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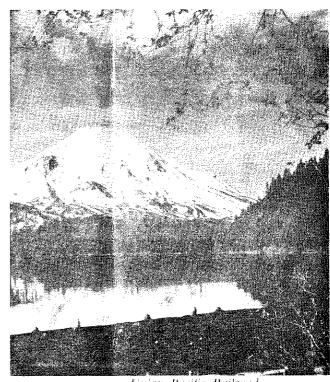


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The only way to have a friend is to be one.

-Emerson.

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AIM is dedicated to the promotion of higher sheals and more challenging spiritual goals among the young people of the Church of God. It is published monthly under the direction of the Young People's Department of the General Conference, by the Church of God Publishing House in Stanberry, Missouri, It was entered as second class matter on September 12, 1959, at the Post Office in Stanberry, Missouri under the act of March

Subscription rates: \$2,00 per war in the United States and Canada, Foreign, \$2,25, Clubs of 6 or more to one address, U. S. and Canada only, \$1,50 each,

Volume XXVIII, Number 3

Donna D. Faubion, Editor

Garden Thoughts

Man plows and plants and digs and weeds, he works with hoe and spade: God sends the sun and rain and air and thus a garden's made. He must be proud who tills the soil and turns the heavy sod. How wonderful a thing to be in partnership with God!

—SELECTED

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Do You Really?

LaVerne Ward

The small stream rushed along over the rocks throwing silvery spray up into the bright sunshine so that a rainbow could be seen, then rushed into a shady spot and seemed to stop. It was slowly moving in a swirl of a deep pool, and a little farther along it danced among the rocks sending its spray into the air. Bill walked along the edge of the beautiful stream and praised God for the creation of such a wondrous scene. Deep in the tall pines, and alone. Bill wanted to think out some of his problems. The rapid pace of the world seemed far away. Bill had a big problem. For all of his training in the church, for all the beauty of creation, he still wanted to find out just what he really thought of God.

"Oh, sure," he told himself, "I really believe in God. I believe Jesus, the Son of God, died for my sins. Yes...I do believe in God. But is there a deeper understanding of Who God is and what He has in store for me?"

Kneeling down beside a big rock, he asked God to give him a glimpse of knowledge, of understanding, knowing that the word of God says without reservation, "ask and ye shall receive." Getting up he slowly moved downstream thinking, thinking. Who or what is God? Could he ever know, even in part? Oh, he had no illusion about ever knowing fully Who God was or where He came from, but there must be something more that

God would have him know, he reasoned. Sighting a rock that fitted snug against a tall pine, he sat down and leaned back looking at the stream but not really seeing it. Where will I start? What about science? Man had proved that the earth is hung in space just a small particle compared to other planets of this universe. He thought of Job 38:4-6: "Whereupon are the foundations thereon fastened? Or who laid the cornerstone thereof?" Yes, the Word of God declares that we are on the earth but surrounded by nothing. Man has been permitted to see this for himself.

We are as one small grain of sand by the seashore in comparison to the universe. "How small that makes me feel," Bill thought. "If the whole earth is so small, just who am I?" Again the Word of God came to his mind. Isaiah 40:22, "It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers. .. " "Well, I guess that puts me in my place," Bill smiled. "If the earth is so small in comparison to the universe, why did God choose to give us eternal life?" Questions and more questions went rapid-fire through Bill's mind, "Who is God and what is He like? Do I dare to think of this? I will say He is a Super Being. Where He came from or how, I will not attempt to even think of, because, as yet the human mind cannot grasp it. He is a Super Being and has His home in heaven, like in Isaiah 40:22,

MARCH 1963

'that stretcheth the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth out as a tent to dwell in.' This Super Being decides to create a creature for His pleasure. Revelation 4:11 says, 'For Thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.' He plans a home for this creature-man, setting the universe, or universes, in order for himself to dwell in, and in the midst of the universe, by His Word He created the planet called earth. (Small, oh so small.) Thereupon this planet called earth, He by His Word takes dust from this earth and creates a creature He calls man. Then because man has no helpmate, He creates woman.

"Not wanting a creature that will obey Him because there is no other way, or with no will but to obey, God, by His Word, gives man a brain so that man can have a small amount of wisdom like God; so that He can choose to serve God or not. How wonderful-the ultimate in wisdom! Even man wants friends to be friends because they want to be, not friends because of money or other reasons who are not true friends at all. Being God, this Super Being can look into the future, and knows which path this first man will choose. He also sees the path that descendants of man will choose.

"So God, with His Word, makes plans for the distant future. Man disobeys God. He knows that the penalty is death. God cannot lie, so the penalty must be carried out. But God is a merciful Being, loving, kind. He provides a way. The Son of God (the living Word) offers to die for the sins of man. God offers this plan to man: 'If you, man, will accept My Son as your Saviour, if you will walk in all My ways, My Spirit will be

with you. My Son will dwell within your heart—then you will have power over death, and you will live again. You must have this Spirit dwelling in you now—before you die! You must have the fruits like My Son did while He walked on the earth. You must know My Word because that is My Son. How can you know My Son if you do not know My Word? Then and only then do you become in small part like unto Me. But it must be now in this age and life.'

'But this is only the beginning, the big promise is next. After you have done all of these things and received Christ into your heart, and have the Spirit that raised up Christ from the dead dwelling in you, then you, too, will be raised from the dead. I give you the chance to be like Me, a body that is incorruptible, able to live forever.'"

Bill was overwhelmed at this thought. What a Being this was, what love, what mercy! After all, God didn't have to do this. Man had disobeyed God, and he deserved to be exterminated. Jumping to his feet Bill looked up into the heavens. "I really believe now, and I can close my eyes and almost see His throne right out there. I know Him now, and I know He knows me. I know He has been helping me. This is so great! What a promise He has made, and I believe Him. Just think, really to be like God!" Turning and running rapidly toward home, Bill's feet didn't even seem to be touching the ground. Oh what happiness! "Nothing! but nothing is going to stop me now! Friends, relatives, enemies, or the grave hold no fear for me now. I am going to take hold of that promise."

A Certificate

Mary Holbert

We, Alice and I, drove into town about ten o'clock this morning; parked the car and started walking. We were on a college campus and were seeking the right office to answer Alice's questions about a certificate. A girl we met directed us to the registrar's office. We found that and in so doing, Alice found, unexpectedly, a friend of long standing who directed us to another building and another building and another building and another office.

Through much asking for directions, walking, and hunting, we found the "long sought for" Dean's office. The Dean of the College of Education was the person to answer Alice's questions. He was the one who could evaluate Alice's college record and tell her how many more college hours of work she would need to qualify for a secondary teaching certificate—her present one being in elementary education.

While Alice is in conference, I, Mary, am sitting here in the lobby writing this down as I wait. In thinking back over our very common-place experience, I am reminded of the search that must go on to find another very important Person, the Lord. We have a guidebook, the Bible, to aid us in our quest for God, but some of us can't use it effectively. We need the aid of mature Christians to help us find the way to Him. The directions in the Bible and from others are to pray, to study, to listen to the explanation of the Bible, to

understand the way of life. This finding the Lord and finding out that He is a personal Saviour is a wonderful experience.

But just as Alice must follow the advice of the Dean of Education in order to qualify for the teaching certificate she wants, so the person who finds the Lord must follow the advice, the words, and the example that Jesus left for us in the Holy Word in order to qualify for the Certificate of Eternal Life. Just as Alice, if she refuses to follow through on the instructions she gets, will not get the certificate, so the person who refuses to follow the instruction of Jesus will not gain the reward of eternal life.

So many people in this world go part way with the Lord but then they stop. Especially if they run up against a belief or doctrine that they are not used to hearing. Instead of searching diligently with an open mind to know the truth, they turn aside, unwilling to go all the way. With the Lord this "part-way" business doesn't satisfy. He wants a person who will keep all the commandments and the statutes of God.

Going back to the teaching certificate that Alice wants—if she fulfills all the requirements except practice teaching, she still will not get the secondary certificate. She has taught school for years and years in elementry schools. Actually she knows how to teach and taking practice teaching seems unnecessary to her. Yet, if

she refuses to take the course, she will not get the certificate.

