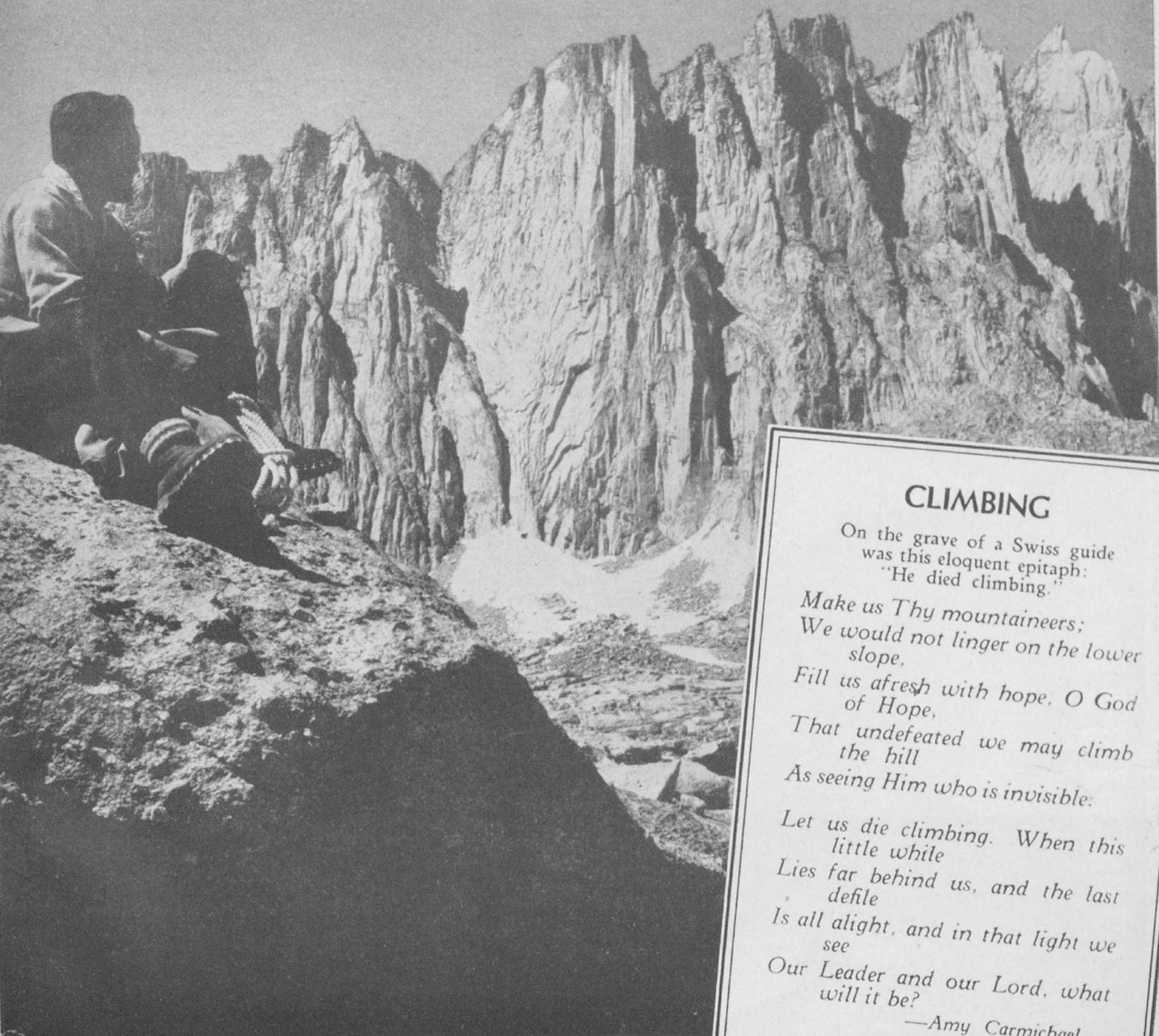


The PENTECOSTAL Evangel

MARCH 9, 1946

NUMBER 1661



CLIMBING

On the grave of a Swiss guide
was this eloquent epitaph:
"He died climbing."

*Make us Thy mountaineers;
We would not linger on the lower
slope,*

*Fill us afresh with hope, O God
of Hope,
That undefeated we may climb
the hill*

As seeing Him who is invisible.

*Let us die climbing. When this
little while*

*Lies far behind us, and the last
defile*

*Is all alight, and in that light we
see*

*Our Leader and our Lord, what
will it be?*

—Amy Carmichael.

Our Blessed Hope

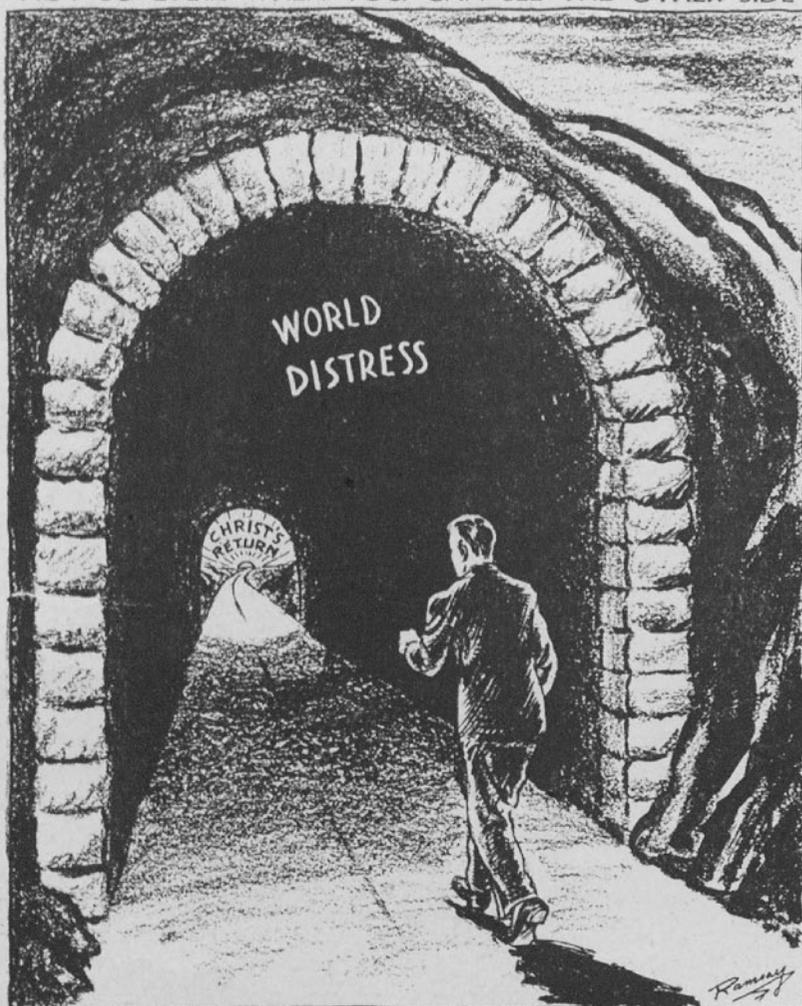
*Ernest S. Williams on National Assemblies of God
Radio Hour, Sunday, February 24*

HOW is your hope today? Are you cheerful and encouraged, or are you doubtful and sad? We have hoped for many things which have turned out to be disappointments. Is there then not a hope that is sure? We believe there is.

Have you heard of that Blessed Hope, the coming again of Christ? How this hope lifts the spirits of those who love the Lord; what an incentive to press forward, however conditions about us might appear. Paul was filled with this hope; and as a result he counted all things but loss that he might win Christ, as he "pressed toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

To look with pleasure toward the coming of Christ a person must know that he is born again, saved through faith in the atonement. How glorious it will be to be caught out of this sinful and troubled world into the presence of our glorious Redeemer. "For the Lord shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God." This coming will be sudden, like unto a thief in the night. Jesus said, "Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh." He warned concerning those who say, "My Lord delayeth His coming," and He ex-

NOT SO DARK WHEN YOU CAN SEE THE OTHER SIDE



horted, "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." He had just been speaking of the woes that would fall on the world in the last days.

When Jesus comes, homes will be divided. Godly members will go to meet their Lord, the ungodly will remain behind to suffer the judgments of God that will then descend on those who have rejected the Savior's love. Sad will be the lot of those who have refused to accept God's free salvation.

We encourage the people of God. "Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord . . . for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh." We warn the unconverted, "Be ye also ready." We are now living in a day of mercy. Whosoever will may now seek and obtain pardon. But the day of mercy is rapidly passing. Soon the night will be here when mercy's door will be shut. Do not neglect your soul's salvation. "Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near."

Faith, the Great Producer

*Ernest S. Williams on Nation-wide Radio Broadcast
over the Mutual Network, Friday, February 22*

AT Valley Forge, George Washington faced his darkest hour of the American Revolution. Had his faith failed then, he never would have been known as "The Father of His Country." Faith is that quality that believes things possible when impossibility stares a person in the face. When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, had the President of the United States been a man without faith, knowing the unpreparedness of our country for war at that time, he might have said, "We had just as well capitulate now without the shedding of more blood." But, acting on faith, he announced instead, "We accept that challenge." Had he given up without conflict all would have said he was a weakling. Because he spoke and acted courageously the whole nation was ready to follow him.

Faith surmounts. Doubt succumbs. Without faith we would all be failures. With faith all may overcome. Faith in one another begets confidence and unity. When we trust a man we have no reserve concerning him. To the degree that we have faith in him we trust him. If we have faith in one another as a nation, we will go forward unitedly and happily. It is the devil's work to develop lack of confidence and as a result disunity, suspicions, and hard feelings. Industry and labor could easily work together if each had faith in the other. Would it not be fine were bitterness and prejudice removed and were each to look at the other's problems with sympathy and reason? And why should this not be?

But before we can go forward with faith in one another, there needs to be faith in God, a living faith. How different everything then would be from what it is. Sin and faith in God do not go hand in hand. Happy satisfaction comes from purity.



BE YE ALSO READY: FOR IN SUCH AN HOUR AS YE THINK NOT THE SON OF MAN COMETH. Matthew 24:44.

