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Aim

The magazine for young people

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Christ Chose

My family—what would they say
 Should I give all to Christ today?
 Or would my comrades think me odd
 If I should choose the path He trod?
 Shall I give up each cherished whim
 And crucify myself for Him?
 I ponder long. Which shall it be—
 Christ Jesus, or the world, for me?
 Then hark! I hear the crucified
 And risen Lord so long denied:
 “My child,” He whispers tenderly,
 I made a choice, I died for thee.”

—S. S. Times

You don't have to explain something you haven't said.

—Calvin Coolidge

Aim The magazine for young people

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Volume XXIX, Number 12

Hope E. Dais, Editor

Sincerity is to speak as we think, to do as we pretend and profess, to perform what we promise, and really to be what we would seem and appear to be.—TILLOTSON

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The Authentic Christian

By Mary Holbert

A person is either a Christian or not a Christian, is either rooted in righteousness or is a fabrication of righteousness. If he is a fabrication of righteousness, then the outward appearance makes him appear to be a Christian. This type of person, making a claim to righteousness, leaves a doubt in the minds of those who know him. Is he or is he not a Christian? From all outward appearances he seems to be a Christian, but he lacks the genuine authenticity of righteousness that comes from the depths of a person who is rooted in righteousness.

The authentic Christian has a realness, a sincerity, a freedom from hypocrisy, a trueness and a trustworthiness that can impress and influence even a child. He has found real righteousness and is not hiding behind masks and status symbols of self-righteousness. We can recognize him because of his ability to evoke a good response in us.

There is a mystery at the heart

of being an authentic Christian—knowledge, technique, and experience are not enough. A true Christian has to become free from all that is artificial and unauthentic, and give out of the fulness of his heart. The mystery is that God has made possible for His Spirit to dwell in the heart of man and cause him to shine forth as a light in a dark place.

As we read the Bible we recognize many authentic Christians. Surely we would class Abraham as such. Abraham's main characteristic was perfect faith

"For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world . . ." (II Cor. 1:12).

in God. He never doubted God at any time. Consequently Abraham was called the friend of God.

Job was perfect in the sight of God. Even the devil could

see the perfection of Job. However, the devil told God that Job would not be so perfect if God hadn't been good to him. God, Who could see into the heart of Job, knew Job's perfection was not of "fair weather" construction, but would stand any storm. We all know the story of the patience of Job and are aware of the fact that Job did stand every test; and remained true to God.

Paul, after his conversion, certainly stood the test as an authentic Christian. God was pleased with Paul and had a mission for him to perform. Paul had perfect faith and believed wholeheartedly in the message he preached.

You can think of others in the Bible who could be classed as authentic Christians. They provide examples and guide lines for us to follow.

If we would be authentic Christians, we must have perfect faith and trust in God and

walk close to him in prayer. We must have deep within us a sincerity that will make us the light that God wants us to be.

The authentic Christian walks in sincerity and purity and obedience. He walks by faith and in truth. He walks honestly and circumspectly. He walks in wisdom and in love. Above all he walks in the Spirit. "And this I say, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh" (Galatians 5:16). The true Christian yields to the Spirit of God completely, allowing the indwelling of the Holy Spirit which inclines his heart toward good, walks beside him on the highway of life, and leads him to eternal life in the earth made new.

Let our prayer be that God will grant each of us the indwelling of His Spirit so we, too, may be authentic Christians who can evoke a response for good in those about us.

"FEAR NOT, I AM WITH THEE"

Tommy, age eight, lived with his grandparents. He was a typical boy endowed with all the excess energy of youth. One day he came forward to join the church. His grandmother, fearing he was too young, asked that his baptism be deferred. A month later she called the pastor and said she was ready for Tommy to be baptized. Then she added, "Several weeks ago as I tucked Tommy in for the night, I found a huge, rough club under his covers. When I asked him about it he said, 'there's a big black something that comes in here every night, if he ever gets close enough I am going to swat him.' Last night as I tucked Tommy in the club was not there. I asked him about it and he replied, 'why grandma, I'm a Christian now and Jesus will keep me safe while I sleep.'" This experience had convinced her that Tommy did know what he was doing when he accepted Christ as his personal Saviour. Jesus said, "Fear not, for I will be with you, even unto the end of the world."

—Dick O'Brien in *The Beam*

Wanted --

A JOB

by Zella M. Lindsey

WILLA JEAN sat in church, thinking of only one thing—how very much she wanted to be church pianist!

Mrs. Engle, who had been playing for the Sabbath services, was leaving town. That meant they'd be getting someone to take her place.

"And I want that someone to be me," thought Willa Jean. "Here I've been wishing I could do something to repay the folks for all they've sacrificed to give me piano lessons. This is my chance. What would please them more than for me to play for church every Sabbath morning and evening? They've always hoped that some day I would. And there'd be no question about it either, if it weren't for Ann.

I suppose it's a toss-up as to which of us is the better pianist. It could be that Ann is a trifle ahead of me."

Suddenly Willa Jean remembered that she was in church. She should be worshiping the Lord. She closed her brown eyes and listened a minute to the minister. Having turned her attention to the message, she soon forgot everything else.

But after the service, as she helped her mother get dinner on the table, she remembered about the opening.

"Mother," she said, "I want so much to be church pianist. I happened to know that someone has mentioned Ann to Bill. Would it hurt if I asked one of the girls to speak



for me?" Bill was the church's music director, and he'd make the choice.

"No, don't do that," said her mother. "That would be pushing, and you don't have to do that in the Lord's work. Pray about it. If God wants you to have the place, He'll see you get asked."

