.

A number of years ago I cheated in school to get credits I wanted. Later I confessed this to the teachers, but I do not find peace. Must I make a public confession?

It appears to me that you met the issue when you confessed to your teachers and to God. It must be that the devil, "the accuser of the brethren," is using this to torment you. Since you have confessed to both the teachers and God, you should refuse to let the devil trouble you further. The Bible says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). You have confessed; now accept the forgiveness and cleansing.

I become so discouraged. I long for a home, a companion, a family and fellowship, but life seems so discouraging—going to my job, then back to my vacant room. Can you say something that will cheer the heart of a lonely person?

We can understand, in part, your feelings and the desires of your heart. It will help if your attitude is one of victory, but life can be very depressing if you look at only the gloomy side. In apostolic times there were many Christian slaves; they did not have the freedom you enjoy. Paul admonished them not to be discouraged by their bondage, but rather to look upon themselves as the "Lord's freemen" and do their work as unto the Lord. In this way their toil would become a love-service to the Lord. See 1 Corinthians 7:20-24; Colossians 4:22-24. "Art thou called being a servant [slave]? Care not for it." If you will consider your daily duties as a service unto the Lord it will help you. "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart" (Psalm 37:4).

If you have a spiritual problem or any question about the Bible, you are invited to write to "Your Questions," The Pentecostal Evangel, 434 W. Pacific St., Springfield, Missouri. Brother Williams will answer either in this column or by a personal letter (if you send a stamped self-addressed envelope).

Is the Gospel Complicated?

BY HOWARD E. GRAVES
Pastor, First Assembly of God, Corona, Calif.

A GREAT MANY PEOPLE WHO ARE sincerely trying to find the Truth will say, "The Bible is so hard to understand." They are confused and frustrated because no one has pointed out to them the simple plan of Christ's salvation which is the key to all the Scriptures.

It is the devil's business to blind the eyes of men and women to the gospel of Christ for this is "the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth" (Romans 1:16).

But the question comes, "Is the gospel really complicated?" Jesus had a way of making things very simple to those who would listen to Him with an open heart.

Luke 19:10 records the words of the Master as He was explaining His mission to Zacchaeus, the tax collector. Jesus made the matter very simple to Zacchaeus when He said, "The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Every word in this scripture is a one-syllable word. The longest word is only five letters long. Yet in this verse we find the gospel in a "nutshell"; for it explains Who came, for what purpose He came, and for whom He came.

WHO CAME

"For the Son of man is come...." The name "Son of man" in the New Testament refers to One in particular. Jesus bears this name over eighty times in the four Gospels. Luke pictures Jesus Christ as the "Son of Man" and John, in his Gospel, refers again and again to Jesus as the "Son of God."

John tells us in the golden text of the Bible, John 3:16, that "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Luke quotes Jesus as saying, "The Son of man is come...." Both names refer to the Master as the Saviour of the world.

FOR WHAT PURPOSE HE CAME

"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save...." The whole purpose of the coming of the Son of God to earth was to seek out lost men all over the world, and save them from the results and consequences of a sinful life. He never came to make a great name for Himself, yet His name is above every name. He never came just to teach men a new moral code as some suppose, though He brought to earth the greatest example of morality man has ever seen, both in word and deed; this was not His basic purpose in coming. He came primarily to seek and to save men!

He came "that the world though him might be saved" (John 3:17).

Friend, can you see the purpose in the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ?

HOW GREAT THOU ART!

BY CLYDE H. DENNIS

When man began to place satellites weighing a few hundred pounds into space to circle the Earth, the nations and a large majority of Earth's population gave great acclaim to science and to man's modern achievement.

But did you know that the Earth's weight is estimated by astronomers to be 6,600,000,000,000,000,000,000 tons, and that our great God and Creator spoke it into being, placed it in the sky to whirl at one thousand forty miles per hour, and upholds it and all life upon it?

"Suppose that I have in my hand a single grain of wheat," wrote Dr. Clarence H. Benson, astronomer and author. "Let that represent the Earth. Now if I could fill up a quart measure which would hold about 10,000 grains

of wheat, I would have to pour out that measure one hundred and forty times to fully constitute the vast volume of the Sun. In fact, I would have a large heap—more than four bushels of wheat—to represent the Sun, in comparison with that one kernel which is supposed to be the Earth."

In view of such immensity, when once we recognize God as the divine personal Creator, we begin to see why there are no limits to the unfolding glories of the universe. They are of God. That explains everything. He has all power to execute His will. He has all wisdom to direct Him in the choice of means and effects. He has all beneficence to do the most and best for His creatures. He has in Himself unsurpassed beauty wherewith to embellish

all the works of His hands. And as we consider who He is and what He has done we exclaim "How great Thou art!"

But power and immensity are only two attributes of our great God. His love and His mercy are as great as His power, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). For nineteen centuries men have not been able to fathom the two letter word "so" describing God's love, nor have they been able to comprehend the all-inclusive object of that love—"whosoever"—which includes all, yet it is personal including you and me.

How wonderful is this! How rich,

Your Money Can Work for You and God Too

WRITE FOR INFORMATION ON ASSEMBLIES OF GOD BONDS

GENERAL TREASURER M. B. NETZEL . 434 W. PACIFIC STREET . SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

He is seeking you, and me, to save us for eternity.

FOR WHOM HE CAME

"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Jesus said He was seeking for only the lost. Therefore, we must realize the fact that all mankind is lost without God. Pride will not let many men admit they are lost. Others have their eyes blinded to the gospel by the devil, and cannot understand. Some have an empty feeling and do not realize that the "something" they are missing is the Lord and salvation.

Friend, if you do not understand the gospel, realize first that you are lost. Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 4:3, 4, "If our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world [Satan] hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."

If a man realizes he is lost, Jesus can do something for him, for He came to find the lost, to save the lost, and to place man back into the secure position with God from which he fell.

how amazing, how sublime! The great Creator loves us. Loves us-the individual-enough to have given His supreme gift, His only Son, to die to

put away our vile sins!

To personally know the love of our great Creator and Saviour who made and upholds the universe is the greatest discovery a person can make. Yet to be aware of that personal love and to reject it or neglect it is the greatest sin a person can commit. The Bible says: "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?"