Well, the same is true with God's requirements for a certificate of eternal life. You must obey all the requirements. James 2:10 says clearly, "For whosoever shall keep the whole law and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." It is important to go all the way in living up to God's standards. We can say that we will do this and this but not this; however. from the above Scripture we can see that all of God's requirements are necessary. He doesn't like nor does He want lukewarm people. "So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot. I will spue thee out of my mouth" (Revelation 3:16).

The waiting is over now. Alice has her information and if she follows it she will get her secondary teaching certificate. If she doesn't, then she will not receive this certificate. It is just that simple.

Before I leave this chair and this waiting room. I'll sum up my thoughts. It is a simple, not a complicated, matter to gain the Lord's Certificate of Eternal Life. The Lord expects us to obey the commandments and live up to the standard He has given. This does not mean the commandments or standards of men, but those of God's as found in the Bible. We must follow the instructions in Matthew 7:13. 14. "Enter ye in at the strait gate; for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." To obtain the Certificate of Eternal Life, we must be among the blessed mentioned in Revelation 22:14, "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."

An Open Secret

The secret of marital happiness is God—the third, silent but very evident partner in a happy marriage. With His vast understanding and foresight, He can bridge the gap between small differences; arbitrate each misunderstanding; solve each problem—whether large or small. His answers may not always be in harmony with our expectations—but they will always be best!

Just consecrate your love and trust to Him and you will become rooted in each other. He will be an indispensible "Fix-it-Man" as long as you both live within hearing distance from His throne!—Delores O. Fischer

Winter

Bare old trees in silhouette
Against a steel-gray sky;
Crisp north wind whispering
In stately pines nearby;
Jeweled frosted necklaces
Draped on fir trees low;
Chickadees and Juncos
Playing hide and seek below;
Sheer ice ledges bordering
Streams meandering in meadows;
Billowy drifts of snow made ethereal
By evening's lengthening shadows—

These are beauties that I find
In a wonderland I scan,
And I am deeply grateful
God included winter in His plan.

-Miriam B. Helt

"He Hangeth the Earth on Nothing"

S. J. Kauer

FOR MANY centuries man has pondered the mysteries of this great earth upon which we live. Stretching away in all directions the seemingly endless land area appears to be flat. People believed the earth to be like a great pancake which some thought to be square while others considered it round. Columbus advanced the bold theory that the earth was a globe. In attempting to prove this he accidently discovered America. But regardless of their ideas of the shape of the earth, all agreed that there must be some very great support on which it rested in its place. Some ancients thought that Hercules held it on his shoulders. Others thought it rested on the backs of elephants, and still others visualized massive stone pillars as its foundation. Seemingly no one paid any attention to what the Bible said about it because the Bible statement was too fantastic to be taken literally. But today modern science has found that the Bible statement is true just as stated. We read it in Job 26:7:

He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing.

But we say, how can this great mass of the earth hang in space without any support? In our experi-

ence everything which is not held up immediately falls. But why do things fall? This brings us to the law of gravitation which tells us that every body or mass in the universe has an attraction for every other body. This attraction is similar to magnetism. Bodies are pulled toward each other. The earth pulls everything toward it which from our viewpoint always appears to be "down." The earth is pulling the moon and the sun is pulling on both the moon and the earth and they are all actually falling toward each other all the time.

Now it seems the mystery is greater than ever. If these great bodies are falling toward each other, why do they not eventually crash together?

The answer to this reveals the beautiful simplicity of the wonderful things of God. The earth is moving around the sun at the same rate as it is falling toward it. God set the earth at its proper distance from the sun and put it in motion in an orbit. Because there is no friction or anything to slow it down, the earth continues at its same circular orbital speed which keeps it falling, falling toward the sun and yet never getting any nearer to it. In the same way the moon orbits the earth.

Man-made Satellites Prove Bible Truth

If the moon can circle the earth without falling to it, why could not an object be placed in orbit by a rocket? That was the question which scientists set out to answer and which has been answered in the success of the satellites. At an altitude of about 100 miles it is found that an object must move horizontally at about 18,000 miles per hour in order for its rate of fall to match the curvature of the earth. As we know, this speed has been accomplished with powerful rockets and men have orbited the earth, hanging in space with no support. The orbits might have continued indefinitely but with retro-rockets they were able to slow their speed and thus fall back to earth. But nothing has ever slowed the speed of the earth around the sun and so it continues circling the sun once every year. Because the earth is tipped on its axis in relation to the plane of its orbit the seasons are caused. God has said that the seasons will continue as long as the earth remains:

While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease (Genesis 8:22).

This is the same as saying that the earth will continue to hang in space in its orbit around the sun. Eventually, when the earth is made new God may change this pattern.

A Lesson for Christian Living

Besides gaining an understanding of the scientific principle of how the earth is hung in space we may also learn a spiritual lesson by applying this to our relationship with God. We have never seen God and our

8

belief in Him is a matter of faith. As long as we continue this faith relationship, which is our Christian orbit, the blessings of God come to us. Only some kind of reverse force or friction can cause a satellite to lose speed and fall. The friction we must avoid is disobedience to God, or sin. We need to give close attention to the controlling of our "capsule" in our orbit of life. Let us remember the admonition of the apostle Peter:

Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall (II Peter 1:10).

The same power which hangs the earth in space and keeps it in its orbit around the sun can keep us in the same way. As through science we learn something of the mysteries of God, let us grow in faith and in knowledge of our great and wonderful God.

Unto You That Fear My Name

Malachi 4:2

Eva Gray

But unto you that fear My Name
The Sun shall surely rise;
The righteous One, with healing in
His wings, from out the skies

Will come, the Lord; He shall appear In power and majesty— With myriads of His own, and then His glory you shall see.

Behold, He cometh! even He,
As said within His Word;
Ten thousands of His chosen ones
Proclaim Him King and Lord.

Spiritual assets, like those shown in your bank book, cannot be built up overnight

Why Christians Go Bankrupt

W. Glyn Evans

ONE night, just after my easy chair had reclaimed me from another busy day, the phone rang. It was the turnkey at the city jail. A young girl had been arrested and wanted to talk to me.

A few minutes later at the jail, I entered the cell block and sat down at a small table. A young girl came out, pale and distressed, and with a few nervous gestures told me her story.

She was twenty-one, separated from her husband and left with the care of her small child. Her husband refused to support her, and, in a moment of panic, she wrote a few bad checks. Before long she found herself behind bars with her baby taken from her, her family shocked and without a friend to whom she could turn.

It was the first time in her life she had been in such trouble. Tears poured down her face as she cried to me, "To think that I would wind up in a place like this."

Then she told me why she called me. Could she have a Bible? She wanted to read it, study it and live by it so that this dreadful experience would never be relived. She wondered if God would forgive her and if her parents would accept her again.

As she chokingly presented her story and her needs, I saw a pathetic picture I had seen many times before. This girl was trying to stock her spiritual bank full of assets after the bank had collapsed. There was help for her, of course, but not in time to forestall the distress she had already brought on.

Years in the ministry have taught me that many Christians make the same serious and often disastrous mistake. They wait for a catastrophe before calling on the Lord's resources. If we did the same thing in the economic world, we would soon be selling apples on the corner. It's the same as waiting until we lose our jobs before we take out unemployment insurance or waiting until we have a jarring auto accident before we take out collision insurance.

For the one who has accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour, spiritual strength accumulates very much like a savings account. It is the little bit, faithfully stored each day, that comes in mighty handy when the storm strikes. Of course, with a good store of spiritual resour-

ces, we have more than just something to fall back on in time of crisis. We also have a daily joy, peace and effectivenes of service which we don't have without this reserve of spiritual strength.

Now when I talk about accumulating spiritual resources, I don't mean a process by which we build up some kind of merit. I'm referring to the continual day-by-day fellowship and counsel which slowly develops our Christian character and makes it rock-like. Then, as our Lord describes in the parable, when temptation or disaster strikes, we are prepared. Then we stand-to His glory and praise. A woman whose husband died suddenly of a heart seizure told me recently. "Had it not been for the Lord's presence, I never could have taken it." How had she been assured of that presence? By the continual cultivation of it in the years preceding the heartbreak.

Faith's enrichment, like accumulating interest, increases slowly, surely, unnoticeably. It takes trouble and distress to show that faith is there. But how did it get there? By continual replenishment.