But Willa Jean wasn't quite sure. "They'll not even think of me if no one says anything. Ann's been play-

ing for Sabbath school, so of course everyone knows that *she* can play."

"God knows you play," said her mother.

"I'll probably get stuck with playing for the Junior Department," said Willa Jean.

"Well, if God gives you a small place to serve, just do your very best. But don't worry, 'A man's gift makes room for him.'"

All the same, Willa Jean was tempted to ask one of the girls to speak to Bill about her.

As Willa Jean slipped her brown coat over her rose-colored blouse and beaver-brown skirt, to leave for C. A.'s that evening, her brown eyes were gloomy, and she carried an air of discouragement. But she came home with high spirits and her pretty thin face was glowing with anticipation.

"The C.A.'s are having a party next Thursday night," she told her mother before she went to bed. "And you know what? It's going to give me the chance I need to remind Bill what I can do on the piano. Ann's going to be out of town, so that leaves the field for one night open for me. They'll need a pianist for devotions—for games too! Believe me, this is one time when someone asks, 'Who'll play for us?' I'm going to offer double quick!"

Her mother smiled. "Daddy and I will be very happy if you are chosen."

Tuesday evening Willa Jean carefully pressed her best dress—a mint green wool with a full skirt. She was just hanging it up, when the telephone rang. Her mother said it was Ed.

Ed was a former member of the C.A. group who had recently moved to a nearby town. He sang very well, and Willa Jean was his favorite ac-

companist. He had called her late last week as he was passing through town.

"I've been down in the country to-night helping my uncle in a revival," he explained. "He wants me back some night next week. And I'm going. It's a long trip, but he needs help so badly. And I sure need a pianist. The little girl they have is a nice little girl, but she just can't play anything she hasn't practiced—and then none too well. How about going with me when I go next time?"

"All right," she said, "Any night's all right with me, Just let me know."

But now Willa Jean took up the receiver with a feeling of dread.

"About that revival," began Ed. "The only night I can possibly go is Thursday. That all right with you?"

"Oh, no, Ed, not *Thursday!*" Willa Jean groaned.

"'Fraid so. Every other night's taken. What's wrong with Thursday?"

Willa Jean tried to think what to say. It would sound silly to say, "Oh, I have to go to a party."

"But I do," she told herself. "I just *can't* miss the party *this* week."

"I hate to let you down," she said. "But there's an important reason why I have to be here Thursday night. I'm sorry, Ed. Any other night I could have gone."

After she hung up, Willa Jean tried to forget Ed's disappointed voice and to shake her guilty feelings.

"Well, he doesn't *have* to have an accompaniment," she argued. "There will probably be just a handful of people, anyway."

But she really was *needed* at the little church, and she knew it. Did it really matter whether or not she went to the party?

"What I'm really trying to do is

make sure they give me that job of playing the piano," she finally admitted to herself. "As if God's so helpless He can't get it for me, if He wants me to have it. After all, I promised Ed last week I'd go any night he said, and he's counted on me. If Ed can't count on me, maybe God'll decide He can't either."

It was late, but she phoned Ed to say she'd go with him.

When Willa Jean and Ed finally reached the little church Thursday night, they found it crowded. Ed had been announced, and so had Willa Jean. She was ready too, not simply to play for Ed, but to give some piano numbers herself. Ed had suggested it when she had told him she would go.

As they stepped now inside the church door, Willa Jean turned to Ed with unbelieving eyes.

"Bill?" she whispered. "Isn't that Bill? It is! How come he's here?"

"Oh, didn't I tell you he's leading the singing? Whenever there aren't

services at your church, that is."

The next day Willa Jean had a caller. It was Bill.

"Willa Jean," he said, "we have to have another pianist. Would you consider the job?"

"Oh, I'd love it," said Willa Jean.

"Fine then. We'll count on you."

But it wasn't until some months later that Willa Jean learned that it was her coming to the little church instead of going to the party that tipped the scales in her favor. Bill had known that Ed had asked her to play for him before the party was announced, and he had wondered what she would do. He knew from experience what Ann would do—she never could be counted on when there was something else she wanted to do.

Willa Jean was glad she had proved to God that He could count on her. It was good to see the pleasure on her parents' faces when she took her place at the piano on Sabbath morning!—Adapted from *HiCall*

A TEEN TESTIMONY

From Wisconsin, a pastor and his wife write: "We were so impressed with the closing thoughts of a letter from one of our 19-year-old young people, Joyce Weir, that we asked her permission to send it in as a testimony—perhaps it may encourage another young person along life's way.

"Joyce works in an office in Chippewa Falls, and is doing a fine job of witnessing. We have prayed with her and given her Bible helps and encouraged her along the way. In the first part of her letter she mentioned that she was beginning to see the good results of her witnessing and that the victory was ahead . . ."

Here is the closing paragraph of Joyce's letter which testifies of the Christian joy she is experiencing by really witnessing for her Saviour:

". . . Isn't the Lord wonderful? I know my walk with Him is closer. Seem to find more time for the Important things of Life. Have to close. Love, Joyce."

by Helen St. Clair

God Can, God Does, BECAUSE

Have you ever had someone judge you rather harshly until you felt your ears turning pink and perhaps a little spark of self-righteous indignation rising up within you? Yes, I'm sure we have all experienced someone's condemnation sometime in our lives. Although we ourselves know we shouldn't judge (Matthew 7:1-5), did you know that another's judgment can benefit you if you critically consider the judgment and spend time in self-examination? 1 Corinthians 11:32: "But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world."