While some derive their joys from the curse of strong drink, others find their joys in the hoarding of wealth. While some stoop to immorality, others look for pleasure in pastimes wasteful both of time and of energy.

Representatives of an insurance company wished to sell group insurance to a body of Christian men. During the conversation they said, "You know, you people are a notoriously long-lived people." Whether they knew the reason for this or not, the reason was that those people were living by the Spirit of God a life of obedience to God, and, by so living, they were living in harmony with the laws of their own being. No one is in complete harmony with himself until he comes into harmony with God.

Jesus was teaching the blessings of a life of faith when He said, "Take no anxious thought for the morrow, for the morrow will take thought for the things of itself." He knew how burdened we become with our plannings and our anxieties. When He pointed to the sparrows that chirp and skip about our doors and said, "Fear ye not, ye are of more value than many sparrows," He wished to teach that our God shall supply all our needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

How beautifully this is expressed in the twenty-third Psalm: "Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies. Thou anointest my head with oil. . . . Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me." Here is faith for the supply of all needs, and assurance that when life's pilgrimage is ended we shall not have to pass through the valley of death alone. In this confidence the Psalmist could say, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever."

We have been filled with care. We have labored to overcome. We are weary in body and in mind. Then Jesus says, "Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you

rest." Friend, it takes faith in Jesus for us to go to Him, but when we rest our poor troubled souls on the bosom of His love, feel the stroke of His gentle hand on our weary heads, and have Him breathe into our troubled beings fresh aspirations and hope, how good it feels. Faith goes to Him, feelings result.

Faith is the great producer. It dispels doubts, worries, and a thousand cares that are crushing so many, and it says, "Fear not." Jesus believed in the value of man and gave Himself for man. Many were the rebuffs which He received. Not all would accept Him, but those who did found in Him a Friend and a Savior, a Burden-bearer and a Leader. Did He not say, "Follow Me"? Did He not exhort, "Let not your hearts be troubled"? Were there any that came to Him for help whom He did not understand?

But that was long ago, when He was here on earth. That is true, but He is the same Savior today as then. "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever." Multitudes can testify now that

He has done for them as much as He did for those who came to Him in the far-off past. Sin's power has been broken, confusion of mind dispelled, broken hearts healed, and torn bodies mended.

The plan of salvation is "once for all." When Jesus cried, on the Cross, "It is finished," He brought in everlasting reconciliation. He now sits at the right hand of the Father in heaven as our great High Priest, the One and only Mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus. There He intercedes in our behalf today. He that confesses his sins to Him finds a Priest able and willing to forgive. He who takes Him as Savior and Lord finds a Friend and Companion that will never leave him nor forsake him.

My friend, my friend, if you have not found Jesus, seek Him today. Tell Him all your sorrows, confess to Him all your sins, take Him as your personal Savior. Can you not see Him as He died on the cross taking there the curse of your unrighteousness? "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."

The Scriptural Sign

Harold Horton

WHAT IS THE SCRIPTURAL SIGN OR EVIDENCE OF THE BAPTISM?

I repeat and emphasize the word "scriptural" evidence. I do not ask what is the evidence in the theologies or commentaries or doctrines of the schoolmen. I do not ask what is your particular feeling about the evidence. I do not even ask what is the actual evidence on the grounds of which you claim to have received the Baptism. I repeat, What is the Scriptural evidence? There is only one answer. At Pentecost when they were filled they spake with tongues. At Caesarea, too, they spake with tongues. At Ephesus they spake with tongues and prophesied—not "or" prophesied, but "and" prophesied. That is they received the customary and expected evidence of tongues and a further gift of the Spirit also. There is no scriptural evidence that prophesying ever takes the place of tongues as the evidence of the baptism. Paul spake with tongues "more than ye all." When did he begin to speak thus? The inescapable inference is—when he received the Holy Ghost as Ananias laid hands on him according to the command of the Lord. But of course you will say, as everybody says, that at Samaria it is not recorded that they spake

with tongues. Yes. We agree that there is no record that they spake with tongues at Samaria.

We reply, there is no need in every record of a repeated experience that there should be a circumstantial and detailed photographic description of that experience. God gives us three detailed and well-authenticated reports of the baptism having been received with the supernatural evidence of tongues. He then expects us to have learned what to expect at subsequent baptisms and how they can be identified, authenticated and checked as complete.

When Peter recounts to the brethren at Jerusalem the astonishing fact that the Gentiles at Caesarea had received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, "the like gift as He gave unto us" (Acts 2:15-17; 15:8), he does not repeat that they spake with tongues. The record of the actual event in Acts Ten includes both the Baptism and its inseparable evidence, tongues. Peter now recounts the experience and expects his brethren to infer the supernatural sign without his mentioning it. It is not necessary to keep repeating in

(Continued on Page Seven)

THE EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Our Deepest Need Supplied

A WEALTHY businessman had a motto on the wall of his office, "My God shall supply all your need out of His riches in glory." A godly preacher came along, and looking at the motto protested: "Say, you have misquoted the scripture. The Bible does not say that God shall supply your need 'out of His riches' but 'according to His riches.'" "Well, what's the difference?" inquired the businessman. "There is all the difference in the world," said the preacher. "If you saw a poor person who was destitute of everything in life, you might give him a dime 'out of your riches' to get a cup of coffee and a roll, but if you gave him 'according to your riches,' everyone of his needs would be supplied to the full."

Do we know our need? No. Man is not always conscious of his need. The Psalmist declared, "I am poor and needy." Psalm 40:17. He had needs he could not express, and poverty beyond his comprehension. It is good to realize our poverty and need, and then to remember the further truth set forth by the Psalmist, "Yet the Lord thinketh upon me." His thoughts of love towards us are "more than can be numbered." Psalm 40:5, 17.

A STRANGE AGENT

God thought on Job. He saw that he had a need and purposed to supply that need. At times He uses strange agents to perform His purpose. When Satan appeared before the Lord, He said to him: "Hast thou considered My servant Job?" Yes, Satan had been considering him, but there was a hedge round about him and Satan could not break through the hedge. The Lord spoke commendatory words concerning Job; not words of condemnation, but those of love, esteem, and praise. But the enemy was full of suspicion and said, "Doth Job fear God for nought?" Take heed when you become suspicious of God's saints, lest it be an enemy who suggests these thoughts of suspicion.

PRAISE IN POVERTY

Satan attributed mercenary motives to Job. He was merely serving God for the compensation he was getting. Look at the substance he had! The boundless wealth! No wonder he served God! The Lord said to Satan, "All that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand." Then the Lord allowed His

servant to be minished and brought low at the hand of the adversary. But Job, that righteous man of God, tried, tested, and brought to abject poverty, looked up into the face of Him whom he loved, and said, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

BROUGHT LOW

The adversary came again before the Lord, and once more the Lord pointed out His servant Job. Satan complained that Job still had his health, and declared, "Put forth Thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse Thee to Thy face." The Lord said to Satan, "Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life." He allowed the adversary to bring Job low with sickness, so that from the crown of his head to the sole of his feet he was smitten with loathsome boils, full of corruption. But He did not let the enemy take his life. Rest assured that God, as you look to Him in faith to preserve you, will not let the enemy take your life, that you may live out your allotted span and fulfill the tasks of His appointment.

HOLDING FAST HIS INTEGRITY

The wife of Job, seeing his awful disease, did what many do—attributed the disease, the corruption, and the awful sickness to God. Many look upon God as

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a monster and do not recognize Him as One who loves His own, as One who is worthy to be trusted. God does allow trials; but for one purpose—that He might enlarge through the trials the one He loves. Job's wife said to him, "Curse God, and die." It was surely the adversary who inspired her to tempt Job thus. But Job replied, "Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?" He further testified, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him."

LEARNING TO BE STILL

Then there came three men to Job, and they spoke some very discouraging words to him, words that were not right. Job 42:7. They provoked Job with the multitude of their words, and he was unwise in answering their words of provocation. But he learned through his trial the value of silence, and later said, "I will lay mine hand upon my mouth." It is well that we learn the importance of that word of the Lord, "Be still, and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10. It is well for us to learn the lesson of stillness from the Lord Jesus, who, when He was oppressed and afflicted, opened not His mouth. The Scripture bids us, "Study to be quiet" (1 Thess. 4:11), and tells us, "In quietness and in confidence shall be your strength." Isa. 30:15.

THE WORD OF GOD

The Lord saw the great need of His child and spoke to him out of the whirlwind. And He spoke wonderful words. In seasons of trial go to your Lord and He will speak to you wonderful words, comforting words. His Word is living. His Word is powerful. His Word is perfect. His Word is sweeter than honey in the honeycomb. Do you want to be enlarged? Do you long for purity? Everything you desire is to be found in the all-creative Word of your Maker. In His Word there is healing, there is life, there is strength, there is power, there is all-sufficient grace. Receive with meekness the Word of God; yes, receive Him who is the Living Word who was sent from heaven to bring life and healing and salvation to all.

BROUGHT LOW AND THEN HELPED

When Job had heard all that God had to say to him, he was brought to that condition of self-aborrence which the Lord saw he needed. Job 42:6. All who have come into close intimacy with God have been filled with this same self-aborrence. Isaiah, the fiery prophet, when given a revelation of the holiness of God, cried

out: "Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips." But the Lord, who gave to Isaiah the revelation of his impurity, supplied a living coal from off the altar, that brought purity. Isaiah 6:5-7. And to Job, filled with self-abhorrence, God supplied all that He saw Job needed. The Lord will have us abhor self, deny self, and take up our cross daily, that daily the old self-life might be crucified, and that daily we might know the blessedness of having Christ enthroned within, living His own life and serving His own gracious purpose through us as we are yielded channels to Him.

A MEEK AND LOWLY SPIRIT

What is our greatest need? It is a meek, humble, lowly, contrite, broken spirit. That in the sight of God is of great price. That is what Job received at the end of his trial. It is written, "Ye have . . . seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy." James 5:11. The chastening was grievous, but as Job was exercised by it he was made partaker of the holiness, the lowliness, and the meekness of the Lamb of God. Thus what Job lacked, his Lord provided. And He will provide for us, in like manner, as we are exercised by the loving discipline He will allow us to have.