Friend, the issues before you now are eternal life or eternal judgment. Right now you can choose life. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: by whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God" (Romans 5:1-2).

As you come to know the greatness and grace of God, as you enter into His forgiveness and peace that pass all understanding, as you look forward to that day when you shall share in the heavens the very glory of God Himself—you, too, will fall at His feet and exclaim, "How great Thou art!" -Good News Publishers

FIRST PERMANENT BUILDING AT EVANGEL COLLEGE

Ground to Be Broken October 13

GROUNDBREAKING FOR A new \$200,000 library-chapel building at Evangel College will be a feature of the seventh annual convention of the Council of Evangel College. The convention will be held October 11-13 at the college campus in Springfield, Mo.

Inauguration of a permanent building program at Evangel is a result of the 1960 meeting of the Council of Evangel College. At that time the Council unanimously recommended an immediate start on the building, and pledged \$150,000 of the cost. The pledge is to be paid at the rate of \$50,000

per year for three years.

Location of the library will be in accordance with a long-range campus development plan adopted by the Evangel Board of Directors. The tenyear plan calls for four \$140,000 buildings to house faculty and married students, to be built in 1962, 1963, 1968, and 1969; a \$600,000 women's dormitory in 1965; a \$300,000 multipurpose building in 1966; a \$200,000 cafeteria-student union in 1967; and a \$250,000 chapel in 1970.

The first building, containing 17,000 square feet, will house the college library permanently and an auditorium temporarily. The structure is so planned that when a separate chapel is built later, the library area can be expanded to fill the entire building. Continued increases in Evangel's enrollment, which has climbed from 93 in 1955 to 561 in 1960, are expected to make a separate chapel building necessary within ten years.

The goundbreaking is scheduled for 3 P.M. Friday, October 13, at the

library site.

The ceremony will be a joint feature of the three conventions scheduled to run concurrently; namely, the Council of Evangel College, the Ladies' Auxiliary, and Assemblies of God high-school students.

Speakers at other joint meetings of the three conventions will be A1 J. Rediger, president of the Council of Evangel College; J. Robert Ashcroft, president of Evangel College; Paul Harvey, ABC newscaster and columnist; Dennis Bennett, Spirit-filled Episcopalian minister; and George Ford,

executive director of the National Association of Evangelicals.

Speaking to the Council only will be T. F. Zimmerman, general superintendent of the Assemblies of God. Council members will have early-morning prayer meetings, classroom visits, campus survey, committee groups, and business meetings.

For the youth convention only, speakers will include Major John DeSanctis, Army missile officer and Assemblies of God layman; and Richard DuBois, converted Hollywood actor and "Mr. America" of 1954, who is now a Pentecostal minister.

Special speakers for the Ladies' Auxiliary convention will be Martyn Eggough, of Ghana, an honor student at Evangel, and other foreign students. The ladies will have their own committee groups, business meetings, and study tours.

Visitors will be welcome at all three conventions. Free lodging may be secured by writing in advance to the Public Relations Department, Evangel College, Springfield, Missouri. The registration fee of \$10.00 per person covers all meals for the three days, plus transportation in the city, tickets to special events, and registration packets.



The "stone of faith," showing names of contributors, will be incorporated into the first permanent building at Evangel College. Here College President J. R. Ashcroft (left) and Al J. Rediger, Council President, examine blue-prints for the new library, while Grant A. Wacker, Public Relations Director, looks on.

Sunday's Lesson

SAUL, CONQUERED BY CHRIST

Sunday School Lesson for October 8, 1961 Acts 9:1-16

THE OCCASION OF SAUL'S CONVERSION. Acts 9:1, 2. Read also Acts 22:4, 5; 26:9-12.

Saul, the troubled Pharisee, is on his way to Damascus with official permission to arrest and imprison Christians there as he had done in Jerusalem. Here is a man who is utterly sincere, who thinks his activities are pleasing God, yet he is sincerely mistaken. Sincerity in religious matters is not sufficient; it must be coupled with the truth of God's Word.

THE SUDDENNESS OF SAUL'S CONVERSION. Acts 9:3.

"As he journeyed . . . suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven." Some people have little faith in a sudden conversion. Such was Saul's, yet it lasted a lifetime. Others suspect a gradual conversion, yet such also may be very real. Experiences are as different as people are different. God is a God of variety. We make a mistake in thinking all must be saved in the same manner or show the same emotion. God knows how to deal with each according to differing circumstances.

SAUL'S ASTONISHMENT. Vv. 4-6.

Smitten to the ground by the dazzling light, Saul finds himself in the presence of a heavenly Being who speaks to him in strange words. We are told that Saul was "astonished." But why was he astonished? (1) To find that Jesus of Nazareth whom he had regarded as an impostor was really the Messiah. (2) To find that in persecuting the Christians he had been persecuting Christ.

SAUL'S REBELLION.

"It is hard for thee to kick against the pricks." What did Jesus mean by this expression? Stubborn oxen, rebelling against serving their masters, would kick in protest. To stop this, sharp iron spikes were so placed as to protrude through the beam of the cart at the oxen's heels. Saul, like the ox, had been kicking and rebelling against becoming a servant of Christ.

What were some of these "pricks"? (1) Stephen's unanswerable sermon before the Sanhedrin (Acts 7:1-53); (2) his holy life; (3) his forgiving spirit; and (4) his supernatural joy and calmness in the face of death. These were things against which Saul had been struggling in his mind and which pricked his conscience, things which had caused him to wonder if, after all, this man really was the Messiah of God! In silencing these thoughts Saul, like every sinner, had been making it miserable for himself. SAUL'S SURRENDER.

"Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" These words show the spirit which characterized the beautiful life of Saul after his conversion. For him "old things [had] passed away . . . and all things [had become] new" (2 Corinthians 5:17). Jesus not only became Paul's Saviour, but his LORD, his ONE LOVE, the One to whose love and authority he wholly and unreservedly yielded himself. SAUL'S BLINDNESS. Vv. 6-9.

Saul rose to his feet a changed man, blind in his physical sight, but divinely illumined in his inner spiritual vision. He was led by friends to Damascus where, for three days and nights, he was evidently occupied in fasting and prayer. This ought not surprise us. The revelation of one's own sinfulness, of God's holiness, of Christ's unfathomable love, is enough to cause any man to lose his attitude and give himself to prayer!