Although there may be a great big beam in the brother's eye who judges you, you cannot afford to neglect the mote he pointed out in yours. It is true he may not be worthy to judge you, but God IS. He IS perfect. You ARE responsible before Him for the flaw that has been pointed out to you.

God

I have heard the line of thought that these little "motes" are just character flaws, personality traits, and that a Christian cannot overcome them... that he can keep the commandments and love the Lord, but cannot hope to change the flaws in his temperament. Do you believe this is true? What about these "little flaws"? Are they sinful?

I am not saying that a Christian will never slip and sin or offend someone. Nor am I saying he can break all bad habits overnight. His Word teaches us that men do wrong. 1 John 1:8 tells us that "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." But let's not neglect the following verse, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." If He is going to cleanse us from all unrighteousness, can we remain in this sin? Can we fold our hands and say, "It's just in me to err; I can't do any better"?

Well, then, what is sin? "Whoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law" (1

John 3:4). And we know the law is the Ten Commandments, but what about little flaws? Are they breaking the commandments?

Jesus magnified the commandments when He lived a perfect life on earth and died for our salvation.

Matthew 5:20-22: "For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven. Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire." Anger without a cause is classified with murder.

Read verses 27 and 28 of the same chapter. "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you,

Loves

That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart." Here we see lust classified with adultery.

Already we have covered two flaws that are habits with a lot of people... anger and lust. What did we find out? We found out they are sin.

Another bad habit is discontent. I fear we all find ourselves guilty of this habit at one time or another. "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Hebrews 13:5). You may not be guilty of coveting something that belongs to another, but you probably covet luxuries and pleasures which rob you of enjoyment in the things you already have. Setting your heart on the riches of life, do you not find your concentration on God taking a back seat? Don't forget the commandment "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."

The above first commandment also applies to your use of time. Do you find yourself putting your work, recreation, and hobbies before time spent in daily devotions? When you feel the need to pray, do you answer the call with "Not now! I'm busy"? If so, you are making a god of these pleasures.

The Christian life should reflect Christ, show forth His indwelling. Is it not indeed sin-

ful to indulge in habits that misrepresent Him? Quick temperedness, vulgar conversation, worldly amusement, carelessness in devotions, a domineering spirit, haughtiness, envy, unwillingness to obey those over us, sloppy or immodest dress and other habits you could think of, give others a bad impression of us and hurt our testimony for Jesus, as well as block our fellowship with Him when we cling to these habits rather than living a pure life for Him. These habits CAN BE and MUST BE overcome. How?

These bad habits are works of the flesh. "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." See how serious these habits can be? "... they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God" (Galatians 5:19-21).

Do you honestly believe we have to carry around these sins that we pass off as "personality traits"? The Bible holds the answer. His Word gives the solution for ridding ourselves of these flaws.

"This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh" (Galatians 5:16). God gave us His Spirit to

teach us and guide us. It's up to us to obey His Spirit, walk in it, and thus overcome unrighteousness.

God can cleanse us of "faults." God does! Why? Because God loves us! He wants us to be happy (and there is certainly no happiness in doing things that make us feel condemned), and He wants us to inherit His kingdom which we will not do if we hold on to our sinful ways, saying we just can't do any better.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God" (John 3:16-21).

God is a loving Father. He forgives you when you slip, chastening you to bring you to

repentance, but He is not tolerant of carelessness and habitual wrong living. He KNOWS you CAN live above the world through HIS help and He expects it of you. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting" (Galatians 6:7, 8).

God can heal you of your sinful sickness. Sin is a sickness and it leaves you sick at heart. You must give your whole self to God, fully submit yourself, be willing for Him to change your ways. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Romans 12:1, 2).

Three very short verses can be a lot of help to us. They are found in 1 Thessalonians 5:17, 19, 22. "Pray without ceasing." "Quench not the Spirit." "Abstain from all appearance of evil."

There are habits... faults... in my life that I must seek to overcome. Are there faults in your life, too? The answer for us all is the same. We MUST care
(Continued on page 28)

If You Were a

Teenager in Africa

by Don Hocking

TEEN-AGE is the critical age in the lives of African youth. During this seven-year period, they marry, form rather permanent character traits, go on or drop out of school, establish a home, and very often make their final decision concerning what they will do with Jesus Christ.

Girls do not usually marry under the age of sixteen, but often are "spoken for" and partially "paid for" (a fellow must actually buy his wife with hard cash) before she is thirteen. The African young lady doesn't pick her own husband any more than American girls do, but in Africa, too, an eligible boy can usually tell how he is making out.

Long before the girl is a teen-ager, she has been accustomed to domestic responsibilities. She helps plant the crops, weed the garden, and then helps to reap the harvest. Every day she has a part in preparing the meals. She helps care for her younger brothers and sisters, carries the water and washes the clothes. In Africa there is no complaining about dishpan hands because they have no dishpans. But

they do have to be careful so that they do not develop a permanent sag from carrying heavy loads on their heads.

The daily chores are outlined rather definitely by their parents, and when they finish working with the manioc, peanuts, cotton, or coffee and have finished hauling all the water for the day, they are sometimes permitted to go to the river for a swim. (You probably would not like the water.)

The African boys? Brother, do they have it made! They help in gardens, some . . . but most of their time is just spent. The usual answer to the question, "What have you been doing?" is, "Oh, walking, talking, visiting. . . ." The truth—not much walking either.

Teen-age African fellows do get some action especially during the hunting season. This is the life! They love to hunt, and usually are very good at it too. Nevertheless, the boys are assigned chores in the garden, but are not very enthusiastic and so will do no more than they are forced to do.