There is the story of an old Scotchman who was painfully enduring his final illness. The minister came by to read the Scriptures and pray with him in his last hours. After a few minutes of reading, the old cottager turned a wrinkled face toward the clergyman and said, "Na, na, that's enoof! Read no more! I've thatched ma house in fair weather, and na's the storm is up, I'm safe awright."

Long before the experience of death, the old man had faced its possibilities. It was then he thatched his roof, strengthened his timbers and bulwarked himself against the inevit-

able. Its eventual coming found him serene, secure and trusting.

The most prevalent concept in America today is "security." This is what motivates stock investors, labor unions and insurance companies. Our government is committed to its preservation. It is the watchword of the day and the goal for the future. And yet, amazingly enough, we shun the real security which neither moth nor rust can corrupt and which thieves cannot break through and steal.

There is no guaranteed security in any realm of life except the spiritual. This is the message of the Book of Job. Job's faith in God plus his earthly wealth was grand, but Job's faith in God after his earthly possessions were swept away was unspeakably magnificent.

We often miss the rest of the story. Job went on to become wealthy again—in fact, twice as affluent as he was before—and yet the real wealth was that which neither storm, nor Sabean, nor fire, nor Chaldean could take away. This, his spiritual wealth, had fortified him in the hour of adversity.

Why do we neglect our spiritual bank accounts? Probably the main reason is because of our materialistic environment. We are surrounded by a materialistic, fleshly atmosphere. Today's standards place the emphasis on things—the cars we drive, the home we own.

Give-away programs arouse the feeling that the highest achievement is to become the proud owner of a new automobile or a mammoth deep freeze. Our best sellers are seldom books which satisfy spiritual hunger. Our spiritual radios, tuning in with God, are jammed by the never-ceasing

(Continued on page 31)

You Can't Do Wrong and Get By

Bertie B. Freeman

"The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good" (Proverbs 15:3).

I wonder if old and young alike took heed to Solomon's words, how different the world might be. Then again, if only Christians took heed, how different their lives might be, how different the Church might be.

Not long ago our son and I were discussing temptations that lead to sin, and the power needed to overcome temptations before they lead to sin.

I remarked that nowadays there are so many things to tempt young people, and he agreed. However, he brought to mind that temptations in any age were probably just as many for the Christian of that day, and that the power to overcome was for the young person today just as well as it was in days gone by. He said the trouble now, was the same as then, many Christians regarded God only as a help in times of adversity. They forgot that God is in every place beholding not only the evil, but also the good. It was a question of how much evil people felt they could do and get by. A question of how much good they felt they had to do, in order to get by.

"You can't do wrong and get by." Moses said it in so many words when he said, "... be sure your sin will

find you out" (Numbers 32:23). You can be sure that God already knows your heart and your intentions, no matter how you make them sound to others. It may take others some time to find out your sins, but be very sure they will be found out.

My husband uses a homely illustration to point out the futility of trying to "get by." When our two daughters were small, my husband had varnished the floor of the living room and had told the children to stay out of the room until it had dried. He placed a chair in front of one door, and closed the door to the bedroom whereby the living room could be entered.

That evening I heard him call the girls to come to the door where the chair was placed to keep them out of the room. He asked which girl had entered the room, and both denied having entered it. Our second daughter, about three at the time, hung her head and began to cry when her father pointed to the small prints on the floor and said, "The Bible says something about being sure your sin will find you out. Remember, girl, sin always leaves a mark." It was a lesson she never forgot.

After she was grown, she said many times when temptations came up she thought of the telltale footprints on the varnished floor and thought how plainly God could see the missteps of humans. Even when they tried to justify themselves He could see the real reason behind the action, and many times it was our fault, even when we denied it, that we had made missteps. Missteps are temptations without the power to overcome them.

Darkness cannot hide sin from God even if we feel we have not been seen. Sin originates in the heart and God knows the hearts of all men. He knows that the heart is "deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked..." (Jeremiah 17:9). He poses a question at the end of the verse, "And who can know it?"

Young people, there are times when even you cannot discern the longings, the yearnings, desires and ambitions of your own heart. Some times our minds block the heart's desires and set set up a mental block which has to be removed before the person can realize happiness and the fulfillment of dreams.

Mental blocks are like road detours; instead of going ahead and getting to the problem at hand, they make a detour around the problem. Thus instead of solving the problem, it only grows larger and we become more uncertain of our aim in life, and more unhappy with our condition. We become frustrated, withdrawn, and fearful. We have a feeling of not belonging, when all the time we want desperately to belong and have the friendship and companionship of others.

At such times you need both spiritual help and counseling. Never be ashamed, or afraid, to seek help from your minister, in whom you place faith and trust, a Christian friend, or

the minister's wife. They will understand your need and many times can be of immeasurable help when you need help most.

Sometimes it is easier to talk to someone outside your immediate family, because family ties are so close they cannot always view the problems objectively. However, I do not mean that you should not share your problems with your family, especially if they are Christians. A Christian family can solve many problems that families without spiritual help cannot resolve.

Remember, "You can't do wrong and get by," no matter how hard you try to cover your sins. You may not know your own heart, but God knows your heart as well as your needs. Get the spiritual power you need to be an overcomer, then you won't need to try to "get by" with something you should not be doing. No matter how much evil is in the world, there is still a lot of good left, and most of it comes from Christian people. Give yourself a chance to express your desires and yearnings by first fulfilling your spiritual needs. God will then give you the power to fulfill your ambitions in a way you never dreamed possible. You may not become as rich as Rockefeller, or as famous as Franklin, but you will have what counts, peace, contentment, and complete fulfillment of life.—(A Reprint)

Story on Cover Picture

Our cover photo shows the 9,671foot height of majestic Mount St. Helens as viewed from across Spirit Lake in Washington. This popular vacation region offers a variety of recreational activities along with its spectacular scenery.

"... Make His Paths Straight"

By Edwin L. McDonald, Editor Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

HEY HAD no way to travel but by camel, or donkey, or sailboat, or on foot. But the Lord told them: "Go into all the world and make disciples of all nations."

Every way they turned, they faced natural barriers—oceans and lakes and rivers; mountains; desert wastelands; impenetrable forests; tropical wildernesses; wastes of snow and ice.

Still He said, "Go."

They had no printing presses, they had no books, no magazines, no newspapers. They had no radio, no television, no telephone. But He charged them to get the good news of the gospel out to the whole world.

Nearly 20 centuries later, the call rings as clear as that day on the Mount of Olives: "Go into all the world and make disciples of all nations."

And we disciples of the 20th century have automobiles, and trains, and ocean steamers, and jet transports. No longer are the oceans, or the mountains, or the deserts in our way. We look down upon them from the windows of our planes. In a matter of hours we can reach the remotest places.

"Go," He says, and we find no natural barriers in the way. Science has eliminated these. But other barriers remain.

There is the barrier of racial prejudice. Christ says, "Go to all the world...." But many professing Christians reply: "Just to the white race, Lord."

There is the barrier of materialism. "Go," says the Master. "Wait till I make a million," comes the reply.

"Go," says the Lord. But there is the barrier of easy living. "We like it here, Lord."

"Go," pleads the Master. But there is the barrier of cold hearts and little compassion. "Am I my brother's keeper?"

Today there is a special call to the religious press to get through to the ears and hearts of the people. For the religious press is to be "a disturber of Israel," to stir up those who are "at ease in Zion." Ours is the task of informing and enlisting and inspiring 20th century disciples and helping to break down the barriers in the way of world conquest for Christ.

Somehow we must awaken Christians to a realization that the hope of the world is not wealth, or power, or fame, or pleasure, but Christ in the hearts of people. We must help them to come to a fuller realization that the gospel of Christ really is "the power of God unto salvation to all who believe."—An Evangelical Press Ass'n, release.

Wisdom is knowing what to do; Skill is knowing how to do it; and Virtue is doing it.

-David Starr Jordan

YOUR HEALTH CLINIC

Specializing in Internal Medicine Counselling and advice by Dr. Victor Reeh

Dear Dr. Reeh,

I have a neighbor who is forever after me to go with her to pass out tracts, clean some old lady's house, or some such thing on weekends, when we are off work. Both of us are anemic and I have tried to tell her that she should be staying at home and getting her rest when she can, rather than traipsing around town playing good samaritan, but she won't listen to reason and I am afraid she will get herself seriously sick if she doesn't slow down and take care of herself. Maybe she would take advice from you and leave the soul-saving to the preachers and missionaries. I'd appreciate it if you would write about the importance of taking care of an anemic condition. I'm tired of saying no to her.