THE CONSECRATION OF SAUL. Acts 9:10-19.

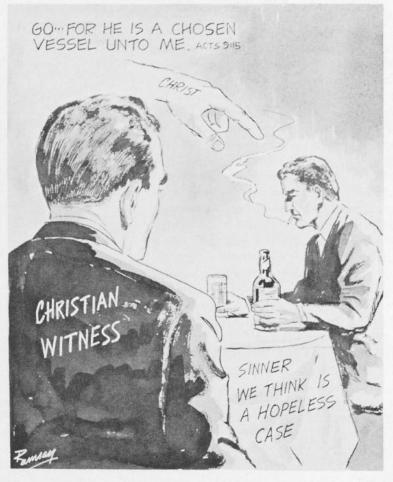
1. Ananias commissioned. Vv. 10-12. Paul was saved, but still needed help. While he was praying, God was answering. How explicit were the directions given to Ananias. If we live close enough to the Lord, we too shall often find

guidance this specific.

2. Ananias' objection. Vv. 13, 14. Ananias argued with the Lord, finding it hard to believe that such a bitter enemy of the church could now be a child of God. (1) It is unwise to argue with God as if He did not know His business. Let us trust Him enough to obey Him and leave the consequences with Him. (2) We ought never to despair of the salvation of any man or fail to do our part to witness and pray for, or with, what we term "unlikely prospects." If God could save Saul He can save anyone!

3. Ananias' obedience. Vv. 15-19. Patiently the Lord repeats the commission, telling Ananias what a tremendous ministry lies ahead of this man. Ananias obeys, kindly acknowledges Saul as "Brother Saul," and lays his hands upon him. Then this humble and obscure believer has the glorious privilege of healing the eyes of, and imparting the Holy Spirit to, the man who is to be the greatest soul winner of all time. —J. Bashford Bishop

A WORTHWHILE ENDEAVOR





October Is Protestant Press Month



GOOD READING IS A GOOD HABIT

By SAMUEL VILA

INETEEN CENTURIES AGO, OWNING A book was like owning a car today—something not within everybody's reach. The books were written by hand and were expensive. If they were borrowed, it was as a great favor from those who were privileged enough to own such expensive volumes. If the apostle Paul under such circumstances could exclaim, "Give attendance to reading!" what would he say today when literature is within the reach of the whole world?

But the sad fact is that entertainment, sports, travel, radio, and television all take up most of the time that a century ago was spent in reading. Today there are fewer illiterates, yet people are not devoting time to one of the most important occupations—reading.

What do people read? Just take a look at a newsstand and see the multitude of books—frothy, fantastic, absurd, Superman, Mighty Mouse, and Walt Disney's creations fill the minds of children and adults.

Instead of broadening their knowl-

edge with works on history, science, the arts, philosophy or religion, men prefer literature which provides them with entertainment and relaxation, but nothing of lasting value.

Nothing needs such strict vigilance and self-discipline as does reading, for not all reading increases our knowledge or expands our minds. It may do entirely the opposite. We need wisdom that our reading will be a blessing and not a curse—a means of genuine Christian growth.

No Christian should permit himself to read novels that excite the evil senses and encourage him to sin; nor should he poison his mind with filthy ideas. It is said that one's heart and mind are formed by what he reads. If this is true in the world, much more is it true among Christians.

While a Christian may absorb spiritual knowledge through sermons and worship services, a good book may contribute far more toward the instructing and forming of Christian character. One hour on Sunday and another hour during the week is not enough stimulous for growth in a Christian. There must be dedication of time to reading.

"Till I come, give attendance to reading." There are those who believe that in saying this Paul refers exclusively to the Scriptures. This was his first intention, since in those days books were so scarce that preachers spent many hours reading the Bible and meditating on the Holy Scriptures. But today we have what Timothy did not have—books that help us extract the real essence of the Bible. At our disposal are commentaries and meditations that offer us new pathways of thought to follow, and carry our minds over the threshold of the Word of God.

What are the Epistles if not commentaries on the Old Testament text? How clear Leviticus becomes when we compare it with Hebrews, and certain portions of Isaiah and Psalms when we compare them with the Book of Romans! How clear Romans and Hebrews become when we take advantage of the fruits of mental and spiritual effort of other servants of God who have meditated on these books!

Spurgeon, Meyer, and so many other great servants of God would have been only names in history had their thoughts not been written in books. Now, though they have passed away, these men still speak to us.

But if biographies, devotional books,

commentaries, and other books are necessary for the Christian, what shall we say about a good Christian novel? It is the nourishing bread of the adolescents, as well as a great medium for the evangelization of many people.

Our reading, like our eating, must be spiced by variety. If a Christian reader dedicated himself only to reading commentaries, I'm afraid he would soon tire of them. If he only read missionary biographies he would be carried away by the spirit of adventure without receiving the necessary spiritual nourishment. If he read only sacred novels he would not reach the maturity in his spiritual life that he would get through commentaries and other devotional books. That is why the Christian reader should vary his reading as much as he varies his food, to assure that all is profitable, though different in nature. By this means the Christian will effect his spiritual growth in a way that is complete and normal.

Some people say they don't have time to read. This is relative. How many hours do we spend talking about unimportant things? If we were to add up the half hours and quarter hours wasted in more or less insignificant conversation in just one year, we would realize that had we spent that much time in reading, we probably could have read a whole library! I'll admit, chatting is often a more attractive pastime than reading, but which is more profitable? Which can better form our Christian character and fill us with useful knowledge for the blessing of our fellow men wherever we may find ourselves?

Just as the apostle Paul says, "None liveth for himself," the increase of our spiritual knowledge should not be self-ishly acquired for ourselves only, but for the world that surrounds us.

We must be reading Christians!

-E.L.O. Bulletin





SPEAKING of BOOKS

BY RUSSELL P. SPITTLER

MEMBER OF THE FACULTY OF CENTRAL BIBLE INSTITUTE

As a service to Evangel readers the price and order number are given for each book. All books reviewed here may be obtained from the Gospel Publishing House, Springfield, Mo.