African teen-age fellows and girls love to play together, and have a lot of group games in the villages. These games are peculiar to the Africans and very few of them would be suitable in American society, especially in Christian society.

And so, we see that universally, teen-agers need the gospel of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Teen-agers in Africa need Him—your classmates need Him too. We share the responsibility now to carry the gospel of Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth. Our responsibility now is to

live for Him and speak of Him where we are. Then, if God should call us to the mission field at a later time, we will already have been missionaries in obedience to the clear command of Christ.

If you were a Christian teen-ager in Africa, you would want to win your friends to Christ. You would very probably pray for teen-agers in America too. As American teen-agers, win your friends to Christ and remember to pray for your Christian brothers in Africa.

—*The Brethren Missionary Herald*

Chatting With Teen-ers

A girl one time had a dream about a lion. She was going for a walk down the street, and came to a neighborhood where a family once had tamed a lion. The people moved away, but did not take the lion with them. It roamed where it pleased, but seemed friendly. The dreamer came to the former home of the lion tamer and walked onto the porch. Just as she reached the front door, the lion came around the corner of the house and stood by the porch. He seemed quite friendly, so friendly, in fact, that the girl was about to reach out her hand to pet it. Suddenly someone standing nearby suggested rather nonchalantly that the lion was not fed as good as it used to be and it might be hungry enough to eat her. Just as the girl's hand touched the head of the lion it became very angry. Then she awoke!

The dream made a profound impression on the girl. She was aware as never before how much like the devil was this lion. She remembered the verse, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." The devil often approaches one quietly, in a friendly manner, whispering, "There's nothing wrong in going to a movie or to the dance," but as soon as the tempted one yields, the devil grabs that one and holds him in his vice. But always before one yields there is the voice of warning saying, "The devil is not fed as good as it used to be and it might be hungry enough to eat you."

When the Holy Spirit warns you not to yield to temptations the devil places in your way, listen to Him and turn from the temptation. The devil hates God and hates those who are yielded to God. If we love the Lord with all our hearts we can say, "Get thee behind me, Satan," when he comes as a roaring lion to devour us.—*Gospel Herald*

My Problem

Youth Questions
answered by
Ray L. Straub



Is...

PROBLEM:

Just recently I received my driver's license. Now that I can drive legally I would like to use the family car to go out. My dad, however, refuses to let me use it alone. How can I get through to him that I am old enough to use his car?

ANSWER:

Your question presents an enormous problem that touches a great many households. It is most difficult to answer, and I feel almost certain that my comments will not present the full information you seek. However, I hope they will be helpful.

Since you have your driver's license, showing that you are physically qualified to handle a car, it would seem that your father should consider giving you permission to use it alone. I do not say that he should give you permission; I think he should consider giving it.

It might be well if your father read these thoughts which form a basis for consideration, too. From these some agreement may be arrived at that

could lead to his permitting you to use the family car.

You should be denied the use of the car until you have shown proof of your ability to do the following:

1. Exercise safety.

Every responsible driver knows that he has at hand a potentially dangerous, even deadly, weapon. It can hurt, cripple and kill. More often than not, this is done unintentionally, but results of traffic accidents are long-lasting and serious.

Too often young people get behind the wheel of a car, and in showing off driving skills, they take useless chances endangering the lives of everyone near them. Reckless driving is an impudent sin. Your father owes it to you, your family, your friends and your community to keep you from driving alone until you have proven your responsible regard for safety.

2. Exercise regard for property.

For almost any family, the car represents an expensive investment. Many cars are not even paid for, yet. They are valuable and depended upon. Misuse of cars such as starting off unnecessarily fast, shifting gears harshly, sliding to a stop unnecessarily, turning corners too quickly, speeding over rough roads, etc., shows lack of regard for an expensive investment. Anyone who mistreats the family car does not deserve the privilege of its use.

If, on the other hand, you show real concern for the mechanical upkeep and the good appearance of the family car, you show a responsibility that is noteworthy.

3. Exercise responsibility in keeping promises.

When you have the family car, you owe your parents information such as where you plan to go, with whom, and when you plan to be back. Then do what you told them. A demonstration of maturity in these important matters will demonstrate the maturity that deserves use of the family car.

Too often young people use automobiles to go places they should not. This is abusing a privilege that should then be removed. Also, you should not be allowed to use a car to serve as a kind of bedroom when out on a date. America has the car to thank for a great deal of its moral degeneracy, and your father should be concerned that you do not make evil use of your family car.

It would seem that the best approach to your problem would be to approach your father with an understanding attitude. Recognize that it is your responsibility to prove your worthiness to use the car. He should

then recognize his responsibility to accept such proof.

The use of the family car is important to your personal prestige, and I'm sure your family knows this, too. However, you will do well to remember that your loss of driving privileges as a result of carelessness, can be most damaging to you, too. Be patient. It is far better to wait until you can handle these responsibilities than to demand too much and fail. If you secure permission to use the car, make abundantly sure that you accept the privilege with humble gratitude and mature responsibility.

* * *

We are very happy to tell you this column in AIM with Elder Ray Straub will continue in 1965. Send in your question, your problems and your opinions. Help make this column interesting as it has been during the past year.

Other features you have enjoyed in '64 AIM will be continued. There will also be changes and added features to keep our paper interesting and alive.

We want to encourage you to read the testimony on page 7 from a girl in Wisconsin. Will you share YOUR experiences and testimony with us? It doesn't have to be something really big. If it's joy in the Lord, then it's special, and you really should share it with others. The LITTLE experiences in life certainly encourage us along the way.