Mrs. Annie Mick

Dear Mrs. Mick.

Your neighbor's anemia apparently isn't severe enough to cause her to pamper herself. If she is taking an iron supplement in whatever form her personal physician recommends, she is wise to continue her normal activities, especially those of the nature you mentioned.

Your own condition, however, sounds much more serious. You are suffering from pernicious spiritual anemia. You have asked me to pre-

scribe salve for your conscience, but I'm afraid that would only aggravate your condition. I suspect you may also be suffering from malnutrition, leanness of soul. Your severe deficiency of spiritual food has apparently caused a blurring of your vision so that you can no longer see beyond your own doors.

I would recommend that you take immediate steps to restock your pantry shelves with the fruits of the spirit found in Galatians 5:22 and 23. Don't think your soul can survive and be healthy on one or two meals a week. You are probably snacking heavily and spoiling your appetite with foods which have little or no nutritive value and which may actually interfere with absorption of proper foods. You should make it a habit to break of the bread of life daily and drink generously of the cup of salvation. You need not omit dessert entirely for if you follow the diet I have outlined you will find "honey in the rock."

Besides the change in your diet it might be well for you to take a few grains of selflessness either orally or by needle. Soon you will feel up to joining your neighbor in her outside exercise and that in itself will put the bloom back in your cheeks and the sparkle back in your eyes.

Yours truly, Dr. Victor Reeh

Stella's Will

Courthope Todd

LOOKED out over our garden, and saw with delight that it was bathed in summer sunshine, as if to add to the enjoyment of the little strangers who were playing in it.

They were boys and girls from London, who had been in the habit of attending my classes and services when I was working there.

And among them was Stella. I was pleased to see her dainty figure and sweet face. As I watched her I recalled what I had formerly known of her. She was one of those little girls who win love easily, and I had taken a special interest in her from the first.

In those days it had been a custom of mine to find for each child a friend, who would write to him or her a monthly letter telling of the Saviour's love, and of His welcome to all who came to Him. This I had done for Stella. Shortly afterward her mother called upon me, bringing me a letter which had been sent to her little daughter by the wife of a Devonshire rector.

"How do you imagine, Sir," she asked, "that Stella can read this? The writing is fearful. It is as much as I can do to make it out myself. If that is the kind of letter my little girl is to have, I don't wish her to receive any more."

"I will explain to the lady that we should be glad of a clearer handwriting," I answered, and so I did. She

took my suggestion in good part, and thanked me for it.

This incident had taken place two years before, but it came to my mind instantly when I saw Stella in the garden. She had been playing games with the other children, and with them had done justice to a lunch that included buns and strawberries. When I ran out into the midst of the merry group I found them discussing the choice of leaders for "Oranges and Lemons."

Stella touched my arm. "Please, can I have a talk with you all by myself? I have something so very important to tell you."

"Of course, dear," I replied, and we strolled away together. The little girl began her story with great seriousness.

"I have made my will," she said.
"Made your will, Stella? Why, what have you to leave?"

"Something very valuable," answered the child, and her little fingers were busy with the folds of her pink dress. Presently, to my surprise, they drew out a small, stumpy, yellow pickle-bottle, corked, and sealed with wax.

"There!" she exclaimed. "This is my letter from Mrs. Dawson. I have made a will about it, and written down that when I die, and they bury my body in the ground, this bottle is to be placed in my hand."

"But why, Stella?"

"Don't you understand? In this bottle is the letter that led me to love the Lord Jesus—oh, such a wonderful letter! It showed me how the Lord Jesus lived and gave His life for me, and, of course, I couldn't help loving Him after that, could I?"

"This is good news," I said from my heart.

"Ah, but it's not half of what I've got to tell you. I sent out the letter to my father, who was traveling in France with some friends. Father read it, and he, too, learned to love the Lord Jesus; and then one of his companions asked that it might be sent away to his sister, who lived in Australia. Father thought he might let it go, because I had written my address in red ink at the top of the letter before it started, so that I should not lose it. Under my address I put: 'When you have read this, and it has been made a blessing, return it to me,' and then I signed my name."

"That was an excellent plan," I said, "for, of course, you value that letter."

"I should just think I do." Stella's hands gripped the bottle more tightly. "It went all the way over the seas to Australia, and there it was read by the sister of the man who is with Father. It spoke to her as plainly as it did to me, and she asked Jesus to be her Saviour and to keep her His forever. And then the dear letter came back to me, and I have found this safe place for it."

I took the precious possession from her reluctant fingers and examined it closely. Through the glass I could see the writing in black ink—clear enough it was this time—and the red round hand at the top.

"A wonderful letter with a wonder-

ful history," I said. And though I did not tell Stella of my plan, I made up my mind to investigate every detail she had given me. This took a little time, but the result was satisfactory. The Australian girl's clergyman wrote to say that her simple faith was so strong that he had asked her to become a teacher in connection with his church, which was one of the most important in Melbourne. And then I wrote to the Devonshire lady, and related to her what had been brought to pass, under God, by the letter which she had taken pains to make legible and clear.

But while Stella sat by my side on the garden seat, I asked her why the bottle was to be buried with her.

She looked at me in amazement. "We say in church, 'I believe in the resurrection of the body,' you know. That is why."

"I don't quite understand even yet, my little friend."

"When I rise again," she said softly—"when I rise again, I shall hold up the bottle in my hand, and say, 'Lord Jesus, it was the letter in this bottle which led me to know You."

She had hidden away the little bottle again in her dress while she was speaking. Even on such a gala day as this she had ventured to bring it, that she might show it to me.

"Because," she explained, "if it had not been for you, the lady would not have written to me. And perhaps I should not have belonged to Jesus at all. Certainly I should never have had this letter to send to others across the seas."—Gospel Herald

Do not read good books—life is too short for that—only read the best.—Selected

Project of the Month

Writing for Aim

Mary Patchen

Have you been one who upon receiving your AIM thumbed through it right away to see who contributed articles this time, and have been disappointed because there were too many authors you did not know? Perhaps you can more readily understand the plight your editor is in so many months when it comes time to publish AIM and she has nothing to use except material she can gather from this book or that paper or from the same faithful few who stand by. She endeavors to publish a paper for all of you young people to enjoy because it is your paper, but is it? Not if you don't help supply material for publication. The solution to your disappointment and your editor's problem is you!

Many of you are students in English classes at Junior, Senior High and even college levels yet very few of you contribute to your AIM. Your teachers would be most willing to give you suggestions, as they probably have already done, on how to go about writing. So why don't you push the pen a little bit as you breathe a prayer for help and inspiration from God and send in your personal testimonies. stories and articles to AIM? And do it often! Surely your contributions (signed by you personally) will be a source of inspiration and information to your fellow readers. Your articles

will help make AIM a real paper for young people! Pray that God will use you to His glory and inspire you to write for the benefit of others. He will bless your hand as you write for Him.

Remember this, AIM needs to have the contributions of our very own young people to maintain the interest of its readers. When you receive your daily mail you never read the magazine that came before you read the personal letters, do you? That personal touch is what AIM needs. Perhaps you have had the Lord's blessing upon you as you witnessed to your friend at school, maybe you have felt inspired to convey a lesson that was hard for you to learn but by God's grace you gained the victory; or you may have especially enjoyed a certain portion of the Bible in your daily reading program and were led to study further on that particular subject which you would like to share with your fellow young people throughout the land.

Here at New Auburn we sponsored a Writing Contest during the month of January for our local F.Y.C. group. All young people who entered earned points for their respective teams (a regular challenging program here) and the first, second and third prize winners not only won more points for their teams but cash awards. (A brother in the church provided the cash prizes.) The winning articles will

be submitted to AIM later. Each local group could sponsor such a contest and encourage their young people to write for AIM. Rules would have to be set up according to each local situation. Following are the rules we decided upon:

- 1. Suggested Scripture on which to write: I Corinthians 13 (all or any part of chapter).
- 2. No outside help.
- 3. One month-time limit.
- 4. Don't use too many references.
- 5. Minimum words:

Junior group (through Jr. High) 500

Senior group (Senior High) 1.000

Judging was based on:

- 1. Originality of ideas.
- 2. Effective use of Scriptures.
- 3. Continuity of theme.