THE LORD'S COMPASSION

Previous to hearing from the Lord, Job had harsh words to say to his friends. He had declared, with irony, "No doubt but ye are the people, and wisdom shall die with you!" He had said to them, "Miserable comforters are ye all!" But now, at the end, did he have harsh words to say to them? No. He had the compassion of the Lord. He saw their infirmity and weakness; and out of a heart of love, having received the nature of Him who ever liveth to make intercession, he prayed for his friends. And as Job prayed for them with the compassion and tenderness of the new nature he had received, all sickness departed from him. Then the Lord began to restore.

RESTORATION

The Lord is bountiful. He delights to give. Job had learned what it was to be abased, now he was to know once more what it was to abound. And the abounding grace of God was manifested as He gave Job an abounding measure, even of temporal things. We can count on the Lord's providing us with spiritual blessing in heavenly places, and we can count on His providing for us on temporal lines. This is the portion of those who trust in Him

Let us say to Him today, "I am poor

and needy." But let us praise Him because He is thinking of us, and because we know that He will supply all that we lack. And at the end of our trial and

testing He will make us partakers of His own holiness, His own love, His own compassion, His own meekness and lowliness—yes, His own nature.

The Hidden Antichrist

It is written, "The mystery of lawlessness doth already work: only there is one that restraineth now, until he be taken out of the way." 2 Thess. 2:7, R.V.

The signs of the times indicate that the final stakes, the restraining stakes, will soon be removed, and an overwhelming flood of evil will be loosed upon the people. The stakes may be made fun of, they may be thought very feeble, but they are the ones that God is using to hold back the flood of iniquity. When those stakes are removed, are pulled up out of the earth, then the flood will flow unhindered.

No wonder the world makes fun and jeers at those who are true to God. The increased force of the flood behind, the accumulated masses of iniquity, are chafing under restraint, longing to be liberated.

We read in the 2nd Psalm, "The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord"; not one particular ruler, but those of all nations. The Psalmist questions, "Why do the nations rage, and the peoples imagine a vain thing?" Psalm 2:1, R.V. Why do they imagine vain things? Because they have been inspired by the one who in vain seeks universal rule. They say, "Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us." The world wants liberty without restraint, full license to carry out its evil intent, free reins to the lust of the eye, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life.

What we have seen in Russia during the past quarter of a century is a proof of the commencement of a flood. The failure of Russia to accomplish what was set forth as an ideal will not deter other nations. They are saying, "We will follow Russia's example and improve on her mistakes." They want an ideal government, a perfect government, without God and without Christ. That is the aim of man. And God will let man experiment.

When men rejected the Son of God they cried, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Barabbas was a robber and a murderer. They wanted Barabbas delivered to them by the Roman governor. And the same dragon who was back of that governor

will loose one from his captivity, a Barabbas that he has ready for them.

"Not this man, but Barabbas!" And the virtues of Barabbas will be extolled, while the Son of God is denied His Godhead. The heart cry of the multitude will be, "Dethrone the Son of God and enthroned Barabbas." The priests inspired the mob to make the fatal choice, and today those who should be leaders and teachers of the Word, inspiring hearts to worship the Son of God, are dethroning Him and setting up another in His place. As surely as judgment followed the fatal choice in Christ's day—the house left unto them desolate, Jerusalem and the temple destroyed—so surely will judgment follow the world's fatal choice. And the blind leaders of the blind will suffer with their dupes; they will both fall into the pit, into the lake burning with fire and brimstone.

As the betrayer of our Lord Jesus Christ was kept secret from the apostles, though Christ had made reference to him, saying, "One of you shall betray Me," so will this lawless one be hidden. The apostles did not know until the last minute that it was Judas who would betray Him. When the Lord said to Judas, "What thou doest, do quickly," even John did not know the name of the betrayer until he had a special revelation at the eleventh hour. Neither will men know today, even at the eleventh hour. The apostles questioned, "Is it I?" The disciples of today are questioning, "Is it this one, or that one?" The one who lifted up his heel against Christ in the days of His flesh was hidden, unknown, until the last moment; so today God purposely, wisely, hides from us the man who is going to lift up his heel against Christ, and against those who profess His name.

There will be false Christs, and we shall doubtless see many false Antichrists. God will reveal the true Christ and the real Antichrist in due time for all to know. In the meantime, watch and pray, for it is written concerning the Son of God, "In such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." Matt. 24:44. Pray that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

"Something Drew Me"

Mrs. Wilma Gilbert

I WAS perched carelessly on top of a pool table in a building where I was employed. There, amid all the joking and swearing going on around me, I heard a voice say, "You are going to die." Just those words, nothing more.

With those words everything changed for me. Their light talk went on as before; and well it might, I thought bitterly, because they were going to live, and I was going to die. Going to die, as young as I was, and leave my precious baby, the only bright spot in my life.

Despair settled down over me, thick darkness, bitter remorse. I tried to shake the feeling off, but the voice I had heard was not to be put aside. It was different from anything I had ever heard in my life. It went deep into my heart and found a lodging place, and the weight of it was heavy.

At that time, I had not given God much thought. I had gone so deeply into sin that I had come to the place where I scoffed at religion.

Weeks dragged by, and I carried that load on my heart, alone. I was so miserable I lost interest in everything except my baby, and even he did not receive the care he should have had. At first there was not so much fear of meeting God as there was regret that I had to die so young and leave my baby. He was all I had left of the tangled wreck of my life and my broken marriage. The baby had been the only real happiness I had had, and I didn't want to leave him.

When the baby was born I had determined to live so that he would never be ashamed of me. And I had tried in myself to do better. At the time God spoke to me I was living better than I had in years, but the awful root of sin was in my heart and had not been destroyed. In my ignorance I thought I could be good just by deciding to. I had the terrible habit of smoking cigarettes (I had been a slave to them for years), and try as hard as I would to quit smoking for the sake of my baby, I could not.

My best friend came to visit me. She, like me was prone to scoff at religion. I had never mentioned my troubles to anyone. Into her ears I poured my griefs, my fears, my bitter sorrow. She, of

course, could not understand it. Truly there are many times when only Jesus understands our burdens, and He alone can take them. Still I did not realize my need of the Savior. After that I did not talk to anyone else about my troubles.

In July, in a field near my mother's home where I lived, a group of Pentecostal people erected a tent for a revival meeting. As I look back now, I can see God's hand in the location of the tent. Had it been farther away I would not have been interested; had it been closer I could have heard them singing well enough without going to the tent.

There was something about the singing that I really enjoyed. After listening to them the best I could at that distance, I decided to walk over to the tent. I planned to sit on the ground outside the tent—I didn't want to be seen in their midst as I really thought those people were a little beside themselves. There is a tremendous drawing power in spiritual singing; that alone drew me to the tent.

There were several empty seats in the back of the tent, and it seemed foolish to sit outside under those circumstances; so I slipped inside, hoping no one would notice me.

I was lost for a while in the enjoyment of the song service. When it ended I was ashamed to get up and leave; that did seem rude. I was not even slightly interested in the preaching service, but I decided to sit through it rather than call attention to myself by leaving.

I let my mind wander from one thing to another in an effort to pass the time. But suddenly, like a thunderbolt, words from that preacher's lips pierced my mind, jerking me to attention. He was saying, "Thus saith the Lord, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live." And I saw myself perched atop that pool table several months before when God said to me, "You are going to die."

Needless to say, my mind did not wander any more. The preacher, anointed

with the Spirit of God, in a message so real and so powerful it caused me to tremble from head to foot, laid bare the fears and bitterness that had dominated my life throughout the previous six months. He said, "You walk across the little space of time, and then God says it is enough; it is time for you to go. You may think you are too young to die." (Hadn't I been grieving over the fact that I must die so young?)

Suddenly I realized God was giving me a chance to set my house in order. Then I began to realize my need of a Savior. Added to all my worry and grief of the past months was an overwhelming fear—fear to meet God. I was lost!

But the preacher was continuing. He was telling how God had heard Hezekiah's prayer, had seen his tears, and would add fifteen years to his life. He explained that if God had a work for man to do, if man would turn to Him, confess and forsake his sins, God would spare his life. That was the first ray of hope there had been in my heart for six months. I listened closely, hanging on to every word he said. Here at last was hope.

But at once the enemy of my soul began his talk. "What! Go to that altar, in a place like this? Become one of those funny people? Now if it were any other church; but not this place, surely!" He continued his deadly talk in one ear, while the other listened to the message of salvation.

Don't ever tell me that these things just happened. The preacher laid out the very things I had been suffering—and no one knew anything about it except my best friend, and she lived in another town and had never so much as heard of this preacher. Further than that, I didn't know the preacher, and he didn't know me. I *knew* it was God, and I knew He had sent that message *to me*.

Pride kept me at my seat when the altar call was given, while my soul longed for the peace I knew I would find at the altar. But these people seemed so peculiar. I went home more miserable and wretched than ever before, because now there was added a terrible fear of meeting God.

The next week was a desperate battle with the enemy of my soul. Each morning I would make up my mind to stay away from that place, but each evening found me preparing to go in spite of myself. *Something* drew me, and it was no longer the singing—I was so miserable I couldn't enjoy the singing. But it did take on a new meaning to me. The singers were happy people!

Each night I found a seat a little closer to the front. And each night I became

Jesus Saves

a little more miserable. Foolish, stubborn, false pride held me back, while my heart longed for the peace that was offered. Time, sleep, food, work, everything of the natural lost meaning for me. My weight dropped fifteen pounds. One day my supervisor tried to send me home from work. Said she, "You look terrible; you are not able to work. Go home and get some rest." But I didn't go; there was no use.

Seven weary nights I battled the enemy of my soul before I made a move toward God. Finally I made my way to that humble altar. It was the most wonderful move I ever made in my life; and once made, there was no turning back. I believe (although I am not sure, because time lost meaning for me) I went to the altar seven nights before the victory came. I didn't know how to pray, but I knew I wanted peace. I had to have it. And that was the way I prayed. I begged God for peace in my heart.