VALUABLE TIPS FOR TEACHERS

• THE "HOW" OF EFFECTIVE LESSON PREPARATION, by Henry Jacobsen. 48 pages. 60c. 3 RV 3478.

Here is a little book for every teacher of classes from the older teens up.

With illuminating diagrams it outlines a sound method of preparing your Sunday school lessons. This is definitely not a "heavy" book delving into the psychology of the pupil, the techniques of teaching, and equally theoretical topics. It gets right down to next Sunday's lesson.

The book clears away the erroneous idea that the Sunday school quarterly must be followed slavishly. It helps develop in the teacher a life-long habit of personal Bible study.

You could absorb the book in a pleasant evening. But its effect might easily last a teacher's lifetime.

This may sound strange, but there are many budding preachers who would be helped by the use of this book. They would only have to change the word "lesson" to *sermon*, and "teaching" to *preaching*.

For after all, preaching and teaching share the same goal—bringing men to God. And both are forms of communication.

So if you're a preacher or a teacher, and you're willing to invest sixty cents on "professional improvement," try this manual.

NEW INFORMATION ON TEACHING AIDS

• AUDIO-VISUALS IN THE CHURCH, by Gene A. Getz. 256 pages. \$3.95. Order number 3 RV 1039.

Did you know that you can "paint on" a chalkboard? Did you know you can buy a gasoline-operated filmstrip projector?

These are but two of the many items discussed in this encyclopedia of visual aids. Starting with the challenge of picturing and sounding the gospel, the author traces through the range of aids

available in today's crowded market. He shows how to use graphs, models, exhibits, maps, charts, posters, photographs, murals, projectors of every description, tape recorders, and records. He even treats radio broadcasting. All this is done without ever losing sight of the primacy of the work of the Holy Spirit in the heart of the pupil.

One of the unique features of the book is the chapter entitled, "The Foreign Missionary and Audio-Visual Aids."

I question whether there would be any teacher, superintendent, or director of religious education who could not put this practical manual to good use immediately.

NEW ONE-VOLUME COMMENTARY

• COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE, by Matthew Henry. One-volume edition, edited by Leslie F. Church. 1,999 pages. \$9.95. Order number, 3 RV 902.

Should you buy a commentary?

That depends. It depends, first, on whether or not you need one. It depends, second, on whether or not you would use one if you had it. There is no conceivable value in purchasing an expensive volume or set of volumes merely for shelf decoration.

Are you a *serious* Bible student? I mean, do you take your study of the Scriptures seriously? Do you go about it earnestly and regularly?

If you answer *yes*, a good commentary on the Bible may prove of value to you.

A commentary is a book that explains the meaning of the text of the Bible in order to make its message clear. Ordinarily, it does this verse by verse, giving the more attention to those portions of Scripture which are obscure.

There are different kinds of commentaries. *Devotional* commentaries concentrate on culling out the spiritual application of each passage. *Historical*

commentaries rehearse in detail the political, economic, intellectual, and social background of the portion of the Bible thus treated. Critical commentaries are not necessarily evil. Rather, their purpose is the technical one of establishing the original Greek or Hebrew text and deciding certain technical questions about the text of Scripture. Expository commentaries present a connected running explanation of the thought or argument of a Biblical passage. Homiletical commentaries appeal especially to preachers, who value the suggestions for sermon outlines given there. Exegetical commentaries are useful only to those with training in the Biblical languages.

Ordinarily, the interested layman and the busy pastor would profit most from a commentary which combines uncomplicated explanations of historical background with a running exposition, topped off with specific devotional applications.

Such an ideal commentary is this one by Matthew Henry. Begun in 1704 and completed some years later, this is probably the best known commentary on the Bible written in English. It has been in use continually for 250 years. Wilbur M. Smith calls it "the greatest devotional commentary ever written." Charles H. Spurgeon told his students, "Every minister ought to read Matthew Henry entirely and carefully through once at least." George Whitefield, powerful eighteenth-century evangelist, read it through four times—often on his knees.

Matthew Henry does not waste words: his comments are tightly written. They have a dimension of depth. They show keen spiritual perception. Using this commentary is in itself an act of religious devotion. That cannot be said of all commentaries.

The full, six-volume edition of Matthew Henry runs over seven thousand pages. (Chances are your pastor has a copy of this set. The Gospel Publishing House can also supply the entire set—six volumes, at \$29.95, order number 3 RV 893.) At the request of the editors a prominent British clergyman has worked through the whole set and eliminated all material of a secondary nature. The result is the heart of Matthew Henry's commentary, compressed into two thousand pages, and firmly bound in a single volume.

This is not a condensation, but an abridgment. Matthew Henry's words are not changed, only some of them

(Continued on page twenty-nine)



Evangelist Hal Herman (left) and Paul Arcangeli, interpreter.

ROMANS MEET CHRIST

By ALFRED J. PERNA Field Representative for Italy

W ITH A LOOK OF AMAZEMENT ON their faces, people stopped to stare at the large gospel signs adorning the famed "Theater Brancaccio" when its doors opened for the first public, citywide evangelistic effort in the modern history of Rome!

From all levels of society they came. Nobility, lawyers, and professional men gladly sat side by side with the poor and the unemployed to hear the gospel message.

Each week of the campaign, hundreds stood boldly to their feet to publicly profess Christ as Saviour. There were thrilling testimonies of those to whom God gave miracles of healing.

The ministry of Evangelist Harold Herman was annointed of the Lord. God empowered him to preach the gospel with such purity and simplicity that none could take offense.

Christians • around the world joined in a great "prayer-chain" for the Rome meetings. God confirmed His Word and poured out His Holy Spirit. Many wept in the audience as they listened, some for the first time, to the promise of salvation through personal faith in Jesus the Son of God.

The entire city of Rome was stirred. As one newspaper reporter said to me, "My editor is after me. Everyone is talking about this meeting. I must have a story."

Newsreel cameramen came and photographed the audience, the preaching, the prayer for salvation, and the "Mass Prayer" for healing of the sick. The motion pictures of this Assemblies of God evangelistic campaign were shown in theaters of Rome and all over Italy.