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4. Construction—good sentences, descriptive words, neatness,

Judges were the pastor and two other adult members who write and enjoy writing. Our local group consists of a wide range in ages so each entry was judged according to age and grade levels. In other words, more would be expected from older young people with more experience in writing, reading and understanding, etc., than from the younger young people.

It is hoped that many local groups and even isolated young people will rally to the need of contributions to AIM now and all the time, but especially devote this month to writing for AIM. God will bless your efforts if you ask His help which He is so willing to give and if you are willing to be used in His service. The ministry of AIM is important and a source of blessing the souls of its readers.

You can't lead anyone else farther than you have gone yourself.

Would you like to write for our papers?

A Writer's Manual

especially prepared to acquaint you with our needs and practices will be of help to you.

It's FREE

Order yours today

Church of God Publishing House, Stanberry, Missouri

Most Girls Would Rather Talk Than Listen

The Women's Residence Association, of the Iowa State University, distributed questionnaires to 410 coeds to discover whether they would rather talk than listen.

The results were as follows: 39 per cent said they would rather talk than listen; 36 per cent enjoyed both talking and listening; the other 25 per cent would just like to listen! So now it is known that most girls in that institution would rather talk than listen.

The wise man of old said there is "a time to keep silence, and a time to speak." However, it is often difficult to know just when to speak and when to remain silent.

Oliver Wendell Holmes said: "Talking is like playing the harp; there is as much in laying the hands on the strings to stop their vibrations as in twanging them to bring out their music."

We are exhorted in Scriptures to be "swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath" (James 1:19). An ancient proverb says that the Lord gave us one tongue but two ears, "that we may hear twice as much as we speak."

The Lord certainly wants us to listen and to speak. He says: "Incline your ear, and come unto Me: hear, and your soul shall live, and I will make an everlasting covenant with you" (Isaiah 55:3).

The simplicity of God's way of salvation is revealed as the result of hearing. The Lord Jesus said: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that

heareth my word and believeth on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life" (John 5:24).

It is a very serious mistake to talk about yourself when the Lord is saving: "Come unto Me," "Look unto Me," "Believe Me," and, "I am the way, the truth and the life; no man cometh unto the Father but by me" (John 14:6).

Once we have believed upon Him to the saving of our souls, and we know our sins are forgiven. He wants us to "go home and tell what great things the Lord hath done" for us.

The psalmist said: "I believed, therefore have I spoken" (Psalm 116:10). The Apostle Paul commenting on this said: "We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak" (II Corinthians 4: 13).

There are people who say we must not talk about the Lord and His "so great" salvation: we must allow our lives to speak for Him. While it is true we are exhorted to "show how great things God hath done for thee" (Luke 8:39), we are also told to"tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee" (Mark 5:19).

May the Lord, by His Spirit, give believers discernment to know just when to remain silent, and when to speak!-Now

MARCH 1963

What Is a True Christian?

Roger Blankinship

"But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness. goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law" (Galatians 5:22, 23). This constitutes the life of a Christian. "Oh," you might say, "There is much more to being a Christian than just this verse. What about keeping the laws of God, and reading the Bible, and praying, and going to church every Sabbath? This is included in being a Christian, isn't it?" My answer to that is yes, but do not all of these things come to a Christian who has fully surrendered his life to Christ? The true Christian must have the Spirit-filled life. If he has the Spirit-filled life, he will want to pray to God for all of his needs. He will want to read and study his Bible, and he will want to keep all of God's law. This will include the Sabbath, if he has been shown, and he will be shown if he is sincere.

A Christian's life is not a loaded burden of "don'ts," but rather it is a freedom of "do's." In other words if a Christian is truly professing the faith, he will be living under the guidance of the Holy Spirit in such a life as never imagined by the world. Only God's power can do this. He alone can give the strength needed to live a positive Christian life.

Now you might ask, "What is a positive Christian life? What is this type of life that you call a life of "do's"? The answer is simple. A positive Christian life is one which is in tune with God's divine Spirit. You want only to do what is right, and be a friend to those in need; you want not only to see man's physical needs met, but also the most important, his spiritual needs. Finally your life is such that all around you people will know that you have something that they need and want.

We might ask ourselves the question, "Do I have this kind of life? Am I living with truly a positive approach in everything?" It is sometimes easy to try and make ourselves believe that we do, but actually down in our hearts do we? Let us think seriously on this. Let us pray that if we don't have Christ in our hearts now, He will come in, and that He will supply the power through Himself to throw off our own self, and have Him reign within. We, ourselves do not have this power, but God can and He will supply it, if we but trust in Him.

Vocabulary of Values

Five most important world—I am proud of you.

Four most important words-What is your opinion?

Three most important worlds—If you please.

Two most important words—Thank

Least important word—I.

-Source Unknown

In the Spotlight New Auburn, Wisc. F.Y.C.

The New Auburn, Wisconsin, F.Y.C. has been a very active young people's group. The following "Spotlight" article is one of many of their past youth activities. Mary Patchen, wife of the pastor, Vernon Patchen, says, "We have a real active group of young people and enjoy working with them so much."

The following report was written by Mrs. Paul Heavilin, whose husband, along with Mary Patchen, are sponsors of the Tillinghast (New Auburn) F.Y.C.

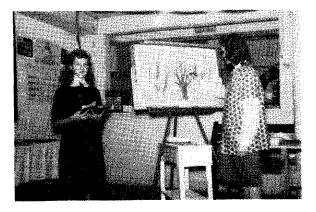
Nut-Hunt Social At Tillinghast

The F.Y.C. at the Tillinghast Church of God had a social in December which was planned and conducted by the losing team in their fall contest. The captain of the team the devotional period, directed to the

was Mark Ling. Nut-Hunt was the theme chosen for the evening. Upon entering the room one would see, as part of the room decoration, suitable captions, pointing up the theme of the evening's entertainment, such as: "Did you ever see a nut-hatch?" (accompanied by a partly broken nut); "Don't forget your coat; this isn't Brazil, Nut!" "This is dough, Nut!" (coins taped beside this caption); and some pointed at personalities in the membership-usually not very complimentary, but all in fun.

Games were played, using nuts as the objects such as a nut-toss into nested bowls of different sizes, the winning team sharing a package of nuts. In another contest, Spanish peanuts were carried for a distance on a table knife. Appropriate writing games were also played.

A highlight of the evening was



Martha Jane Heavilin giving her talk while her mother illustrates with drawing.

interests of needs of the younger set. We feel this is an important feature in the church Y.P. social because of its missionary aspect. Many young people outside the church who could not be persuaded to attend a regular Y.P. worship service, readily accept an invitation to mingle socially with our young people. Through the medium of the social devotions, we feel that a seed of Truth from God's Word can be planted in hearts made more receptive by a pleasant and friendly atmosphere created during the preceding merriment together. It also adds a special benediction to the gathering as hearts and minds are directed to the One Who makes it possible for us to really enjoy life.

The evening's theme was further carried out in the devotional thought: "The Lesson of the Nut, or The Importance of Little Things," in which the leader, Martha Heavilin, trought out how much little deeds and

thoughts affect our spiritual lives. It was also brought out that just a small acorn can grow into a mighty oak tree, the seed of truth planted in a heart can grow into a mighty power in God's hands. Martha's words were illustrated by a chalk picture, drawn as she spoke, by her mother. Related Scripture verses were given by the group and choruses were sung by all.

Refreshments consisted of milk, potato chips, ice cream with chocolate and nut topping, cookies, and nuts. These were furnished and served by the members of the losing team.

In appreciation for the good work of the winning team the losing team presented each member of the winning team and all guests, with a ballpoint pen, engraved with a verse of Scripture. This closed what we felt was a very profitable evening spent together.



Refreshment time at the party.

I have found there are three basic exercises which strengthen me spiritually. The first is the exercise of prayer. The second is that of reading the Bible. The third is one that is vital to every Christian—that of asking in prayer each day that you might be allowed to talk to someone about the Christian way of life.

—Bill Wade in The Goal and the

Glory—America's Athletes Speak Their Faith. (Fleming H. Revell Company)



S.V.A. News

Greetings once again from Spring Vale Academy!