The enemy made my cigarettes look awfully big. He made me think I couldn't give them up. Hadn't I tried to, so many times? But God asked me for them. I said, "Lord, in myself I can't give them up, but I *am* willing if only You will help me." He did just that, and even more—the miracle of salvation took place in me, and God took the desire for cigarettes completely from me. It didn't matter then whether I lived or went on to be with the Lord. I was happy in Him.

That was several years ago. The Lord saw fit for some reason to spare my life to this present time. From that day to this there has never been a time that I didn't want to serve Him. Salvation is so real, and the joy of the Lord in my soul is so precious, it is truly a miracle.

OOLITIC, IND.

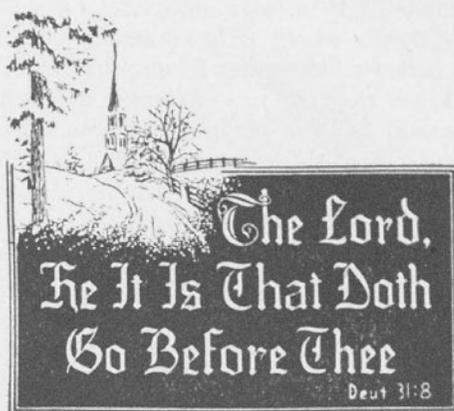
The Scriptural Sign

(Continued From Page Three)

the record the details of any repeated blessing of the grace of God to the saved sinner. It is not recorded that the Philippian jailer either repented or was born again. It is simply reported that he believed on the Lord Jesus Christ and was thus saved. Paul knew all about the new birth, and of course the jailer could not be saved without being born again. That also Paul knew, and God the Recorder too. But the fact that it is not recorded that he was born again does not cast doubt either on the need or the fact of his new birth.

God has given us in certain typical chapters of the Bible clear teaching on certain doctrines and experiences of sal-

vation. For instance, the new birth is clearly set forth in John's gospel and Peter's Epistle, and other scriptures. The essential of redeeming blood is set forth in Leviticus and Hebrews, and many other places. But there is no need repeatedly to mention the new birth of redeeming blood in every record of salvation. If Nicodemus must be born again in order to enter the kingdom of heaven, so must the Philippian jailer, whether his new birth is recorded or not. You would not say that Lydia was not washed in the blood of the Lamb because there is no



record in Scripture of the fact. Neither would you dare to claim that Lebbaeus whose surname was Thaddaeus was not baptized in water because there is no mention of the incident in the inspired record. And though it is recorded that the Ethiopian eunuch was baptized in water it is not recorded that he was wet all over as the evidence of it as he emerged from the waters; but it would be unreasonable to declare or suppose that he wasn't. The inference in each of these instances is so unmistakable as to amount to a positive certainty. So is the inference that they spake with tongues at Samaria.

Then the leader of a modern fundamental denomination that is not Pentecostal wanted to persuade me some time ago that a sufficient evidence of the Baptism is love. But I want to know what degree of love will warrant in a poor sinner saved by grace the claim that he has received the Baptism? What degree of flowing, we might as reasonably ask, would be a sufficient indication that water is boiling? Flowing is certainly a proof that water is not stagnant, but only steam is an evidence of its boiling. Flowing is a characteristic natural to river water. Steam is not. It is the result of a further and nonnatural process. However strongly a river flows it never boils that way. It might froth with flowing: that looks a bit like boiling, but it isn't.

Love may look like the Baptism, for both those who are baptized and those

who are not have love. But love isn't the Baptism. However deep is the current of genuine love it never reaches the Baptism by flowing or growing. Christians love, thank God, both with and without the Baptism. A loving Christian who speaks with tongues is a baptized Christian. It is by the tongues and not the love that he is marked as such. When they were all filled on the Day of Pentecost they began, not to love (they had begun that long ago) but to speak with tongues. But their Baptism increased even their love. Increased love was the fruit—not the sign of the Baptism.

Love is a fruit of the new life we have in Jesus. It is natural to that life. It is an expected result of the life in the Tree. If the tree bore diamonds and pearls instead of fruit, that would be the result of some mighty supernatural endowment that the tree had enjoyed. That is exactly the comparison between love and tongues. Love is a fruit of the Spirit, the first of the list of nine in Galatians Five. Every born-again child of God is expected to manifest those fruits in measure as the expression of divine life in him. But speaking with tongues is not a natural exercise but a supernatural exercise. Some mighty supernatural endowment is necessary to cause a natural man to speak perfectly a language he has never learned. That language is the evidence of the Baptism.

We grow more and more love as we abide in the Vine. We can grow fruit. We cannot grow a gift. Neither can the production of more and more fruit which is natural to growth, ever result in a sign of a supernatural gift endowment. We just receive tongues as a complete gift and exercise it as a continuous miracle. Men and women in both Testaments have had love in marked degree who never heard of the Baptism. It was love that prompted Mary to pour her ointment over the feet of the Lord. It was goodness in Nathanael (another fruit of the Spirit, Gal. 5:22) that prompted the Lord to speak of him as a man in whom there was no guile. But that was no evidence that he had received the Baptism. He was guilelessly good before his Pentecost. No amount of fruit could be evidence of the Baptism. The simplest of the supernatural manifestations, even tongues, is the Scriptural evidence of the Baptism in the Spirit.

"Friendship is a golden thing only if it be kept free from undisciplined attachment. We are not here to enjoy each other. We are here to do the will of God."

No man honestly wants God and does not get Him.—Alex. Maclaren.

Some Birthday Reflections

J. Narver Gortner

THIS is my birthday. I was born seventy-two years ago (Feb. 16, 1874). How time flies! Of course, I have no recollection of being born, but that the event took place the fact that I have been here ever since appears to me to be quite sufficient proof. I have had what seems to me to have been quite an eventful life so far, and I have been doing a bit of meditating today. It has seemed to me wise to set down some of my reflections.

There are many things for which I am thankful today. I am thankful for the fact that I was born in a Christian home. My father was a Methodist minister, not one of the modern type, but an old-fashioned holiness preacher. I breathed from my earliest infancy the atmosphere of a Christian home. We had a family altar, which, alas, is too often lacking today in many homes that are supposedly Christian. Twice every day, morning and evening, we gathered around that altar, and prayed. The children were sheltered each day under the protection of the wings of the Almighty, and I was taught to pray as soon as I was old enough to speak. How thankful I am for having been born and nurtured in a Christian home! God only knows where I might be today, had I been born and reared in an atmosphere of infidelity, or in that of a mere profession, where there was the form of godliness but not the power.

I am thankful, too, for the fact that in early childhood I became acquainted with Jesus as my personal Savior. I joined the church, as I think every Christian should and when I was scarcely more than a mere boy I felt in my heart that it was the will of God that I devote my life to the preaching of the gospel. My highest ambition was to be able to preach as my father preached. He was an unusual man. He walked with God. Not a single unkind word did I ever hear fall from his lips. I never saw him out of patience. He was once kicked by an unruly cow, and his face was covered with blood; but his temper remained unruffled, and he spoke kindly to her. It made a lasting impression upon my mind. Years later, my father having gone to be with God, I was able to write concerning him:

He was a true and gracious soul;
No unkind word escaped his lips;

His vision of the blood-bought goal
He let no carnal deed eclipse.

Would to God we had more such fathers today! No desire had he for the applause of men, no ambition to fill a big place in the world. His greatest ambition was to be in the center of the divine will. He knew that the time would come when he would have to go, that here he was a stranger and pilgrim, and that God had a mission for him to perform; and if he failed to perform that mission he knew that life would be a failure. I recall how one morning, when we were in Liberia and had not seen a white person outside our own family for at least two months, most of the food we had brought from England was gone, and we knew not where the next was coming from. My mother had begun to wonder if he might not be sorry he had come to Africa, and asked him what he thought of our lot. He replied, in the words of Paul, "I have learned in whatsoever state I am *therewith* to be content." And it seems that I can still see the light of heaven reflecting from his face as the words fell from his lips.

I am thankful, too, as I look back over the years, for the privilege of having been called to the ministry of the gospel of the grace of God. What a privilege to be a preacher, a messenger of the Lord! A thousand times better to be a humble preacher of the gospel of Jesus Christ than to be the President of the United States! Somebody says, "Foolishness!" In the eyes of men, yes, but not in the eyes of God. Forget not that it is written, "God hath made foolish the wisdom of this world." I recall how I heard a minister years ago paint a word picture of Paul and Nero. Paul was a poor, despised disciple of the Lord Jesus, a missionary of the cross, and was in chains, about to be sentenced to death for having preached the gospel; and Nero was the proud emperor of the mightiest empire upon the face of the earth, envied by the crowd, and applauded by the multitudes. He possessed all that earthly power could procure, or money could buy, whereas Paul had no earthly possessions except a cloak and a few parchments. But who now would not rather have been Paul than to have been Nero? Yes, I am glad God

called me to preach His gospel, and that *this* has been my life work.

I am thanking God, too, for a good wife. "Favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, *she shall be praised.*" Prov. 31:30 In these days when so many of our women apparently think it is more important that they be outwardly beautiful than that they be inwardly so, it would be well if these words of the wise man could be placed as a motto upon the wall of every woman's home. I believe that the best way for a woman to cultivate beauty of face is to cultivate beauty of heart. The beauty that is the product of a beauty parlor is counterfeit beauty, but the beauty that shines from within is genuine, and will endure. It will outlive death; it will survive the judgment.

Fifty-two years ago today I celebrated my twentieth birthday. I was the pastor of a Methodist church in a small Nebraska town. It was my first pastorate, and God had signally blessed the church with a gracious revival. Forty souls had been converted, and some of them had come through at the altar to such definite experiences in God that they were almost beside themselves, and had danced with joy.

I was not receiving a large salary. My mother was keeping house for me, and that year I preached three times every Sunday, twice in town, and in the afternoon at a country schoolhouse some miles away. My church paid me a salary of \$210, and this amount was supplemented by the Board of Home Missions to the extent of \$80, so that all told I received during the year \$290. In those days I learned to practice economy. I am wondering if some of our preachers would not be better off had they begun their ministry where the practice of economy was a necessity. Extravagance has always appeared to me to be a sin. Our Lord placed His stamp of approval upon economy when He said, "Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost." If that is the way the *Creator* feels about it, how should we, the *created*, feel?