Nearly a score of reporters, feature writers, and news photographers attended the press luncheon shortly after Brother Herman arrived in the city. stories of the campaign ran in many of the most powerful daily newspapers of Rome. One ran a full column story and photograph. The popular "Expresso" published a large picture and a half page article written by one of Rome's most distinguished journalists.

The whole city was challenged to "come and hear the message of faith and hope" in Christ. Many, many hundreds of large color posters advertised the meeting across Rome. Each one had police approval and not one poster was torn down. A sound car with loud speaker toured the streets making announcements. Youth from the Assemblies worked wholeheartedly, passing out tens of thousands of brightly colored handbills. Leading daily newspapers accepted and printed our paid advertising.

An evangelistic campaign of this scope was historic and unprecedented. Everything was new, strange, and dif-

ferent. It was God's appointed time and God's meeting. He alone opened the doors and brought the campaign to pass. People returned again and again.

"These gospel messages stir me all up inside," exclaimed the director of a large school. "Marvelous! I've never heard anything like it."

God's definite leading for this campaign has been clearly evident from the day last year when Brother U. N. Gorietti, superintendent of the Assemblies of God in Italy, and I personally invited Brother Herman to come to Rome. God enabled us to lease a large and famous theater in a choice location. It was God again who gave favor with city officials, police officers, the press, and the public. At no time in the campaign was there ever any "incident" or "disturbance" of any kind.

Beautiful conversions included people of all ranks, even some whose names can not be given. Lives were transformed as people stood to ask Christ to save them. Some asked for "private conferences" and knelt before the Lord and wept their way to a "born again" experience.

Each night as the sick and suffering stood for the "Mass Prayer" for healing, the Holy Spirit moved over the audience. God's presence was real and powerful. Some who came to the



Crowd gathering for Sunday morning service at the Brancaccio Theater in the heart of Rome where the crusade was held.



Evangelist Herman at pulpit with Pastor Francisco Toppi interpreting. The motto proclaims "Jesus Christ the Saviour of the World."



Campaign committee: U. N. Gorietti, superintendent of the Italian Assemblies of God Evangelist Hal Herman, and Alfred J. Perna, field representative for Italian Assemblies.

platform to testify were almost beside themselves with joy and wonder.

A boy of twelve displayed his foot which had been bent and "drawn up" and now rested flat on the floor. A woman testified she "felt something like fire" go through her body and "all pain and sickness vanished." She praised the Lord! Another was healed of a stiff leg. A man raised his arm, now made free and well by the Lord. A woman healed of "an issue of blood" another freed of "insomnia" returned to testify. A lady cleansed of "eczema" held out a sack of medicines "no longer needed." The people seemed much moved by the testimonies of God's love and power.

Baroness Elza Carbonelli, who received a great miracle of healing in one of Brother Herman's meetings in Berlin five years ago, came to testify "the blessing remains. My body is like new!" She brought friends, including a Roman lawyer who was himself instantly healed.

One hundred thousand copies of the Gospel of St. John were provided for the campaign by the Foreign Missions Department through "Light for the Lost." Added gospels and Bible courses for converts were given through Dr. Ben H. Pearson. Only time will reveal the full harvest of souls gained through wide distribution of these precious gospels.

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Send Foreign Missionary offerings to

Assemblies of God

Foreign Missions Department

434 W. Pacific St., Springfield, Mo.

God opened other doors for ministry outside of the auditorium. Together with Brother Herman we visited the home of an Italian actress at the point of death with cancer. She was in tears. "The pain is greater than I can bear," she sobbed. After patient and careful instruction in the gospel, she accepted the Lord, and then prayed to Jesus personally for the first time in her life. God answered in a dramatic way. The Holy Spirit fell upon her suffering body. Her tears were turned into cries of joy. "It is so wonderful," she said "like a breath from heaven!" And so it was. Her appearance transformed by her experience with God, the woman arose and walked to the door. She waved a radiant and victorious "farewell" to the departing

ministers, promising to "read the little gospel, and pray to Jesus every day.

"I shall be eternally grateful to God that He ever sent me to Rome," Brother Herman said.

Results of the campaign are lasting. Today there are shining faces of many new converts inside the different Assemblies in Rome. Surely there is joy and a reward in heaven for all who gave and prayed to make possible this Rome campaign. Pastors who co-operated in the meetings were Francesco Toppi, Roberto Bracco, Angelo Tramentozzi, and Giuseppe Giulivi.

Together with all the saints in Rome we rejoice that the God of Peter and Paul is still the same today and offers peace for body and soul to all who will look in faith to Jesus Christ!



Light for the Lost and Overseas Evangelism

BURTON

OME FIELDS ARE RIPE FOR REVIVAL. To miss our opportunities on such occasions is criminal neglect by the church. LIGHT FOR THE LOST division of Men's Fellowship has accepted the challenge to cooperate with foreign missions evangelism for a major effort in the key target areas of the world. Korea, Cuba, the Congo and other areas of the world have been visited by the Holy Spirit in a special way. An unusual hunger for the Word of God that is an outgrowth of Holy Ghost conviction is being experienced in numbers of other areas of the earth. Perhaps this is the great final striving of the Holy Spirit upon all flesh before the coming of Christ.

The new LIGHT FOR THE LOST approach provides for specific evangelism material to assist the local Christians in winning the unsaved. It makes available quantities of gospel portions and instructive material for new converts as well as other followup materials for the conservation of new converts.

The first phase of this coordinated program is the great revival in the city of Rome, Italy. There LIGHT FOR THE LOST, in cooperation with Evangelist Hal Herman, moved into a citywide revival, providing large amounts of literature and gospel portions.

Men's Fellowship has mingled its

prayers and its tears with martyrs of old for a major break-through in such key cities as this. Plans are being laid for other major projects in such target areas as Tokyo, Japan; Montevideo, Uruguay; Athens, Greece; Jerusalem, Jordan; Dakar, West Africa. Plans for such evangelistic efforts will move forward as rapidly as funds become available.

LIGHT FOR THE LOST is a businessman's approach to accelerating the harvest in these final days before Jesus comes. Every cent given for overseas soul winning goes for that purpose. There are no deductions for expenses. Such expenses are underwritten through Men's Fellowship by key businessmen who are interested in doing big business for God in the most economical way. These men feel that a spiritual literature crash program, sponsored by our own denomination in cooperation with our efficient Foreign Missions Department, can do a far more effective work for God through the funds sent than by channeling it through other organizations.