There has been a variety of activities going on here at S.V.A. during the past month. A very special event to report is that the new dormitory is finished enough so that the boys have been able to move into it. There is still much to be done, and it will not be completely finished for quite a while to come; but a great deal of effort has been put forth to get it finished thus far, making it possible for the boys to move in. We thank God for making it possible for this work to be done in time.

Spring Vale's annual mid-winter cheer banquet took place at the close of the first semester, on January 24. This was a happy occasion for Spring Valers, not only because it ended a semester of work, but they also revealed the names of their "secret pals," which had kept us in suspense for almost three weeks.

Also with the beginning of a new semester, Spring Vale has a new cook. She is Mrs. Carol Coulson of Jenison, Michigan. She was a three-year student here, a Spring Vale graduate. Spring Valers welcome her back to the clan.

It has been planned for Spring Valers to attend a series of travelogue films, which are shown at the I.M.A. auditorium in Flint, Michigan, once a month. The first one we attended was on Thursday night, January 17. It was on Austria, its food, customs, etc. We plan to go to Flint again on February 19 to see one on Puerto Rico.

The study of the civics class of Miss Bea Ferneau spurred an interest in the county court system. A visit was made to the Shiawassee County courthouse which resulted in some Spring Vale seniors being placed on the list for possibilities to serve on the jury of a teen-age traffic court which is held once a month. The first such visit was made on Monday night. January 21. Four Spring Valers, David Giesdal, David Schurman, Mack Baker, and Esther Martin, served on the jury. They decided cases of youthful offenders who broke traffic laws. This was certainly a rich experience for all. There was another courthouse visit on Monday night, February 18. This time, Julia Camero and Lois

(Continued on page 33)

"Take Time for God" PROGRAM

Nelson Caswell

Selfish Devotions

Now isn't that a dilly of a title? Such a title will possibly bring different thoughts to different people, but one thing for sure, it should provoke some kind of thoughts. Possibly one thought which won't be universal follows.

2T4G is our formula for growth and betterment. But though it admonishes us to "Take Time For God" how would it sound if the formula stated instead, "Take Time For George" or "Take Time for Gerry"?

Now if we assume that the "George and Gerry" in this picture refer to you, we have an acceptable formula which would signify that to "Take Time For God" is to include taking time for one's self-improvement. Although this is assuredly a selfish motive for studying and praying, yet it must be acceptable in the same spirit that the Bible says, "But covet earnestly the best gifts..." (I Corinthians 12:31). This is an allowable form of coveting but in the spirit of either of these examples, the indirect benefactor is the world or the church or both, because the fruits of the spirit shown in your life, benefit all your acquaintances and associates.

After all, like the old saying, "A better world begins with me." This would be just as true of the church.

Remember the axiom, "What kind of a church would my church be if all of its members were just like me?" That should drive you to your knees and to your Bible.

Consider also the following poem.

IT ISN'T THE CHURCH, IT'S YOU

If you want to have the kind of church Like the kind of church you like, You needn't slip your clothing in a grip

And start on a long, long hike. You'll only find what you left behind For there's nothing really new.

It's a knock at yourself when you knock your church

It isn't the church-it's you.

When everything seems to be going wrong.

And trouble seems everywhere brewing;

When prayer meeting, young people's meeting, and all

Seem simmering, slowly—stewing. Just take a look at yourself and say "What's the use of being blue?"

Are you doing your "bit" to make things "hit"?

It isn't the church—it's you.

It's really strange sometimes, don't you know

That things go as well as they do,

| When we think of the little—the | Date | Chapters |
|---|----------|------------|
| very small mite | March 15 | John 6 |
| We add to the work of a few. | March 16 | John 7 |
| We sit, and stand around, and com- | March 17 | John 8 |
| plain of what's done, | March 18 | John 9 |
| And do very little but fuss. | March 19 | John 10 |
| Are we bearing our share of the | March 20 | John 11 |
| burdens to bear? | March 21 | John 12 |
| It isn't the church—it's us. | March 22 | John 13 |
| So if you want to have the kind of | March 23 | John 14 |
| a church | March 24 | John 15 |
| Like the kind of a church you like, | March 25 | John 16 |
| Put off your guile, and put on your | March 26 | Luke 5 |
| lost smile. | March 27 | Luke 6 |
| And hike, my brothers, just hike | March 28 | Luke 7 |
| To the work in hand that has to be | March 29 | Luke 8 |
| done | March 30 | Luke 9 |
| The work of saving a few. | March 31 | Luke 10 |
| It isn't the church that is wrong, my | April 1 | Luke 11 |
| friend: | April 2 | Luke 12 |
| It isn't the church—it's you. | April 3 | Matthew 15 |
| it isn't the endicit—it's you. | April 4 | Matthew 16 |
| The words of this poem put the | April 5 | Matthew 17 |
| finger right on you. So go ahead and | April 6 | Matthew 18 |
| be a little selfish and a little covetous | April 7 | Matthew 19 |
| but only in regards to the best gifts, | April 8 | Matthew 20 |
| the best fruits, and putting a better | April 9 | Matthew 21 |
| "you" in the work of the Master. As | April 10 | Matthew 22 |
| you read the following Scriptures, | April 11 | Matthew 23 |
| take every word and lesson to heart. | April 12 | Luke 13 |
| For this month, let's let 2T4G stand | April 13 | Luke 14 |
| for, "Take Time for George." | April 14 | Luke 15 |

Dr. F. B. Meyer once said that "there has never been a great religious revival without social and political reforms." In this regard we might point out that the abolition of slavery followed a revival. The end of child labor resulted from a revival. Indeed, before the Wesleys and Whitefield preached their flaming messages of revival and reform, people in England were working ninety hours a week. But as a direct consequence of this movement of the Spirit, sixty working hours became the standard, and the first trade unions, in all their purity, were organized. Also flowing like many streams from this spiritual revival were the well-known movements like the YMCA, the Salvation Army, missionary societies, and most of our charitable organizations and educational institutions.

Stephen F. Olford in *Heart-Cry For Revival*. (Fleming H. Revell Company)



Chopping Down Cherry Trees

Elden Fischer

THE MONTH of March brings L with it spring and usually milder weather. Spring gives new life to flowers, grass, trees, and hibernating animals. When spring is in full swing our nation's capital celebrates the annual cherry blossom festival. One wonders whether the cherry trees were a gift from Japan because they had heard so much about the cheery tree George Washington chopped down. Whether George Washington ever chopped down a cherry tree more than 200 years still remains a mystery but what is well established is that the Father of our country was a very honest man.

For a few serious minutes be very honest with yourself. Have you done your best for the local and national youth programs? Remember this is our "Year for Youth." Have you talked about the youth programs to others and encouraged them to take an active part? Since January 1 we have had encouraging reports from North Dakota to Texas and New York to Oregon. How about your local FYC? Are you active in the cause of Christ? Let none of us slumber and sleep in the time of the Lord's harvest. We can learn a lesson from

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the ant. (Proverbs 6:6-8.)

Our AIM subscriptions have not increased since January 1 so we have a long way to go to double our subscriptions. Our job remains unfinished until every church person has access to the AIM. AIM given as a gift or sold may end up in someone being led to Christ or keeping someone from giving up their Christian walk.

Our "Grow with God" (or Take Time for God) program is still continuing. The chapters suggested in this AIM are selected for your inspiration. A number have written in saying they are taking part in the program. I would enjoy hearing from more who are in the program. Some didn't get started January 1. Some, I suppose, have failed to keep a perfect record in the chapter-a-day program, so start anytime and follow this through for an entire year. We still have a certificate of your accomplishment waiting for you when you cross the finish line. Be determined in keeping up this program because "a chapter a day keeps the devil away."

We have been notified of a number of FYC's who are following out the Merit System program. Awards for this program will be made at the end of the year. At the end of this month we hope to have report forms ready for reporting of the first quarter's accomplishments. We may print the points compiled by the local groups. The first quarter reports must be in by April 15. Write now for your report forms and send your reports as soon as all activities for March have taken place. We hope to print news from many local groups in the May AIM.

The last weekend in January my wife, daughter, and I were able to make a trip into Oklahoma for a State Youth Rally there. We stopped at Claremore for part of their youth meeting and then went on to McAlester where the state meeting was held. The meeting was a great blessing to us and our visit very enjoyable. On returning we passed through Fort Smith and visited with the Harlans and some of the young people there. It was very encouraging to us to learn of the interest of the young people in the Lord's work in Oklahoma and Arkansas. May God bless all of those who so courageously and untiringly supply the leadership necessary for progress. We returned home inspired to work harder in the service of the Lord.