* * *

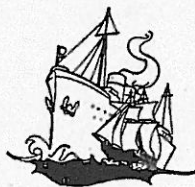
Watch for the January issue of AIM for a very interesting report from Paul Heavilin about the youth in Mexico with whom he personally associated last summer.

I know my Pilot knows the sea
 That's all unknown to me;
 So I commit my all to Him,
 Though skies be bright or dim;
 For nothing's hidden from His sight
 By day or darkest night;
 He knows the way across the foam
 To my sweet heav'nly home.

My Pilot Knows the Sea

I know my Pilot knows the sea
 That's out ahead of me;
 He knows where all the dangers are
 Close by or out afar;
 And some good day when sailing's o'er
 He'll land me on that shore
 Where I shall see His blessed face
 And praise Him for His grace.

I know my Pilot knows the sea—
 He knows and cares for me;
 Although the surging billows roll,
 He guards my life and soul.
 I will not, cannot doubt His love
 That flows down from above,
 And makes me know there is sweet rest
 For ev'ry Christian's breast.



I know my Pilot knows the sea,
 Therefore He comforts me
 When waves roll high and storms abound
 And dangerous voices sound
 That would be cause for me to quake
 And doubt the way I take;
 But in my Pilot's tender care
 I'm safe just anywhere.

By Walter Isenhour

I know my Pilot knows the sea
 And kindly says to me:
 "I own the Ship in which you sail
 That weathers ev'ry gale.
 I'll guide you from the rockribbed shores.
 As I have countless scores,
 And when the sea's too rough and ill
 I'll say to it, *be still.*"

Youthful Thinking

By WALTER ISENHOUR



AS I sit at my typewriter writing this message I am thinking of the hundreds and maybe thousands of young people who will read it far and wide, as quite a number of publications will give it space. I know, dear young people, I will never look into your faces here on earth, but that I may behold your wonderful, beautiful, shining faces "In the sweet by and by" in the glorious home of the soul where we can bask in God's peace and glory forever!

Thinking is as natural as the air we breathe. Everyone who has a normal mind thinks. We are created to think. And there are so many, many things to think about, so many people to think about, so many channels along which you can think, so many roads you can think of taking, and so much you can think of doing. There is enough to keep your minds active all the days and years of your lives.

We are told that as one thinks in his heart, so is he. Our thought-life makes or mars us; blesses or curses us; helps or hinders us; lifts us up or pulls us down; enables us to succeed or causes us to fail; strengthens or weakens us; makes one good, noble and great, or blights, wrecks and ruins us; helps to take us heavenward or hellward; means much to begin with and still far more to end with.

Many a youth who lets his mind

run in the wrong channel, thinking on the wrong things, failing to hold his mind to the right point, or failing to direct it there, will find himself, sooner or later, in the wrong place and working at the wrong job. It is the business of the devil to take charge of the mind as much as possible, causing it to go in the opposite direction than God would have it pursue.

Thinking wrong keeps many a youth from an education; keeps many out of church; sends many into crime and to prison; keeps many in bad company; causes adultery, idleness, laziness and theft; causes many to think the world owes them a living without honest, earnest effort and work to earn it; causes many to seek pleasure that is ungodly, and form habits that are hurtful, injurious, even destructive to the body, mind, soul, spirit and life.

It is an old saying that we "can't keep the birds from flying over our heads, but we can keep them from building nests in our hair." That is to say, dear youth, that you can't keep the devil from bringing evil thoughts to your mind, but you can absolutely keep from harboring them there. You can keep them from staying and staying until they wreck, ruin and defeat you. No one should welcome and cherish evil thoughts, but rather despise and reject them, and send them away as he would a thief who seeks to steal one's treasures.

Dear youth, bad company may seek your companionship and fellowship, but you don't have to welcome it in and give it an abode in your home, or at your place of business, nor lock arms with it and go marching down the road together. You can say to such company, "Get behind me," unless you point such company to Christ for salvation.

Oh, dear youth, it means so much to be a good thinker! Your success or failure depends much upon this. Your life and character depends much upon this, if you are to make your mark in the world to live after you to bless the world. Your soul's salvation depends much upon your thinking—whether you will go with God or the devil. An evil mind can be your ruin; or a clean, pure mind can be your making, and bring to you blessed success and heaven, along with the leadership and guidance of God and the Holy Ghost.

If you think on God and His blessed Holy Word, and take its won-

derful truths and teachings into your mind, heart, soul, spirit and life, you will live nobly and great. You will make your mark and leave it upon the "sands of time" to bless the country in which you live, and perhaps the world. In early life is perhaps a more wonderful time to think right and to really form good and great thoughts, than in any other period in life, as you are forming and molding your character for all future life and and for eternity.

**. . . For as he
thinketh in his
heart, so is he
(Proverbs 23:7).**

Listen to this wonderful advice given by St. Paul to the Philippian brethren, which can as well apply to you today, my precious youth, as to them:

"Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." (Philippians 4:8).

Dear youth, in thinking thus, according to Paul's advice and instructions, the country in which you live will hear of you and God will wonderfully use you. There will be a very, very important place for you to fill some time and somewhere. Yes, there will be a demand for your service, and a call for you to the higher and better positions in your country, and a desire for your location in the midst of good people; or maybe God will send you among sinners to win them into His fold and kingdom. Indeed God will bless you, use you and make you a great blessing. Praise His holy and matchless name forever.