We invite every man to invest his dollars wisely, accompanied by united intercessory prayer for a move of the Holy Spirit in an unusual way. For, perhaps, this will be the final great harvest in these major cities of the

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2

READ: James 1:1-8

LEARN: "Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh

patience" (James 1:3).

For the Parent: From this passage point out: (1) the writer of this epistle, v. 1; (2) to whom the epistle is addressed, v. 1; (3) Christians should be joyful in difficulties, v. 2; (4) what temptations and trials accomplish in our lives, vv. 3, 4; (5) the method of receiving wisdom, v. 5; (6) the way in which God gives wisdom, v. 5; (7) the importance and necessity of faith in our receiving God's blessings, vv. 6-8. Stress the importance of having confidence that God will meet our needs as we come to Him.

QUESTION TIME: Why should we be joyful in trials (vv. 3, 4)?

How can we gain wisdom (v. 5)?

MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS: Walter H. Clifford (superannuated), British Honduras; Mrs. Wilburn Craig, Alaska; Harold Hanson (Indian), Connecticut; Glen McCollister, Hawaii; W. W. Simpson (superannuated), China; Martha Simpson (superannuated), China.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3

READ: James 1:9-16

LEARN: "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him" (James 1:12). FOR THE PARENT: This passage teaches: (1) we are not to rejoice in who we are or what we have—our joy is to be in the Lord, vv. 9-11; (2) there is a reward for those who overcome temptation, v. 12; (3) temptations do not come from God, v. 13; (4) temptation comes through our own lusts—desires, v. 14; (5) temptation when yielded to brings sin and sin, in the end, brings eternal death, v. 15; (6) the Christian should beware of the conquer temptation and sin. QUESTION TIME: How do we know God is not the source of our temptations (v. 13)? What reward is there for conquering temptation (v. 12)?

MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS: Elroy M. Clark (Indian), Washington; Malcolm W. Blakeney, India; Norman C. Campbell, Columbia; Ralph C. Cobb, Nigeria; Sybil H. Geisinger, India; Mrs. H. Landrus, Liberia.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

READ: James 1:17-27

LEARN: "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world" (James 1:27).

FOR THE PARENT: Point out: (1) the source of good gifts, v. 17; (2) why God placed us on this earth, v. 18; (3) because of God's purposes, we should follow His laws, v. 19; (4) why we should beware of anger, v. 20; (5) the importance of both hearing and doing the Word of God, vv. 21-25; (6) why we should watch what we say, v. 26; (7) the definition and test of any person's religion, v. 27.

QUESTION TIME: What is pure religion (v. 27)? What is vain religion (v. 26)? To what is the person who hears—and does not do—God's Word likened?

MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS: Earl A. Taylor, Japan; Mrs. Joseph I. Peeples (Deaf), Arizona; Mrs. David R. Phillips (Indian), California.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

READ: Acts 9:1-16

LEARN: "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us" (Titus 3:5).

FOR THE PARENT: (Additional material on "Saul, Conquered by Christ" will be found on Sunday's Lesson page.) Point out: (1) Saul's purpose and attitude in going to Damascus, vv. 1, 2; (2) the miraculous vision, v. 3; (3) Saul's reaction to the vision, v. 4; (4) the conversation between Saul and the Lord, vv. 4-6; (5) the reaction of the bystanders, v. 7; (6) how Saul entered Damascus, vv. 8, 9; (7) God's dealings with Ananias, vv. 10-14; (8) God's evalution of Saul, vv. 15, 16. QUESTION TIME: Why did Saul go to Damascus (vv. 1, 2)? What happened to him on the way (vv. 3-6)? How did Ananias first react to the Lord's mission for him (vv. 13, 14)? How did God calm Ananias' fears (vv. 15, 16)?

MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS: James E. Baker, Formosa; Ray G. Jones, Bolivia; Ernest A. Sorbo, India.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

READ: Genesis 1:26; Proverbs 20:27; Psalm 8:4-6; Ecclesiastes 12:7; Matthew 10:28; 2 Samuel 14:14; Ecclesiastes 8:8; Hebrews 9:27; 1 Corinthians 1:9; Revelation 3:20; Romans 14: 12 (Sunday's Lesson for Juniors)

LEARN: "Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture" (Psalm 100:3).

FOR THE PARENT: Since there are a number of different verses in today's lesson, assign different portions to each member of the family. After he reads it, have him give his idea of what it means. Show how and why God created us, what we owe. God as Creator, and what will be our final end.

QUESTION TIME: What happens when a person dies (Ecclesiastes 12:7; Hebrews 9:27)? How can we have fellowship with our Creator (Revelation 3:20)?

MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS: Mrs. D. E. Barber, Philippines; Mrs. R. R. Webb, Nigeria.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

READ: 1 Kings 17:7-24 (Sunday's Lesson for Primaries)
LEARN: "Give, and it shall be given unto you" (Luke 6:38).
FOR THE PARENT: Have the group review last week's lesson about God's judgment on Israel and Ahab—no rain came to the land (1 Kings 16:29-33, 17:1). Review also how God cared for His prophet, Elijah, during those days (1 Kings 17:1-6). Then point out: (1) the problem, v. 7; (2) God's commandment to Elijah, vv. 8, 9; (3) Elijah's faith demonstrated by his obedience, v. 10; (4) Elijah's request, vv. 10, 11; (5) the widow's problem, v. 12; (6) Elijah's promise, vv. 13, 14; (7) her confidence in God and her faith rewarded, vv. 15-24. QUESTION TIME: What problem of the widow woman did Elijah's request for food bring to light (v. 12)? How did she demonstrate her faith in God (vv. 15, 16)?

MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS: H. L. Griffin, Congo; Fred A. Merian (superannuated), North India; Mrs. William Sakwitz, Japan; Virgil F. Smith, Brazil.

MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS FOR SUNDAY: Ralph D. Hollandsworth, Liberia; Inez Kreiss, India; Anna Jean Armstrong (Deaf) Illinois; Mrs. Lucille Farmer (Indian), Arizona.