What kind of Christian are you? Are you doing better this year than the past year? Are you a turnpike Christian that needs a broad and easy way to travel or are you "George Washington" Christian? One who is honest with himself and others -who is willing to lead our young people through a "Valley Forge" or "across a Delaware." With spring just around the corner let's not neglect the Lord. Too often people have just two faults like the farmer's well -they freeze up in the winter time and dry up during the summer. When Jesus comes, how many cherry trees will be alive because we have digged around them, watered them, and pu in an honest effort to save them?

Y. P. News

OKLAHOMA STATE—The Faithful Youth Challengers of Oklahoma are sponsoring Elder Gibson John, the Young People's Department worker in Nigeria. The local groups joining this program with a \$6 offering from each group are Fairview, Oklahoma City, Midway, and Wister.

ALFRED, NORTH DAKOTA—The young people of Alfred, North Dakota have a part in sponsoring Brother Gibson John of Nigeria. This makes 18 groups who have given at least \$6 so this project is now completely sponsored by local FYCers.

STANBERRY, MISSOURI — The publishing house has on hand a good supply of Y. P. manuals. To cover some of the cost of printing and handling we must ask \$.25 for each manual but we feel this is helpful in working with the local organization and in outlining the Gold and Silver Mark of Merit program for 1963. Get your copy today.

INDEPENDENCE, Mo. — More work is being done on an emblem for our department. We are presently using an unofficial emblem. The young people either by writing in soon or at the Denver Camp Meeting will be given a choice in selecting an emblem. We are still open to other suggestions. Look for more on this in the next AIM.

DENVER, COLORADO—The Young People's Department is planning an active, inspirational program for all young people ages 13 to 25 who attend the General Conference and camp meeting August 16-24. Plan now to attend. There will be sermons for young people, studies, fellowship, films, fun, and sight-seeing for all who can attend.

Y. P. Stationery—Stationery is available at the publishing house with the FYC helmet and shield emblem. It is

sold in 100 sheet packages but no envelopes have been printed to go with the stationery.

Needed—Many more AIM subscribers are needed. We have received new AIM subscriptions since January 1 but the drops in subscriptions are about the same as the new subcriptions.

New Ears for an Orphan

1963 will be like no other of her 11 years for a little Korean orphan. She is In Soon Lee, member of the World Vision Korean Orphan Choir—a deaf mute who "sings" with her flashing arms and fingers.

In the hours before New Year's Eve, 1962, the world of sight and touch for this little girl suddenly burst into sound and music. And that is indeed a happy miracle for a youngster who from birth could not hear.

It all began when staff members of World Vision, Inc., sponsor of the Choir's world concert mission, took In Soon Lee to the HEAR Foundation in Los Angeles to have her hearing tested. It was one more attempt to awaken in the youngster's ears the sense of hearing which for all of her 11 years she had never known.

Dr. Ciwa Griffiths, head of HEAR, tested the youngster in every way she knew with specialized equipment. Dr. Griffiths discovered that In Soon Lee had a mere five per cent of her hearing, and after fitting her with a hearing aid in both ears, was able to raise her capability of hearing to 45 per cent.

On New Year's Eve, In Soon Lee joined her choir mates in the Glendale (Calif.) Presbyterian Church for a concert. Backstage she heard their singing for the first time. As tears of gratitude welled up in her eyes other children began to cry also. Miss Yung Ae Joo, who takes care of In Soon Lee, wept openly, as did those of the World Vision staff.

The World Vision Korean Orphan Choir continued its three-month tour of the United States. Still featured on the program is In Soon Lee whose flashing arms and fingers "sing" as they had done throughout 12 countries of the world in 31 sacred concerts since the Choir embarked on its world concert mission last October. In Soon Lee's numbers, accompanied by the Choir, are "Bee Stings," "Little Stone Bridge," and "The Lord's Prayer." Her solos are still silent, for she has not yet learned to speak.

But In Soon Lee's broad smile and happy countenance speak for her. They say what her lips cannot say, and they express to the world her love for Jesus Christ her Lord.

-World Vision, Inc.

One of the wonders of God's handiwork is associated with this month of March. The wind is a mystery to us, in that it is a common thing, yet one which we do not understand nor see. In His work are many references to this miracle, occurring often in lesson or parable form.

Cruden's Concordance comments upon this topic as follows: "The powerful operations of God's Spirit, quickening or reviving the heart toward God, are compared to the blowing of the wind, John 3:8. For as with the wind, man perceives, by the effects of it, that there is such a thing and that it does blow, yet his power cannot restrain it, neither can his reason reach to know whence it rises, nor from how far it comes, or how far it reaches; so is the spiritual change wrought in the soul, freely where, in whom, when, and in what measure the Spirit pleases; and also powerfully, so as to make an evident sensible change, though the manner thereof is incomprehensible."

There are many things which God does in which we are not permitted to have any part. Such things as sunsets in all their splendor, the colors and scents of the rose, the stars in their orbit and the rain and snow in their seasons are His to create and entirely His to control. We can in no way help with such things.

Yet in other miracles we are given a part for the accepting. The saving of a soul brought to Jesus can be the result of our working in cooperation with Him.

Relieving darkness, misery and unhappiness in the lives of God's children and helping them into light and righteousness is a rewarding work for God. Thus we can help Him put "color" into the lives of human souls, though we cannot touch the rose and the lily and create a tint of any degree toward their beauty.

How wonderful to be workers with God! Only a life of service for Him can be satisfactory and a blessing to His children. The highest calling is to be a co-worker with Christ in transforming lives.

Each one who receives such a transformation through the efforts of his friends and loved ones, is obligated to pass it on; to be a "giver as well as a getter." It has been said that it is easy to "listen" but it is hard to "do." Listening can be done in a sitting position, but doing means rising above all obstacles, straightening and exercising our "moral muscles" so that we are no longer "dead heads" and listeners, but also doers.

J. S. Kendall expressed it this way: "It is not what our life is in wealth, culture, and attainment, but what our life is in service to others that is the test of greatness."

Foreign News

Letters From India to Kansas City
October, 1962

Young People,

... We have spent these days joyfully for the glory of our Master in spreading the gospel message. We hope to baptize about 30 people at the close of this October. Brother Joseph will submit a report of it in the next month.

Dear little children, I thank you all in the name of our Saviour for your help in this effort of His Kingdom's message. We hope to receive your charity from month to month to

enable us to go forward in the work. Our co-workers and the young people of our church salute you. Please remember me and the work when in your family prayers....

P. Devadanam

October, 1962

... We are doing well by His abundant grace here and hope this finds you all in good health and spirit. I thank you, dear children, for your regular aid. I have toiled the whole of last month for our Master. I have joined the gospel workers last



A group of young people in India. They attend our Sabbath School regularly, but most of them are heathen. It is hoped that they will all be baptized before long. A group of boys, not present when this picture was taken, as they feed the cattle of the caste Hindus, attend our night school. This is mainly a heathen community. We praise the Lord for leading us here and giving us an opening.—P. JOSEPH

month and held meetings at various places. Many people heard the gospel. We traveled many miles in spreading the gospel. Last month 8 were baptized at Poolapalle by our labour.

P. Devadanam Gospel Worker

From Ahoado, Nigeria

Dear Brother Fischer,

God's happy new year and greetings to you and family in our Saviour's name. Yours dated 19th December, 1962 and January 16th, 1963 had come to my reception, also the January AIM, 1963. I thank you immensely for good observation....

... The work here is still progressing, despite many devices that the devil uses to keep some people from discerning the real truth from error.

Kindly give God all glory and thanks for the deliverance rendered to my wife who some time ago I asked you to remember in your daily prayers. Surely the Lord has accomplished my request according to His words in Psalm 50:15 and Isaiah 53:4.

I am pleased to hear you have shipped me a camera as you had promised. That's an outcome of faith and a true brotherhood. I shall report arrival of same later on....

Elder Gibson W. John

Dear Brother Fischer,

Your letter had been received with many thanks. I felt very happy to receive the information of how you organize your FYC and to see that it is the same as ours.

I was grateful to God concerning the publishing of the Y.P. Manual and praying that all your decision about it be done. Amen. Glory be to Him.