The Editor's Page

Today as we hear so much about the gross misdeeds committed by some of the youth of our nation, it would seem that here may be a reason why 1 Timothy 4:12 is worded, "Let no man despise thy youth." *Let no man despise.* . . . The acts and reputation of so many teenagers are such that they should be and are despised. It may be said that this portion of scripture is very well worded in relation to this present day.

What effect should this have on you as a teenager? Should it result in your concluding that you may as well give up and go along with the despicable acts of teenagers since that is the reputation many irresponsible youth have earned for your set?

Here I am reminded of another select group whose reputation has been sadly soiled by some irresponsible individuals. The policeman.

Because some policemen have stooped to the disgraceful level that they would be the accessory or accomplice in a robbery, would this be an authentic reason for our honest policemen to give up and decide, "Well, there is no longer any use to exercise honesty and respectability in the face of this lamentable downgrade in the office of policeman"?

No, rather, the genuine, the dedicated policeman continues to maintain his high level of integrity. Although he may recognize that those who disgrace his office seem to get the publicity and the attention of the public more readily, he is nevertheless motivated and challenged by this mark which some would bring against his office and reputation. He continues to carry out his duties with bravery and honesty, often facing personal danger in enforcing the law and protecting the safety and freedom of others.

So it is with you as a teenager. You no doubt grow tired of hearing emphasized the evils for which some teenagers are accountable. Don't let this discourage or influence you. "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good" (Romans 12:21).

Don't ever be persuaded that people are waiting and anxious

(Continued on page 28)

MARK OF MERIT

One of the appealing things about entering a new year is that opportunities for reaching higher heights in the coming year are open to everyone. You may reach great heights in service to God but first you must

**ATTENTION
FOR '65**

"plan your work and then work your plan." To many of us, the word "work" is a very unpleasant word but to all of us, when we place the word, *Lord's* in front of that word *work*, it has a much brighter and more pleasant outlook.

This year we want every FYC in the Church of God to enroll in the "Merit Program." This should be no difficult task when you are remembering that we are placing *Lord's* in front of *work*. You FYCers that are in the "Merit Program" may have a neighboring FYC group who has not been able to find us yet. If this is so perhaps you could encourage them to "plan their work and work their plan." I'm wondering which state in the U.S.A. will be the first to have all its churches with FYC groups in our Merit Program. See if your state can be the first one.

**BONUS POINTS
FOR '65**

This year we are going to give bonus points for five different bonus-point standards. These five standards will be in effect for all quarters of 1965. Additional standards may be added for as long as we specify that

they will be in effect. General standards for the Mark of Merit will be the same, and you may win a Silver or Gold Mark the same as before. Aside from the Merit Awards, you may earn bonus points. The bonus points will not count toward a Mark of Merit. They must be over and above points earned by the general standards.

The FYC with the highest number of points will be the "FYC of the Year" and will be featured in AIM after the completion of the 1965 Merit Program. Any bonus points earned will be added to the points for a Mark of Merit in determining the "FYC of the Year." It may seem that large groups have the advantage but this can be overcome by hard work, and may provide you with incentive to grow.

Standard Bonus Points for 1965

Bonus points will be granted according to the following standards:

1. Giving or solicitation of subscriptions (1 yr. or more).
 - a. Each AIM subscription 3 points
 - b. Each Bible Advocate subscription 2 points
 - c. Each renewal of either 1 point
2. Extra Rallies.
 - For a second rally in a month 5 points

3. Quarterly reports in to the merit director by the 15th of the month if the forms are received by the 1st (Otherwise on date specified for that particular mailing.) 5 points
4. For each person completing the Personal Merit System within your FYC group 10 points
5. For each person who memorizes a new memory verse every two weeks for the entire quarter 6 points

NOTE: *Memory verses must be taken from "Grow More in '64 (or its successor) in AIM. Leader or sponsor will check each individual and keep record of verses and report with quarterly report at the end of the quarter. All six verses must be memorized in one quarter for any points to be given.*

**FIRST QUARTER BONUS
POINT STANDARD
(Jan., Feb., March)**

For the first quarter of 1965 we will give points for every article, story or personal testimony submitted to AIM from your FYC group. Many different individuals in your group may

win these points in the same quarter. If the articles or testimonies are so many that all can't be used they will be held over and used the next quarter or when space in AIM is available. For your writer's manual, send to Dale Lawson, Stanberry, Missouri.

1. Submitting articles, stories or testimonies for use in the AIM. These must be typewritten and of usable quality. 4 points
Send articles to: Hope Dais, editor, Stanberry, Missouri

FOR YOUR INFORMATION
If anyone does not understand any part of the Merit System, please feel free to write to me and I will do my best to answer your questions.

Third Quarter Reports

We received 3rd quarter reports from several groups and we are looking for those that haven't come in. Following are the scores of all the FYC groups which have reported.

California		Oklahoma	
Lodi	405	Fairview	425
Stockton	420	Wisconsin	
Missouri		New Auburn	430
Stanberry	405	South Dakota	
Kansas City	270	Eureka	370

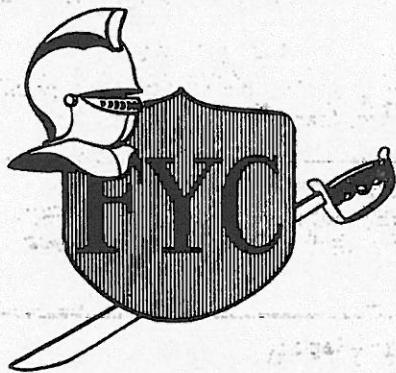
Remember we plan to have twenty-five entries in the Merit Program for 1965. Don't let it be said of your group "We just didn't enter."