Yes, it was my twentieth birthday, and,

(Continued on Page Twelve)



Blessed are all they
that trust in Him

Ps. 2:12

The Passing and the Permanent

A NEW MORMON TEMPLE

Mormons are to build a \$200,000 temple in the city of San Mateo, California, it was announced recently.

CIGARETTE SMOKERS

The Gallup Poll declares that 75 per cent of the men of our nation and 33 per cent of the women are smokers.

"OLD-FASHIONED REVIVALISTS"

Charles E. Fuller of the Old-Fashioned Revival Hour is working on a plan to send three hundred evangelists out over the United States and Canada.

LICENSED LIQUOR DEALERS

There is now one licensed retail liquor store, saloon, or beer parlor in the United States for about every one hundred families, says *The Union Signal*. This figure is based on 1945 Internal Revenue records.

CATHOLIC MISSIONS

The Roman Catholic church is outdoing the Protestants in seizing the missionary opportunities of the postwar era. Already, according to *Newsweek*, twenty Maryknol Fathers have gone to Japan, and twenty-five more are about to sail for Japan and Korea. The Catholics are making use of modern methods, too. Already they have purchased a number of airplanes for missionary use; and *Pathfinder* tells about a military landing craft, built by the Canadian Government for invading shallow beaches but never put into use, which a Franciscan Father has bought and equipped for missionary work in South America. It will serve as a floating chapel to take Catholicism to natives in the river-laced jungles near the Peru-Ecuador border.

AMERICAN CHURCHES

Dr. Walter A. Maier voices the warning: "Churches once built by the prayer and sacrifices of Christian parents are rooting out the faith of their Children. Entire denominations which fifty years ago stood fast and firm on the fundamentals of Bible truth are now wavering. Sunday after Sunday millions in churches hear no warning against sin and no promise of Christ's blood-bought grace. Week after week we see the studied denial of the divine inspiration of the Bible, our Lord and Savior's deity, His blessed atonement, His resurrection on the third day, and His return to judge the quick and the dead! We ask, as unbelief waxes bolder, 'Have the churches of Christ lost courage? Why is the voice of protest subdued, the indictment of disloyalty and treachery so gentle and muted?'"

D. M. Panton writes: "It is hardly credible, but today, in one of the chief Baptist churches of America, Dr. Fosdick welcomes into church fellowship Mohammedans, orthodox Jews, and all who believe in a 'supreme being'; no faith in Christ is required."

THE SUFFERING MESSIAH

A Christian worker asked a Jew what he and his people did with the fifty-third chapter of Isaiah, which depicts the sufferings of Christ. In his kind way he answered, "We were taught to pass over it."

RELIEF FOR EUROPE

Swedish Protestants are feeding 137,000 needy Norwegian children, 83,000 destitute old people, and 23,000 youth at a cost of half a million dollars a month, according to the *American Lutheran*. Sweden also is helping Estonian, Latvian, and Jewish refugees.

CATTLE FOR GREECE

The first cattle to be shipped overseas by UNRRA were donated by the Dunkers, or United Brethren, of Lancaster County, Pa. These Christian pacifists not only have contributed hundreds of bulls and heifers for the relief of the suffering abroad, but more than a hundred of their church members have voluntarily accompanied the cattle to Greece as shipherdsmen.

THE INDOMITABLE DUTCH

The occupation of their country by the Nazis did not stop the people of Holland from publishing and circulating more than 80,000 copies of the Scriptures during the war years. Right under the enemy's nose they produced an edition of the whole Bible in Frisian, for a province in northern Holland; a revision of the Dutch Psalms; a revised New Testament for Java; and the first complete New Testament for the people of Sangir, an island in the East Indies. Paper and binding materials were exhausted during the war and the American Bible Society is now sending Dutch publishers new supplies.

UNO HEADQUARTERS

The selection of the New York-Connecticut site for "UNO-ville" places the United States once and for all in the very center of all the international turmoil that lies ahead for this wicked old world. What will happen once the United States has given up all rights to this territory is not quite clear, but it seems that if this country should ever find itself at war with another member nation it must still grant free passage to its enemies to and from this world capital when on missions related to the world government.

The locating of the world capital in the United States may mean that the time has come when our nation must drink the wine cup of fury from the hand of God along with all the other nations. "I will call for a sword upon all the inhabitants of the earth, saith the Lord of hosts." Jeremiah 25:29. Our nation is not guiltless. It cannot escape the judgment of the wrath of God—but individuals can flee from the wrath to come and can find forgiveness and safety in Christ.

THE AMERICAN SUNDAY

The *New York Times* made a very significant statement in a recent editorial: "Our Sundays are not what they once were. The evening church service has almost disappeared, at least in the cities, and along with it the pleasant social aspects of that occasion. Family worship is so rare as to be virtually nonexistent. Few families gather as they once did, for the reading of a chapter from the Scriptures—or, for that matter, of any good book. These were once Sunday (and in some homes, everyday) customs."

RELIGION IN THE SCHOOLS

According to *Religious News Service*, the Superior Court has upheld the right of the Chicago Board of Education to continue releasing pupils for religious training. The opinion read: "This order of the school board's providing the hour for outside religious training is in direct conformity rather than in opposition to the Constitution's Bill of Rights." Superior Court Judge U. S. Schwartz added that "it does not aid in establishing a church nor does it exclude the free exercise of all religion." The decision brought defeat to the efforts of the Civil Liberties Committee to halt the classes in religion. Public school pupils will continue going to the church of their choice one afternoon a week for religious training and getting credit for such as a part of their school work.

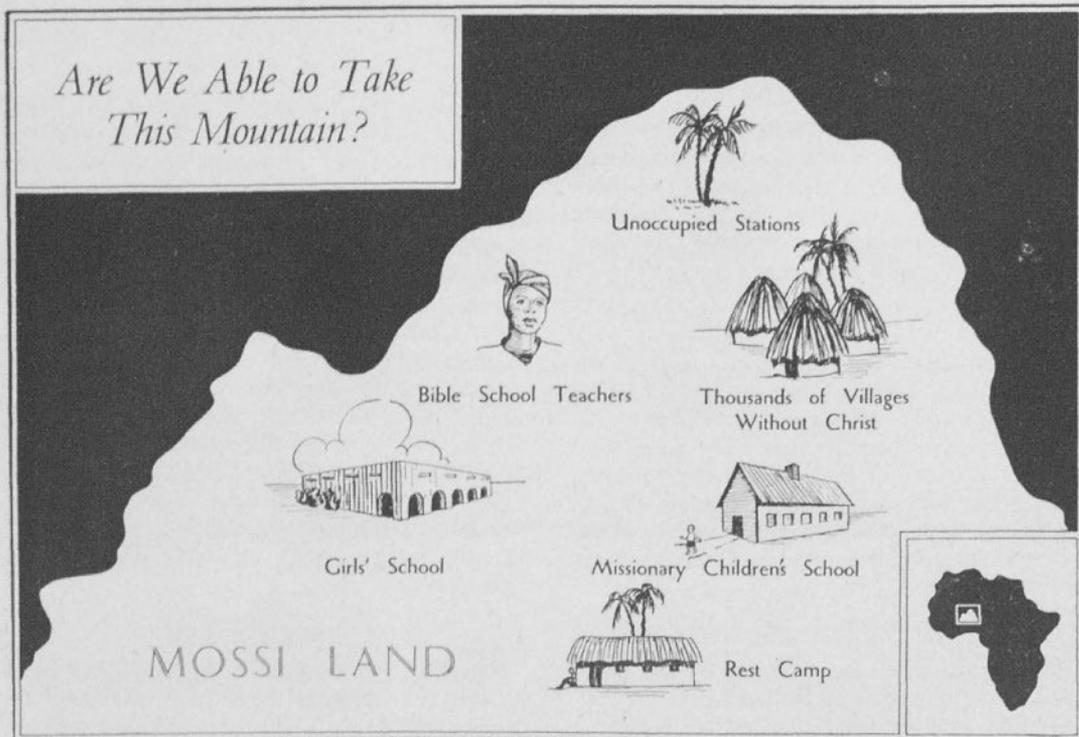
PALESTINE NEWS

Palestine is in convulsion. Rioting killed eight persons and seriously wounded twelve more on December 27. . . . Jews are incensed because the fate of Zionism has been put in the hands of an Anglo-American Committee which will not reach a decision until May. . . . In the meantime, only 1,500 Jews are being admitted into Palestine each month. . . . The Arab League, formed in 1945, held its second meeting in December, reportedly to plan a boycott of Zionist trade on behalf of seven Arab lands. . . . Sir Frederick Morgan, European director of UNRRA, was asked to resign because he charged Jews with a world-wide conspiracy to establish Europe's homeless Jews in Palestine. When he declined, he was invited to the U. S. to prove his charge. . . . An American military officer reports that Jews from the American zone of occupation in Germany are defying all immigration barriers and crossing half of Europe, determined to enter Palestine. . . . In January a gunboat off the coast of Palestine intercepted a vessel with eight hundred Jews attempting illegal entry. . . . The Jews are desperate. They are willing to risk all they have for Palestine.

Our hearts go out to them in their suffering, their misery, their unsatisfied longing for a national home; but we believe that if they would humble themselves before God He would take them into the Promised Land in His own time. We fear the Zionists are struggling in their own strength. Their hopes will never be fully realized until they embrace the Lord Jesus as their Christ, their Redeemer, their Messiah. They need a Joshua to lead them in. When He is revealed and accepted by them, Israel shall dwell in his own land and Jerusalem shall be the glory of all the earth.

Our Missionary Advance:

— With Our Field



ARE WE ABLE TO TAKE THIS MOUNTAIN? With the present force of missionaries on the field we sadly answer, "No." It is true that one can chase a thousand and two can put ten thousand to flight, but we do not yet have the two to ten thousand of the population in this vast territory—to say nothing of the one to a thousand. We must have more laborers to climb these mountains of need in this part of Africa.