Concerning tracts, I do make use of Sabbath School Quarterlies and that is the one I want you to send. If you have other tracts connecting with the meeting you can also send them.

It will not be possible now to send the pictures of some of our members in the FYC. You wait till next letter writing.

May God bless you in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Keep fit.

Yours faithfully, Israel Kemmer, Sec.

Why Christians Go Bankrupt

(Continued from page 10)

clatter of the world's appeals to the secular, the economic and the physical.

Another reason we neglect our spiritual bank accounts is because of sheer laziness. No one is ever "carried to the skies on flowery beds of ease." True enough, a mere look of faith, sincere and genuine, which embraces the finished work of Christ, is sufficient to bring us salvation. But the life of faith is more than a start, more than a beginning.

The Christian life, said Alexander Whyte, is a "sore fight to the end" against the blandishments and allurements of the world, as well as a firm determination to walk with God. The saint is the real hero, the strong man, the overcomer. It takes a great deal of will and courage to stand against the world's secularizing and sensualizing. Make up your mind to put Christ first and you'll have the evil one to pay, literally.

One woman, who recently made

her decision to become a Christian, said, "I've never had it so hard since I took Christ." Of course not. For the first time in her life she realized how easily she had been drifting the wrong way.

What is the remedy for this spiritual bankruptcy we may be building for ourselves?

Determine to put first things first. This means that the spiritual must take precedence over the material. It is useless to convince ourselves that we ought be in the Lord's house for services or in prayer meeting each night unless we are convinced that by being there we are preparing our hearts for stormy days. In this way, fellowship with other believers becomes more than a "keeping up with the Joneses" or a veneer of respectability. It becomes the normal expression of a life lived daily unto the Lord.

Make a daily routine of Bible reading, meditation and prayer. Physicians tell thin, undernourished patients, "Eat more, and the more you eat, the more you will want to eat." The advice is good for spiritual malnutrition also.

Commit your life to service for Christ and testimony for Him. Remember, however, that mere activity is not service. Real service comes when you carry out the Lord's will as the Holy Spirit reveals it to you. Serving Christ does more than provide an outlet for spiritual reserves. The great responsibility which is yours as you serve Him should drive you constantly to your knees as you recognize your great need.

Finally, note well these words by Oliver Wendell Holmes: "Just so sure as you keep drawing out your soul's currency without making new deposits, the next thing will be: 'No funds.' Soul deposits and checks must more than balance if we are to be spiritually dynamic."

-Moody Monthly

Faithfulness

"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much." If you were going to employ a man to do a piece of work which you considered very important you would want to secure a man who had done less important jobs well. In the business world many a young man has risen from office boy to a "higherup," or even a partnership in the firm because of his faithfulness in little things, or his ability to follow orders without arguing the subject. God is looking for men and women who will do faithfully the "little" things that come their way. When they have done this He can trust them with greater duties. "Them that honour Me, I will honour." If a child's mother would tell him to bring an armload of wood in for the kitchen fire and he would run away to play and not obey the command, could she safely trust him to carry ten dollars to the bank for deposit? How would she know that the bank would be reached by the child? We are God's children and if we do not obey, or are not faithful in the least, how could we expect Him to trust us with much? -Herald of Light

"There is only one person with whom you can profitably compare yourself, and this person is your yesterday's self."

Youth Camps Now Being Planned

As the summer season draws near, Church of God groups in various parts of the country are planning youth camps. At this time we have announcements from Michigan and Oregon, and we expect to hear from other areas. Here is the information available to date:

Michigan-Camp to be at the Outdoor Center of Albert Sleeper's State Park, Caseville, Michigan, a beautiful location on Saginaw Bay. Program will feature daily Bible study as well as plenty of recreational activity in the rustic setting of the camp where pine trees and a sandy beach make for a pleasant atmosphere. The camp is operated and staffed by Church of God personnel and is open to young people from age ten to and including age twenty. The date for the camp is June 23 through 30, 1963, and the cost for the week is \$12.00. For more information write to Elder Robert Coulter, 20100 Omira, Detroit 3, Michigan.

Oregon—Again this year the camp will be at the North Silver Falls Campsite during the month of June. Specific dates have not yet been announced. The program will feature the customary Bible study sessions, and plenty of recreational activity, all under competent adult supervision and guidance. For further information write to Elder Rudolph Haffner, Rt. 3, Box 707, Junction City, Oregon.

When you have nothing left but God, then for the first time you become aware that God is enough.

—Maude Royden

Spring Vale News

(Continued from page 23)

Martin served on the jury.

Spring Valers were allowed to take a half day off from school on Thursday, January 31, in order that they might attend the annual Farmers Week at Michigan State University in Lansing. Visits were made to the various buildings on the campus, including the museum, the library, stadium, and the union building; and students observed the various exhibitions there. It proved to be quite an interesting day; and, to top it off, that night we saw a travelogue on "Animals and their Natural Habitats."

A baptismal service was held at Spring Vale on Sabbath, February 9, by the Spanish brethren of the church in Saginaw. Castello Muniz and Reuben Garza were baptized in Spring Vale's baptistry.

Well, so long from Spring Vale for this month. May God bless you and keep you until we meet again.

__Carol Millican

M.B.C. News

Greetings in Jesus' precious name. Once again another month has come and gone here at Midwest, and it is time to let you know what has been happening. February, as many of the other months here at M.B.C., has been filled with activities. On the Sabbath afternoon of February 2 we had our regular monthly F.Y.C. youth program. Rodney Wegermann was the leader of services, and blessings were gained by many as the inspiring songs, poems, and ideas were brought before

us. The platform was arranged as a religious music store, having the participants pick out a song book or sheet music from the many available ones, to present their specials. It gave a new and different approach to the afternoon youth program.

The same evening the students and members of the local church here in Stanberry met in the home of the Clarence Lippincotts for an evening of fun. Some of the fun was supplied when our hostess had the younger children stand behind a curtain with just their hands sticking outside. Then the mothers came and tried to identify their own children's hands. Some mothers were quite surprised! After this and a few other activities we enioved some refreshments including a delicious cake. We certainly appreciated the Lippincotts' invitation to this party.

The next event upon us was the Spaghetti Supper sponsored by the Stanberry F.Y.C. on the evening of February 10. It was the first event on a Sunday evening in quite a while sponsored by the F.Y.C., but this did not prove to be a disadvantage as many of the local young people could help out in the afternoon getting ready for the evening's program.

Lorraine Faubion was in charge of the spaghetti and salads, while Pearl Lewin was in charge of getting the pies together. The local women of the church helped out also by contributing the many pies.

Soon 6:30 rolled around and the people began gathering in the basement. When the supper was finally over, more than 70 people had been served, and it proved to be a success financially for the F.Y.C. We had many visitors attending also, and many people went away feeling that

they had eaten the best spaghetti in a long time. After some had finished eating supper they went upstairs to one of the classrooms where two color travelogues were shown. One was entitled the "Four Seasons of Austria," depicting the land and people of this different country. Many beautiful scenes were shown from the palaces and villages to the mountains and skiing slopes. The other film was taken in North Carolina, showing the contrasts of that state. We hope that the visitors not only enjoyed the fellowship with us, but that this will open the pathway for them to attend our services and worship with

The Student Council is now planning a paper drive to raise some money for the treasury. Old newspapers and magazines can be collected and sold to places of business that need scrap paper.

The last activity, as of the writing of this article, was the Student Council Party given for the students and members of the church Saturday evening, February 16. Many games were enjoyed together, as well as the fellowship.

We are now looking forward to a local Revival here in the Stanberry church, as Garland Brunson and Fred Walter, senior ministerial students, open the Word of God to us. Many of us have been praying for such a thing as this here in our local church, and we are sure that if all of us will yield ourselves completely to Christ, blessings will be given that never before, perhaps, were imagined. We are trusting God to supply this. Please remember to pray for us here in Stanberry. May God be with you all.

-Roger Blankinship

Have you ordered your copy?

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Faithful Youth Challengers' MANUAL

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Some of the matters contained in this FYC Manual are: Purpose of Our Young People's Organization: The Local Church; The Pastor Has a Part; The Objectives of the Young People's Department; Constitution of the Young People's Department; Christian Fellowship Activities; The Standard of Excellence of Organization; Projects of F.Y.C.; and some others.

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