—Dale Lawson, Merit Director.

Heart to Heart...

Polishing the Brass

by Elden Fischer



*"... The day is at
hand ... let us
put on the
armour of light"*

(Rom. 13:12).

Car owners and housewives know that no matter how carefully we protect our valuable metals, it becomes necessary to polish them periodically to keep them shining and in good shape. As Faithful Youth Challengers we take for our symbols the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the spirit as the emblem for our group. To remain an "armour of light" and shine for Jesus, to stand out and be desired by others, this armour must be polished periodically. Are we having trouble "selling" others on this armour because we have allowed it to become dull, tarnished, and damaged from the elements in the atmosphere?

Have you been indifferent or enthusiastic about your church?

Have you supported or only criticized?

How have you used your talents?

... your opportunities?

Since we are already in the last month of 1964 will you check your armour and work it over for the new year? Has your shield of faith slipped during the year or was it always in place to protect you against your enemy? Did you keep your helmet of salvation in place in all situations? Were you able to use your sword (Word of God) effectively or were you defeated because you were not familiar with your weapon? Because we want you to be always armed and ready for action, we have tried to promote "Take Time for God" and "Grow More in '64." Those that have joined these programs are much better prepared for this continual war with Satan. No one can afford to retreat because there is no armour for the back. Our only safety is better preparation for the battle, and ceaseless fighting.

The Question ...

Would you ask yourself this question now? "What have I done?" Otherwise, you may use the same words at Christ's appearing, with different punctuation, "What have I *done!*" Have you crowned Christ with glory

or thorns? Have you been indifferent or enthusiastic about your church? Have you supported it or only criticized it? How have you used your talents and opportunities? For the Lord or for yourself? Have you buried any possibility to witness? Have you taken advantage of your neighbor and brother or have you loved them? What have you done with the inner hunger for righteousness? Has it been starved? Friends, don't end up with blood on your hands, but if Christ's blood has been applied to your hearts, join the FYC's "International Guard Against Satan" program for 1965. (See page 29 in this AIM.)

Try This ...

To live a more effective Christian life in 1965, try this. Before you do anything ask yourself the question, "What would Jesus do?" If this becomes your motto it will transform your life until others would definitely see Christ reflected through you. It will affect your conversation, what you read, how you act, and how you spend your time. If you spend your time as Jesus would spend His time, you

will be helping others more than you help yourself. Read the book "In His Steps" and find out what could happen in your community if a group of people always asked, "What would Jesus do?" A Christian is a follower of Christ so it is never out of place to do what He would do.

Today many people are repelled by Christianity because of the poor example of those who call themselves Christians. Let us take a real stand for Christ in the New Year. It is so easy to go along with the tide and be careless about the standards we uphold, but it does matter where you go, what you do, and how you use your time. Watching TV or pursuing our own pleasures when others are dying without Christ dulls the Armour. Let's make sure not to be idle when the day is at hand. To wear imitation armour gains no one anything.

A minister asked a returned GI to speak in his pulpit. He consented reluctantly to do so—but on the condition that the congregation sing "Like a Mighty Army Moves the Church of God" just before he was to speak. Here is what he said:

"'Like a mighty army moves the church of God.' That might have been all right once, but the trouble now is that about ten million men know exactly how an army moves. And it does not move the way a lot of you folks do in the church—or do not. Suppose the army accepted the lame excuses that many of you think are good enough to serve as an alibi for not attending church parade.

"Imagine this if you can—Reveille at 7:00 a.m.—squad on parade ground—the sergeant barks out, 'Count fours.' One, two, three, number four is missing. 'Where's Private Smith?'

"'Oh,' says a chap by the vacant place, 'Smith was too sleepy to get up this morning.'

Guaranteed Victory

You can depend on your armour to protect you and win the battle. A genuine shield of faith can still do miracles and a helmet of salvation will be a real source of peace and security in our perilous times. If you let the sword of the spirit direct you in life, you can win others to Christ. Put those three together and keep them shining and you will have no trouble deciding what to do with your life, finding a job that allows you to follow God's commands, or selecting a partner that will help to build a Christian home.

Keeping our armour shining will attract others to Christ and gain us stars for our crown. By eliminating a few worthless activities in your life you can find time to serve the captain of our army and help the FYC move like a mighty army.

"'That is fine,' says the sergeant. 'Remember me to him. Where's Robinson?'

"'Robinson,' explains a buddy, is 'sorry not to greet you in person but he is entertaining guests today, and of course couldn't come. Besides he was at drill last week.'

"'Thank you,' says the sergeant smiling. 'Tell him he is welcome any time he finds it convenient to drop in for drill.'

"'Honest, now, did any conversation like that ever happen in any war? Don't make me laugh! If any GI tried to pull that stuff he would get twenty days in the brig. You hear stuff like that every week in church, and said with a straight face, too!

"'Like a mighty army! Why if this church really moved like an army, a lot of folks would be courtmartialled within the hour!'

—Selected from our *Bible Advocate*

2T₄G -- TAKE TIME FOR GOD

By Noah Camero

Time has run out. This is now the last scheduled article of this feature. And I would say as Paul said to Timothy in 1 Timothy 4: 13: "Till I come give attendance unto reading. . . ." It is hoped that many have been taking part in this program of daily Bible reading. It is not now the intention to discourage daily reading, but rather that enough of the good habit may have been formed, so that you may continue to exercise it.