In the closing session of our annual business meeting just concluded, our hearts were saddened by a letter which came from one of our stations unoccupied by any missionary for the past five years. The national preacher is no longer carrying on. He was one of our most aggressive and effective workers.

But we want to ask a question. Should this man bear the blame alone? He has been left many months at a time without the ministry and encouragement of a missionary. Not because the missionaries on the field neglected him willingly, but because there weren't enough to take care of the great burden of work.

God has given us a vision for the field, and many new plans have been laid for the future. If God's called ones will respond, and you of the church in general will do your part financially and prayerfully, we can take this mountain for the Lord. "Let us go up at once and possess it, for we are well able to overcome it."—**The Mossiland missionaries.**

News Flashes

The Missions Department is happy to announce the marriage of Betty Hall to Elmer Frink on December 15, 1945. The wedding took place at the mission station in Aba, Nigeria. May God bless this young couple and make them a blessing to many as they unite their lives for His service.

* * *

Word has come of the safe arrival of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Mattson in Jamaica. May the Lord bless them as they begin their new field of labor.

Rosa Reineker arrived in the States from Ceylon in February. Welcome home!

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. James H. Boyce, Mr. and Mrs. Maynard L. Ketcham, and Dorothy Dodge have sailed for North India. They will appreciate your prayers for a safe voyage.

Send contributions to Noel Perkin, Secretary, Foreign Missions Dept., 336 W. Pacific St., Springfield, Missouri.

FELOKA Mission Station in Liberia, where the Misses Shelton and Stafsholt are located, is the site of the Boys' School and also the place chosen for the Liberia District Council in 1945. Mr. Garlock and I arrived late in the afternoon of Thursday, December 13, and were given a room in the recently completed guest house. Plane, canoe, truck, hammock, and shoe leather did their part in bringing the missionaries together. Consequently, we spent the most of the next few days in greeting each one as he arrived.

It was a happy time renewing old acquaintances among the Liberians too, and calling to mind little incidents of the past that had been tucked into the pigeon holes of memory. There was Hannah Toe, godly old mother in Israel, whose husband lived and preached the gospel many years before he was called home. There was Samuel Jaffa, able pastor of the church in Feloka, who as a school boy attended the Christmas convention twenty-five years ago when Mr. Garlock first came to Liberia. There were Ernest and Ruth Weah, still carrying on for God and ministering the Word after more than twenty-five years of service. There was Mama Rachel Yeddah, widow of a faithful old warrior who rejoiced to see the angels come to carry him home. And still the people came, old saints who have stood true through the years. How wonderful is the grace of God! There was also a host of new friends, workers and laymen, anxious to bring their how-dos.

The Liberia District Council convened in the newly constructed church at Feloka from December 19 to 27. The convention schedule was rather full. A daily meeting for the wives of the workers and teachers, a daily meeting for the workers themselves, business sessions, children's meetings, committee meetings, group discussions, private interviews, devotional day services and evangelistic evening services filled every day. It would be impossible for any one person to record all that took place, but there were some precious high spots that were a blessing to all.

On Saturday afternoon a baptismal service was held in a beautiful spot down at the water-side. A large, rather flat rock jugged out into the river, making a natural platform from which the candidates could easily step into the water. Large, overhanging trees afforded shade—and, incidentally, fine vantage points from which most of the boys observed the service. The rush of the rapids a little distance around the bend could be heard, but here the river was calm and quiet. Two pastors worked together as twenty believers were immersed in the cool baptismal waters, while the Christians on the bank sang hymns of rejoicing and praise. Many of those baptized had paid a heavy price to

Secretary in Africa

serve the Lord. No wonder there was rejoicing!

In the Sunday morning service twelve babies were dedicated to the Lord. After the sermon, a long line of sick were prayed for. Oh, how many need a touch of the Great Physician's hand!

Almost three hundred people partook of communion in the afternoon service. Since only about twenty-five could be served around the altar at one time, as soon as one group was served another took its place. Tears of joy, shouts of praise and happy smiles mingled together as these precious people came to the altar in remembrance of Him. Some songs were sung in English, but oh, the liberty that came when someone started a song in "country-mouth." The orchestra consisted of two tambourines and two native instruments—none producing a melody, but all keeping the rhythm. Many in the congregation could not read; nearly all were barefooted; some had only a scanty cloth to throw about them. That mud church with thatch roof and hard wooden backless benches was to them as the gate of heaven. God was there!

In the business sessions of the convention many problems were discussed and definite steps taken to try to solve them. The Christian workers were given opportunity to ask questions and express their opinions. A constitution and bylaws governing the national church was adopted by the body of Christian workers. Many expressed the feeling that the meetings had been a real blessing to them and that the constitution would be a very helpful guide for them in their work and ministry. In a special service two men were ordained to the full gospel ministry. These were Samuel Kuo and Joe Weah.

Christmas Day was devoted entirely to worship services. There was none of the traditional American Christmas atmosphere, except Christmas greeting cards on the dinner table and cranberry sauce with the baked chicken. But in every heart there was real gratitude that Jesus had come into the world to save whosoever would believe.

Wednesday evening, December 26, found the missionaries still with a great deal of unfinished business. They decided to stay over for another day. Thursday was one continuous business session, but there was great satisfaction in getting things accomplished. The meetings came to a close with a real note of triumph and a clearer vision of the work for the future.

There were nineteen missionaries present, representing the "Duluthians," the Canadians, and the Assemblies in the States. Brother Kenneth Stevenson of the Pentecostal Assemblies of

Canada was elected superintendent of the Liberia District Council; Anna Stafsholt, secretary; and Philip Elsea, treasurer. Missionary supervisors were also appointed for the various sections.—Mrs. H. B. Garlock.

Home Again!

Rex Jackson

HERE we are, home again! At least, it is home again for me. For Mrs. Jackson it is home for the first time. One of our native pastors wrote me while we were still in America, "I am so happy that, although you went home single, you are returning to the field double." I, too, feel that I have returned much better equipped.

We are thankful to the Lord for a safe and quick journey out. On October 16 we left La Guardia Field on a big, Pan American Clipper. Lillian Bach, Minnie Ecklund, and Dorothy Buck were able to get passage on the same plane, which made a good sized party of us. Since none of us had ever been on such a large plane before, we were quite amazed to find that it was divided into compartments, each seating ten persons, with the total plane capacity of about sixty passengers. It was quite a thrill for us all, as we took off from the water and realized we were heading for Africa!

The first lap of our journey was to Bermuda, which took us about five hours. There we stopped for about an hour and a half and had a late lunch. Then we were off again for the Azores. We flew all that night, sleeping soundly in berths much like those found in Pullman cars. Very early the next morning we were awakened by the steward, who told us we would be landing at the Azores in an hour. There we had breakfast, and spent a couple of hours. Off again, this time for Lisbon, where we arrived that evening about five o'clock. We were booked by Pan American to go as far as Fisherman's Lake in Liberia, but when we got to Lisbon we found many passengers ahead of us on the waiting list. Therefore

we had to wait about twelve days before we could continue our journey.

All of us were much impressed with the great spiritual need in Portugal. There are very few Protestant churches, and most of them are in the two largest cities. There is no Bible School for the training of workers. Nor is there any book shop where evangelical literature can be purchased.

The rest of our trip was made with very little delay. From Fisherman's Lake, we went on to Roberts' Field, the U. S. Army and Air base in Liberia. After waiting only a few days, an army transport plane took us on to Accra, Gold Coast. Two more hops took us to Lagos, and thence to Port Harcourt, where we were happy to see a large group of our missionaries waiting at the airport. They took us on to Aba, where we spent many hours just talking.

We are back at our old station at Nquot Ikono, where the Hances have been laboring since I left. They expect to continue on here, while we hope to move next week to another section which is in this same district. The main church there has built a nice little mud house for us to live in while we are building the mission station. We shall appreciate everyone's prayers as we take up this new work, and we thank you for all the prayers that have already gone up.



● Above—A mission station under construction.
● Below—Wheel barrows, African style.

How to Become Strong in Faith

1. Own a good print, well bound Bible and a concordance.
2. Set a portion of each day sacredly apart for Bible study. Let your body go unfed rather than your immortal soul. Acts 17:11.
3. Choose an hour for study when your mind is clearest.
4. Study with a humble, teachable mind—not to see what you can make it teach, but what God meant it to teach. Matt. 11:25.
5. Pray for the guidance of the Author of the Book. Psalm 119:18; John 14:26; 1 John 2:27.
6. Read the *whole Bible* through consecutively, again and again. Luke 24:27.
7. *Study*, not *skim*; weigh *each* word; look up all references and read them *carefully*; search the scriptures with text book and concordance to see how

God handles such words and subjects as "Sin," "Salvation," "The Cross," "the Blood," "Repentance," "Faith," etc. Joshua 1:8.

8. Read it as the *Word of God*. 1 Thess. 2:13. Submit your judgment unhesitatingly to its teachings; believe *all* its promises; heed *all* its warnings; obey *all* its commands, *always* and at once. Remember, it is God's message to you.

9. Study and accept, not only what you like, *but all God has to say*. John 7:17.

10. Commit to memory at least one verse each day. Psalm 119:11.

11. Carry a Bible or Testament with you for the improvement of spare minutes. Eph. 5:16; Acts 2:28.

12. Seek to be filled with the Author of the Bible, the blessed Holy Spirit. 2 Peter 1:21; Eph. 5:18.

Some Birthday Reflections

(Continued From Page Eight)

despite the fact that my income was very small, I felt quite sure that the Lord who had called me into the work of the ministry wanted me to have a life companion. And so that day I wrote a poem that was published in the local paper, and one of the verses ran thus:

"I'm twenty years of age today;—
How swiftly time has flown away!—
I'm now almost a man;
I'll seek a bride ere many days;
I'll woo her with the poet's lays;
They tell me poets can."