A Pentecostal Christian

(Continued from page two)

"Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me" (Acts 1:8). So this Pentecostal Christian started putting this power of the Holy Ghost to its proper use. He began to tell his friends, his neighbors, and his workmates about the One who can change people's hearts and habits and homes. He began to pray for them by name. He won their hearts by many acts of friendship, and then he led them one by one to the Cross where their burdens were lifted and their sins were washed away. Yes, Saint Anonymous is a working Christian. He works for God -and God works with him, answering His prayers and using him in those lines of service for which he is particularly fitted. The anointing of God's Spirit gives him power to overcome the timidity of his own spirit and to be a courageous witness for Christ.

There is no sign of pride in Saint Anonymous. Observe his life closely, and you will see that when he is enjoying the most blessing he is showing the most humility. That is one of the trademarks of a Pentecostal Christian. His motto is like that of John the Baptist who said, concerning the Lord Jesus Christ, "He must increase, but I must decrease." You will never hear Saint Anonymous boasting of his accomplishments. He is always talking about the grace of the One who showed him infinite mercy and love. He remembers well the pit of sin from which the Saviour lifted him. With shame he recalls the failures in his life when he tried to do good in his own strength. He knows that there is nothing in himself worthy of boasting, so he boasts only of the Lord.

Some folk have enough humility of heart to submit themselves to God, but not enough to submit themselves to their brethren. It is not so with this Spirit-filled saint. He actually prefers to see others honored rather than himself. He is glad to take a "back seat" if he can push someone else to the front. He is the kind of church member that delights the pastor's heart—the kind who will always stand up for what is right, but never for his own rights.

Saint Anonymous says that if he had his rights he would already be in hell—so he doesn't want them!

Another characteristic you will notice in this follower of Christ is his great love for his brethren. He is a worthy companion of those first-century Pentecostals of whom it is written, "The multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul" (Acts 4: 32). He realizes that the Church is a body made up of many members. Each member is different but each one is necessary. He feels his need of the other members of the body, and he recognizes that the other members need him; so he keeps in close touch with his brethren and co-operates with them.

There was a time when he thought the command to "love your neighbor as yourself" was beyond the realm of possibility. Before he was filled with the Holy Spirit, he found it very difficult to love some people! But what a change there was after God shed His divine love abroad in his heart through the bestowal of the blessed Holy Ghost! Now the faults of others only evoke the greater love, for Saint Anonymous sees people from God's viewpoint and longs to help them.

Selfishness? There is no room for that in this Spirit-filled life. The Pentecostal Christian looks on his possessions as the property of God, entrusted to him for wise disposal in the interests of men's eternal welfare. And so he is as unselfish as those early Christians of whom it is recorded, "Neither said any of them that aught of the things which he possessed was his own" (Acts 4:32). He does not think of his own comfort and convenience, as much as the happiness of others. He is glad, if the occasion demands it, to sell his lands and bring the money and lay it on the altar in order that the world may be evangelized.

Saint Anonymous is a man of prayer. He is sensitive to the urgency of the times and to the moving of the Holy Ghost. He knows that in these last days, when God is crowding so much into the short time that remains, there is greater need than ever for intercessors, and so he spends much time alone with God.

He knows not what he should pray for as he ought; but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for him with groanings which cannot be uttered (Romans 8:26). This is a ministry which was unknown to him before he received the mighty baptism of the Holy Spirit. He believes that one of the reasons why God filled him with the Spirit was that he might be a prayer warrior.

Perhaps you are asking, "Who is this Saint Anonymous, anyway? Where may I find him? What is his real name?" You will find him in the New Testament. He must remain anonymous, for he is a composite of what every Spiritfilled saint ought to be. Would your life fit this same description? It may, if you will ask God to bring you up to the Bible standard.

The secret lies in Ephesians 5:18, where the apostle writes, "Be filled with the Spirit." The force of the Greek wording here is, "Be being filled with the Spirit." It is a continuous action. God never intended merely to baptize you once with His Spirit and then to leave you dependent on that single filling for spiritual power throughout the rest of your days. His plan is to fill you with His Spirit again and again and again—a continuous infilling. You will recall that the early Christians had more than one recorded filling. Soon after the Day of Pentecost they had a severe trial, and in it they looked to the Lord in prayer. It is written that "when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with bold-(Acts 4:31). These people had already been baptized with the Holy Ghost, but they needed a refilling. One of the evidences of a Spirit-filled life is a continuous filling with the Spirit and a continuous following of the Spirit. "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit" (Galatians 5:25).

Remember Saint Anonymous. Let God fill you and refill you with His blessed Spirit and you, too, will manifest the fruit of the Spirit—all the Bible evidences of a truly Pentecostal Christian.

MAGAZINES HAVE A MINISTRY...



Are All the Children In?

By ANNE SANDBERG

How MANY FAMILIES DO YOU KNOW in which all the children, after reaching maturity, have continued to serve the Lord?

Most young Christian parents embarking on the task of training their child "in the way he should go" do so with the ardent expectation that "when he is old, he will not depart from it." But just a little investigation reveals the disappointing truth that in many evangelical churches there are few families in which *all* the children, after reaching maturity, have continued to follow the Lord.

Because they are so unusual, I interviewed twelve such families, representing five leading evangelical denominations, to ascertain how they achieved their success.

Among them I found several points of similarity. Most of the parents prayed for their children, conducted family worship, and required attendance at services other than Sunday school. But each family also emphasized different elements in their training programs.

Peter Willson, a high-school teacher, and his wife June come from families in which all members continued serving the Lord through adulthood.

When Peter's father was converted, he immediately established a family altar. He and his wife became active in Christian work in which their children's help was frequently enlisted. As a further outlet for the nine boys and one girl, the parents encouraged outdoor games. "I don't think Mom and Dad meant we should play football in the living room," remarked Peter. "But they balanced strict religious training with love, so we usually got by." It all added up to a boisterously happy but serious Christian home. Six of the

children attended Christian colleges. Two are now missionaries, and the other two have gone to be with the Lord.

Peter's wife June is a member of a four-girl family.