And "poets *can*." Anyhow, I succeeded. And in due time the nuptials were celebrated. If my wife and I live until the 24th of next June, and the Lord continues to tarry, we can celebrate our golden wedding. The years that have come and gone have been happy years. Neither of us has felt at any time that the marriage was outside of the will of God. We have always felt that each was intended for the other.

And so now, on my seventy-second birthday, I am thanking God for a good wife, and am advising all our unmarried young people to be sure, as they move toward matrimony, that they move in the will of God. The days in which we live

are trying days, and the moral standards are low. Unhappy marriages are multiplying. Many of our Pentecostal people are unhappily married. That is because they have married outside of God's will; or, perhaps, in some cases, it is because they failed to move in the will of the Lord after being married. Marriage is an important step in life. God's guidance and blessing should be sought and secured.

Were it not for my wife, it is likely I should never have come into the Pentecostal experience. For the sake of her health we moved to California. She got worse instead of better; and in Los Angeles was at the point of death. The doctors had done their best, and admitted they could do no more. It was then that we came into contact with some folk who believed in divine healing. They laid hold of God for her. She was anointed with oil in the name of the Lord. A marvelous miracle was wrought; she was raised up to bear testimony to the fact that the day of miracles has not gone by. She is a living monument to the fact that God heals in these last days. We could not understand at the time why God permitted her to become so sick, and to come down to the gates of death; but we understand now. I went to a prayer meeting to request prayer for her, and heard for the first time a message in tongues. I did not know until that time that anybody was speaking in tongues as in apostolic days. I recognized the fact that it was the Holy Ghost that had taken possession of the young woman who spoke. My wife and I

began to read Pentecostal literature, and a few years later I received the Baptism in the Spirit, speaking in other tongues as the Spirit gave utterance.

"God moves in a mysterious way,
His wonders to perform;
He plants His footsteps in the sea,
And rides upon the storm."

This may be my last birthday. Who knows? The older one grows, the greater the possibility that the birthday he is celebrating will be his last one.

How blessed to be ready to go! Paul was ready. It is the privilege of each of us to be ready. Not forward toward death, but forward toward the coming of the Lord mine eyes look. But Jesus may tarry, as He has tarried. If so, I shall have to go, as others have gone. I was looking over some of the written messages left by Brother Robert Craig, and I noted that he had written, "Here is a man who does not expect to die." But *he died*, and I may die; but, thank God, I can testify with Paul that "to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

Let us be faithful. Let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Let us endure as good soldiers of Jesus Christ. Let us keep busy for God. "The night cometh when no man can work." Yes, and the morning cometh when each who shall fall asleep in Jesus shall awake in His likeness. And then shall I be satisfied indeed.

Among the Assemblies

CHURCH DAMAGED BY FIRE

Pastor Neils P. Thomsen advises us that on Sunday afternoon, February 10, fire broke out in Bethel Tabernacle, Canton, Ohio, and the interior was destroyed. The damage amounts to over \$10,000.00 The congregation is seeking temporary quarters until such time as permanent quarters can be secured.

HOLDENVILLE, OKLA.—Recently we closed a very successful meeting with Evangelist and Mrs. Lee Krupnick, of Tulsa. About 20 were saved and 11 baptized in the Holy Ghost. The city was stirred for Pentecost as never before. In spite of rain and cold, the church was filled night after night because of the blessings of the Lord in our midst. Many people from other churches attended. One lady, a member of the church board of one of the largest churches in town, was gloriously saved one afternoon in the parsonage after having attended the services for six consecutive nights. She had been a church member for 42 years, had taught Sunday School classes, and been a member of the board, but confessed she had never had a "change of heart" until this revival. We praise the Lord for the ministry of Brother and Sister Krupnick.—R. M. Catlett, Pastor.



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CHRISTIAN BOY'S PROBLEMS, by Bertrand Williams. This book of sound, sane, carefully written material concerning the sex life of young boys should be placed into the hands of every lad; it may be the means of avoiding much future heartache. **Price 75c.**

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THE DOCTOR'S RETURN, by Ken Anderson. This is the story of Paula Ammons, R.N.; of Danny, her young brother who though blind, is a musical prodigy; and of Dr. Clay Sheffield, a surgeon. Danny is made to see; Sheffield, too...but in ways neither expected. **Price \$1.25.**

EVER-INCREASING FAITH, by Smith Wigglesworth. More than thirty thousand copies of this inspiring book have been printed. These pages abound with incidents of God's healing power. The book inspires both by its clear scriptural teaching and by the reality of the experience described. Heavy paper covers, 160 pages. **Price 75c.**

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THE VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN LIFE, by An Overcomer. If your soul is athirst for the living water and you long to live a life hid away with Christ in God, this book will meet your need. **Price 10c.**

ADVENTURES OF SALLY COTTONTAIL, by Chas. E. Robinson. An interesting book of the Nature Story Series for Junior Boys and Girls. In language the child understands, "Daddy" Robinson in this series makes a definite contribution to child character. **Price 25c.**

THE TRIPLETS OVER J.O.Y., by Bertha B. Moore. Another happy, rollicking tale of the Baer children, full of light-hearted fun and activity. Read how they broadcast over station J.O.Y. get their pictures in the paper and entertain their summer friends. **Price 60c.**

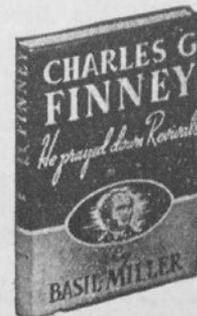
STRAWS TELL, by Alice Reynolds Flower. Here is a group of heart chats prepared for our youth who would know a daily life of overcoming grace. They are the result of actual heart contacts with young people in every circumstance of life. **Price 50c.**

FAITH'S CONQUESTS AND OTHER MESSAGES by W. E. Moody. Here is a book that will inspire faith and be real food for the soul. Those who have read the writings of Brother Moody at different times in the EVANGEL will be anxious for this good book. **Price 50c.**

THE GNAT'S LIFE BOAT, by Chas. E. Robinson. A book of the Nature Story Series. In language the child understands and loves—and enjoyed by grownups too—"Daddy" Robinson makes a definite contribution to child character. **Price 35c.**

GARMENTS OF STRENGTH, by Zelma Argue. Twenty-two chapters that will help you to grow strong in your Christian faith. This book will be helpful to any Christian desiring a deeper life in Christ. **Price 50c.**

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SKELLYTOWN, TEXAS—Our assembly is praising God for sending the Hundley Evangelistic Trio of Floydada, our way. The meetings began January 18 and closed February 3. Hardly a night passed without someone getting saved or being filled with the Holy Spirit. In all, 33 were saved, and 12 received the Baptism in the Holy Ghost. There were three outstanding healings. With the exception of 4 children, all those saved were adults and young people.—H. C. Lonis, Pastor.

DUNCANVILLE, TEXAS—We have enjoyed a 3 weeks' meeting with Evangelists Estus and Rhoda Pack from Southwestern Bible Institute. Several of the students helped in this revival. James Watson was in charge of the song service, with Bob McCutchin as co-worker. It was the most successful revival ever held here. Several were saved, backsliders were reclaimed, and 5 received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Our church as a whole was greatly benefited.—O. C. Kitchens, Pastor.

LEWISVILLE, TEXAS—Evangelist Edith Little, of Ft. Worth, preached two weeks in our assembly and great things were accomplished in the name of Jesus. Many were saved, several were filled with the Spirit, and sick were healed through the power of God. Our Sunday School attendance almost doubled during the meetings, and large crowds from this town and surrounding territory came to hear the plain gospel messages, preached under a mighty anointing. Sister Little's message is very uncommon, being tendered with accounts of heart-breaking experiences, and it has brought a needed awakening to our church.—T. F. Shultz, Pastor.

PATTERSON, CALIF.—We are reporting a mighty revival. It started two weeks before the evangelist came, and is still going on. Saints have been stirred, difficulties have been overcome, and through the mighty preaching of Evangelist Thomas B. Don Carlos, God has given us 10 souls, and baptized the same number with the Holy Ghost. This is besides those who have been reclaimed and refilled. Most of these were young men and women, 17 to 21 years of age; but the most spectacular Baptism was that of a brother who had sought for nearly 22 years. The miraculous hand of God was also present in the Divine Healing service, to heal the badly afflicted.—Henry C. Vancil, Pastor.

POTOSI, MO.—February 10 we closed a very successful series of meetings with Evangelist Clara Classen of Enid, Okla. About 20 came to the altar for salvation, and 11 were baptized in the Holy Ghost according to Acts 2:4. Night after night the house was filled, the glory of God came in our midst, and the entire crowd was moved by God's presence. Many sick were healed in answer to prayer. Every department of our church and Sunday School was blessed by the anointed ministry of Sister Classen. Our Sunday School attendance reached the high peak of 100, and is still growing. Sister Classen and her anointed ministry will be long remembered by the folk in Potosi. This work is just two years old. We are greatly encouraged, and are looking to the Lord for greater blessings.—Arlie M. Roberts, Pastor.

PUNXSUTAWNEY, PA.—We are praising God for sending Evangelist Emma Dickerson to us for a 3 weeks' meeting. The moving of the Holy Spirit was precious. God gave our sister the message from night to night, and souls were stirred. Among those saved were two returned servicemen. It was Pentecost as we love to see it. The anointing on the meeting was such that people had a clearer vision of our Pentecostal testimony. Sister Dickerson's testimony of healing was used of God to inspire faith. Many were prayed for and some definite healings were witnessed.—Arthur E. Moore, Pastor.

FAIRPORT, N. Y.—We are having good results in the pioneer work opened in Fairport. Services are being held every Friday evening in the Grange Hall on the main street of the town. The average attendance has been around 75 for the past few weeks, with a real spirit of revival in the weekly services. The new work is called "The Fairport Gospel Center," and is backed and supported by a fine group of consecrated people. The only hindrance is the lack of a suitable place for worship. Pray that a permanent location may be secured in the near future.—Albert D'Annunzio, Pastor and Director, 775 Frost Ave., Rochester 11, N. Y.



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SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

Coming Meetings

Due to the fact that the Evangel is made up 16 days before the date which appears upon it, all notices should reach us 18 days before that date.

DALLAS, TEXAS—Bethel Temple, March 17—; George Hayes, Evangelist.—Albert Ott, Pastor.

SHERMAN, TEXAS—Revival in progress; Evangelist and Mrs. Billy Keen.—Frank Looney, Pastor.

WICHITA, KANSAS—640 Boehr St.; March 11, for 2 weeks or longer; A. A. Allen of Colorado, Evangelist.—Charles Shumway, Pastor.

BEGGS, OKLA.—March 3—; Evangelist Clyde R. Gunter, Youth for Christ Crusader, St. Louis, Mo.—James Bright, Pastor.

QUINCY, ILL.—Bethel Church; revival in progress; Roy L. Buckley, St. Louis, Mo., special speaker.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Davidson, Pastors

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.—Fremont at 25th Ave. N., March 31—; Karmarkovic Evangelist Party, Lorain, Ohio.—Russell H. Olson, Pastor.

EWAN, WASH.—Meeting in progress; Homer F. Rugwell, of Marysville, Evangelist.—W. G. Strom, Pastor.

MACON, GA.—728 Blackburn Ave., March 3—17; Evangelist and Mrs. Robert V. McIntosh, Ridgeley, W. Va.—Joseph Westbury, Pastor.

SLAYTON, MINN.—Revival in progress; N. R. Dickerson, Pawhuska, Okla., Evangelist.—D. H. Tarr, Pastor.

MOORHEAD, MINN.—Meeting in progress; Clyde R. Gunter, Youth for Christ Crusader, St. Louis, Mo.—Clifford B. Close, Pastor.

PASADENA, CALIF.—Trinity Full Gospel Church, March 10—; Martin Luther Davidson, Evangelist.—Claude Weaver, Pastor.

CHELSEA, MASS.—113 Hawthorn St., March 17—31; Charles H. Robertson, Evangelist.—C. C. Garrett, Pastor.

DALLAS, TEXAS—Maple at Lucas Drive; March 3, for 3 weeks; J. K. Soper Jr., Evangelist.—Ray R. Soper, Pastor.

ELKHART, IND.—1128 Johnson St.; March 10, for 2 weeks or longer; E. William Anderson, Oakland, Calif., Evangelist.—Truman S. Lowell, Pastor.

PARSONS, KANSAS—Meeting in progress; Harley M. Smith, Evangelist. George L. Hanley is pastor.—By Evangelist.

AUBURN, WASH.—4th and E Sts.; meeting in progress; Hilliard Griffin, Evangelist.—J. Edward Southard, Pastor.

WILLMAR, MINN.—5th St. and Minnesota Ave., March 17—31; R. S. Peterson, Oshkosh, Wis., Evangelist.—O. E. Carter, Pastor.

DENVER, COLO.—9th and Acoma Sts.; meeting in progress; Evangelist and Mrs. Chas. E. Blair.—D. L. Cooper, Pastor.

MONTICELLO, ARK.—South Edwards St., Feb. 26—March 17; Anna B. Lock, Evangelist.—W. F. Hardwick, Pastor.

BOSSIER CITY, LA.—March 3—17; W. Randall Ball, Evangelist.—E. W. Davis, Pastor.

NOTICE

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS

WHEN ordering literature and supplies for your Sunday School—quarterlies, workbooks, and visual aid—do not be alarmed by changes in titles. A few unwieldy titles have been shortened. The literature is the same, as you will note by descriptions.

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DATE CHANGED

McKINNEY, TEXAS—March 17, for 2 weeks or longer; Evangelist and Mrs. Billy Keen.—Earl Rogers, Pastor.

CARMEN, OKLA.—Fellowship Meeting, all day, March 12. Mrs. Stevens is pastor. Brother Davis, morning speaker; Mrs. J. S. Williams, afternoon speaker.—W. C. Crowder, Sectional Secretary.

GEORGIA SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCES

Mr. and Mrs. George Davis will tour the State during March. Itinerary will be arranged at Minister's Institute. All churches asked to co-operate.—Glenn Utley, Georgia Sunday School Representative.

KENOSHA, WIS.—Missionary Convention, Assembly of God, 25th Ave. and Roosevelt Road, March 6—10; Alfred Cawston, from India, main speaker. L. N. Olson, from Brazil, will also speak.—H. L. Flaherty, Pastor.

NEBRASKA DISTRICT CONVENTION

The 29th annual Council of the Nebraska District will convene at the Assembly of God, 6th and Sycamore Sts., Grand Island, Nebr., April 2—4. Fellowship Meeting, evening, April 1. Gayle F. Lewis, principal speaker. Harold D. Champlin, 322 E. Sixth St., Host Pastor. Melvin F. Brandt, 601 N. 28th St., Lincoln, Nebr., District Superintendent.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—North-South Carolina Ministers' Institute, March 4—7. R. M. Riggs, speaker and leader. North Carolina District Credentials Committee will meet. All applicants should meet then. Rooms arranged as far as possible. For further information write C. Stanley Cooke, Pastor, First Assembly, 1915 Central.—F. Wildon Colbaugh, Secretary-Treasurer, North Carolina District.

MONTANA MINISTERS' INSTITUTES

Montana Ministers' Institutes and Prayer Conferences: Missoula, March 4—8. Institute sessions mornings; prayer conferences afternoons; public meetings evenings. Special speaker: Gayle F. Lewis, who will speak at one period mornings and each evening. Other Institute speakers: Leonard Palmer, District Superintendent; M. H. Heicksen, District Secretary-Treasurer; and W. Paul Jones, General Presbyter. Rooms furnished for ministers as far as possible.—Leonard Palmer, District Superintendent, 616 Fourth Ave. S. W. Great Falls, Mont.

OKLAHOMA SECTIONAL COUNCILS

Oklahoma Sectional Councils: East Central Section, Wilburton, March 11—13; B. W. Morgan, Pastor. Southwest Section, Anadarko, March 18—20; Leslie Moore, Pastor North Central Section, Pawhuska, April 8—10; R. A. Work, Pastor. Panhandle Section, Woodward, April 15—17; Albert D. Pyle, Pastor. Southwest Section, Wright City, April 22—24; L. J. Choate, Pastor. Northwest Section, Fairview, May 13—15; Elmer T. Watkins, Pastor. Northeast Section, Claremore, May 20—22; C. O. Haymaker, Pastor.

First service, C. A. Rally, 7:30 Monday night; T. C. Burkett, District C. A. President, in charge. Meetings: Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. Last service, Licensing service, Wednesday afternoon. Election of Presbyter, and S. S. and C. A. Representatives, Wednesday afternoon.

All those desiring license or exhorter's permit, meet the members of the District Board at these Sectional Councils. Licensed Ministers and Exhorters, get your renewal blank at one of these Sectional Councils.—V. H. Ray, District Secretary-Treasurer, P. O. Box 1341, Oklahoma City 1, Okla.

PHILADELPHIA C. A. RALLIES

Highway Mission Tabernacle, 19th and Green Sts., March 9; Allan A. Swift, speaker. Special music from E.B.I.

Kensington Pentecostal Church, 3455 Frankford Ave., March 23; Gay Benson, speaker.

Highway Mission Tabernacle, 19th and Green Sts., April 6; Thomas R. Brubaker, speaker.

Italian Pentecostal Church 16th and McKean Sts., April 20; Mrs. J. R. Flower, speaker.—Anthony A. Marinacci, Chairman.

TEXAS SPRING CONVENTIONS

Services at the following Texas Spring Conventions will begin at 7:30 p.m., the first day: San Antonio Section, First Assembly, San Antonio, March 5—6. Valley Section, Harlingen, March 7—8. Corpus Christi Section, Freer, March 12—13. Yoakum Section, Victoria, March 14—15. San Angelo Section, San Angelo, April 4—5. Paris Section, Texarkana, April 11—12.

Services at the following Conventions are scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m., the first day: Austin Section, Eastside Assembly, Austin, March 19—20. Waco Section, Fairfield, March 21—22. Tyler Section, First Assembly, Tyler, March 26—27. Lufkin Section, Nacogdoches, March 28—29. Wichita Falls Section, Olney, April 2—3. Fort Worth Section, Bethel, Fort Worth, April 9—10. Greenville Section, Denison, April 16—17. Dallas Section, Revival Tabernacle, Dallas, April 18—19. Beaumont Section, Orange, April 23—24. Houston Section, April 25—26.

All ministers urged to attend these meetings to renew their fellowship with the Texas District. You will obtain a blank at the convention of your section. Fill out, have your presbyter sign, and return to the District office. All those desiring to become affiliated with the District for exhorter's license, license, or those desiring to be ordained at the next District Council, will need to meet the Sectional Committee in the section where they live.

For information write the Texas District Office, attention C. P. Robison or F. D. Davis, 1200 Sycamore St., Waxahachie, Texas.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES

NEW ADDRESS—14 South 17th St., Kansas City, Kansas.—U. S. Grant.

NEW ADDRESS—111 Victoria Ave., London Road, Worcester, England.—Ralph I. Cranston.

NEW ADDRESS—425 West Calhoun St., Springfield, Mo. "I have resigned the pastorate at Perry, Iowa, to enter evangelistic work."—Harley M. Smith.

NEW ADDRESS—General Delivery, Danville, Pa. "After 5½ years of ministry in the Ebenezer Church, Elizabeth, N. J., we have resigned to enter a pioneer field."—William and Virginia Gunderson.

NEW ADDRESS—P. O. Box 596, Tuolumne, Calif. "After resigning our pastorate in Keokuk, Iowa, we have accepted a call to the pastorate of Bethel Tabernacle, in this city."—Pastor and Mrs. J. C. Snyder.

FOR SALE—House Trailer, 25 ft. long, 3 rooms, bought in July, 1945. Would sell at a bargain to some minister. Write J. C. Snyder, P. O. Box 596, Tuolumne, Calif.

NEW ADDRESS—Corner Second and Elm, Sauk Centre, Minn. "After 5 years of pioneer work in West Virginia and North Carolina, we have accepted the pastorate of the Gospel Tabernacle in this city."—Pastor and Mrs. Verne B. MacKinney.