"With a completely Christian environment, we could hardly do otherwise than serve the Lord," remarked June. "But I was always impressed by the fact that Father, though extremely busy, led devotions every evening and concluded with a family conference in which both spiritual and secular matters were frankly discussed. These talks greatly strengthened our Christian experience."

Peter and June Willson are now employing the same methods in rearing their own four daughters, with the hope that eventually theirs will be an adult family completely in Christ.

The DeVries family placed emphasis on discipline. Their son Faulkert will never forget the triple date during the roaring twenties when one of the couples insisted on staying later than the required deadline, 10 P.M. Dashing through the dew-wet fields, Faulkert arrived at his country home at eleven o'clock to find the door locked!

He later commented: "Though we were required to attend church all day Sunday and three times during the week, we seven children never complained. We didn't dare! But the strict German upbringing did not hurt us, for we all accepted Christ in youth, and as married adults we are still serving the Lord."

Thirty years after the *Emil Sand-bergs* left Sweden to settle in Illinois they accepted Christ as Saviour and established a Christian home. Their oldest daughter, a school teacher, remarked: "I was always impressed by

Father's absolutely punctual and faithful church attendance; also, because Mother was never too busy rearing six children and helping Dad run our general store to make home a center for church activity. Frequent visiting ministers and workers definitely influenced us all to continue in the ways of the Lord."

The Sandbergs' fourth child Stewart and his wife Esther also have an all-Christian adult family. During early years their three children never grumbled, "Do I have to stay for church after Sunday school?" They knew the answer. The interminable hour sitting still in church was compensated by wonderful Sunday dinners. Mother cooperated with Sunday school teachers in lessons and memory work and carefully instructed her children of their need of a personal decision for Christ. One daughter married a missionary to Ethiopia; the other daughter and a son are active Christian laymen.

Stewart Sandberg's son married Joanne Baldwin, also a member of a complete Christian family. Joanne recalls that their home was always open to their young friends, who frequently remarked, "We have more fun at your house than at any other." Her parents entertained many servants of the Lord.

The Baldwin children were also influenced by the knowledge that they were the object of their parents' continued prayers.

The eight sons of *Pastor and Mrs.* Gottfried Waldvogel may have followed the tradition that all minister's children are mischievous, but today five of them are also ministers and the rest are active Christian workers.

Though very busy ministering, the Waldvogels did not neglect their own children's spiritual welfare. "There was nothing perfunctory about Bible reading during family worship," said one of the sons. "Father always explained what he read and made it interesting. He also practiced what he read about not sparing the rod, and he insisted that we show respect to Mother." Early each day Mrs. Waldvogel trekked to the furnace room to pray for her sons, claiming the promise, "Thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children." Strictness was tempered with love; both parents took time to be pals to their children. All eight sons are now serving the Lord and rearing their own families in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Of the five children of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Wyma, two are missionaries, one a minister, one a church trustee, and one a faithful layman. "Our family was very closely knit," said their son Dick. "Although Mother encouraged church attendance, she never forced us. But we knew how she would feel if we didn't go, and we couldn't bear to hurt her feelings. It was the same with worldly amusements. Another important element in our training was that as the older children accepted Christ, they influenced the younger ones."

Dick married Lucille Pitken, also a member of an all-Christian family of five children. After Lucille's father was saved at thirty-five, their family life changed. "We had to participate in family worship even if it meant missing breakfast," said Lucille. "Once I tried to sneak out the back door, but never again. Father was definitely head of the house, bringing us up with a combination of love and strictness."

Mr. Pitken promised each son a new car if he was not smoking by twenty-one; each boy got his car. "One reason we didn't rebel," added Lucille, "was that Father wasn't too stern to play with us. Once, I remember, he strung up electric lights so we could finish a croquet game that lasted until after midnight. He encouraged fun with our friends, and we loved him for it."

It wasn't until after marriage that Vivian accepted the Lord, making the Victor Hofflander family of five children complete in Christ. During their

FOR THE JUNIOR READER

WHO WROTE IT?

The Bible is the Word of God. Yet, in giving us His Word, God used men. Below is a list of 10 books of the Bible. At the right is a list of men God used to write these books. Can you match the book and the man God used? (Several names can be used more than once.)

BOOKS	WRITERS
1. Genesis	a. Jeremiah
2. Acts	b. Moses
3. Proverbs	c. David (and others)
4. Exodus	c. David (and others)
5. Romans	d. Paul
6. Revelation	e. John
7. Ecclesiastes	
8. Lamentations	f. Solomon
9. Colossians	g, Luke
10. Psalms	

ANSWERS:

1-b; 2-g; 3-f; 4-b; 5-d; 6-e; 7-f;

childhood, nothing except a blizzard prevented the eight-mile trip to church every Sunday and several times during the week. Then, with hymnals and guitar, Father would conduct church at home.

"Because our parents respected the minister and the church, we children had the same reverence for things spiritual," said Charles. "They lived such exemplary lives that it was impossible for us to be non-Christians." The two sons became ministers and two of the girls became ministers' wives. One son died in the Lord.

The John H. Carroll family really does not qualify in this article, since all of the adult children are not yet saved. But because seven out of the eleven children are, we are mentioning this family.

The Carroll children were brought up on family worship morning and evening and stern discipline. Mr. Carroll screened playmates at times. "During pre-school days," says one daughter, "a boy taught me to swear. Father sent the boy home, forbidding him to return, and he called on the parents to explain why. Father always reminded us children that we were never to do anything that would reflect on his ministry." As a result all the seven Christian children are ministers or ministers' wives

A recent picture of the Victor Olson family showed nineteen people, representing four generations of Christians. Mrs. Olson says: "It is useless for parents to think that the church alone should educate their children for the Christian life. It is chiefly the parents' responsibility." For her own inspiration, she read daily a chapter in Andrew Murray's book Children for Christ. She also studied God's provision for the family in the Bible, claiming the scriptural promises as she prayed one hour a week for each of her three sons. No worldly amusements or worldly books were permitted. The fact that many missionary books were made available doubtless explains why two sons are missionaries; the third is a minister. Each of the sons has established a Christian home and two are grandparents of Christian children.

Summarizing briefly the methods of all these successful parents one finds various factors: family worship, Sunday school and church attendance, prayer by parents, attention to social life, example of parents, and discipline tempered by love.



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