Surely you will agree that the Bible is a Book, worthy to be read and diligently studied. More so, the Bible says, when we see that day approaching (2 Peter 3:11). The signs surely indicate to me that the end is near. And it is obvious that as the end of time draws nigh, so our working time is greatly diminished. The Church of God must move forward today as it has never done before. And as the might of any nation lies in its ar-

mies, so the strength of the Church should be you, the youth.

The goal of this magazine and of the young people's department is to seek ways and means of awakening you, the youth of the Church, to develop your full potential for service. It is through your energy and vision that the Church can move forward with boldness and vigor.

But we can never accomplish this purpose or any other worth-

while purpose by relying on departments, committees and campaigns to do all the work. Rather to be successful in this endeavor we must rely on individual interest, fitness and attitude. This, then, puts you into the picture. Without your support any project will fail.

Now, this program of Bible reading was begun with a purpose. Whether or not it has ac-

complished its purpose will be up to you to say. All we can say is that while time remains, it will always be necessary to take time for God. It is my prayer that you always will. Here are some of my favorite chapters:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Chapter</i>
December 14	Deuteronomy 7
December 15	Deuteronomy 18

Grow More in '64

There's a simple law of physics that says two objects cannot occupy the same place at the same time. Could this also be a spiritual law? The Bible says so. "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon" (Matthew 6:24).

If you have been following our verse memorization program, you have occupied eighty-eight little places in your memory with a verse of Scripture, a fragment of eternal truth. Nothing foolish or less important can ever occupy those places. Isn't that a wonderful thought? And what about the time you spent memorizing these verses? That time was occupied pursuing a worthy goal. That time can never be allotted to something else. You have given it to God forever and to the betterment of your soul. Of course there is a negative approach to this idea also. Time that is spent pursuing sin and nonsense can never be replaced either. It belongs to Satan forever.

I know something else about you young people who have begun this program and have stayed with it. I know that you are a person who will make a mark in your lifetime. I know that you are not a quitter, that you want to better yourself in God's eyes, that you want to help your fellow men, that you have learned the important quality of self denial that makes mature men and women. We offered no material prize for completing this program. It wasn't

December 16	Deuteronomy 30	December 28	Isaiah 12
December 17	Joshua 1	December 29	Jeremiah 8
December 18	Joshua 23	December 30	Ezekiel 14
December 19	Judges 16	December 31	Malachi 4
December 20	1 Samuel 17		
December 21	1 Kings 18		
December 22	2 Kings 1		
December 23	2 Chronicles 7		
December 24	Nehemiah 9		
December 25	Job 25		
December 26	Psalms 139		
December 27	Proverbs 1		

Now that you have read some of Noah's favorite chapters, we suggest you select 14 of your own choosing to start off the New Year. The next issue of *AIM* will carry suggestions, starting with January 15.

If you have been following "Grow More in '64" and would like to take part in national competition, drop a card to AIM, Box 158, Stanberry, Missouri.

simple to keep it up. That's how I know you are exceptional. That's how I know you will amount to something. You know what is really important!

Now if you're one of those who didn't join the program or who started it but let it get crowded out, don't feel you are a failure. Purpose is not something we are born with; it is acquired. Each of us has the prerogative to become what he will within the limits of his environment. It's not too late for you to start working on your image and character, to make them the image and character of Christ. Select your goals, deny yourself, persevere. Put yourself in the hands of God, not once, but every day, every hour. He will make you a success.

This program will continue next year. Will you be one of those who stick with it? Will you apply yourself? If God wills it, you will have 8,760 hours to use in 1965. You will sleep about 2,920 leaving 5,840 to your disposal. How many will you give to Christ?

Philippians 4:8
 Psalm 55:22
 Ecclesiastes 3:14
 Matthew 10:39

Matthew 7:13
 Ephesians 5:15, 16
 James 4:17
 Colossians 3:17

—C.G.F.

GOD CAN, GOD DOES, BECAUSE GOD LOVES

(Continued from page 11)

and we must pray continually to overcome every thing in our life that displeases God and casts a bad reflection on our Christian walk.

A good way to prevent ugly actions is to prevent ugly thoughts, and to prevent ugly thoughts, think lovely thoughts that leave no room for sinful thoughts to enter. Think of God and His goodness. Meditate on the lessons in His Word. "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things" (Philippians 4:8).

• • •

EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 19)

to condemn all young people as delinquent. It isn't true. There are many, many individuals who are quick to notice and emphasize the worthwhile acts of you teenagers.

We as children of God must never be affected or influenced by the seemingly overwhelming evil which is about us. Rather, we must realize that the darker the world around us, the brighter our light will shine out.

Regardless how evil this evil may become, it cannot make good any less

good, or God any less God.

What is your determination? Can you ignore the wordly evils around you and follow after the virtuous life in God, enthusiastically seeking your place in improving and making this world better?

Some have earned a reputation which invites youth to be despised. This merely presents a greater need for you to uphold high ideals with the enthusiasm of youth and with a real spark in your Christian living.

• • •

PRAYER

If radio's slim fingers
Can pluck a melody
From night, and toss it over
A continent, or sea;
If the petaled white notes
Of a violin
Are blown across a mountain,
Or a city's din;
If songs, like crimson roses,
Are culled from thin blue air,
Why should mortals wonder
If God hears prayer?

—Ethel Romig Fuller

• • •

When you're disgusted with "the church and everyone in it"—you're also disgusted with yourself!

* * *

STATEMENT

Of the ownership, management, and circulation (required by the Act of Congress of October 23, 1962; Section 4369, Title 39, United States Code) of "AIM" published monthly at Stanberry, Missouri, for September 30, 1964.

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PROGRAM 1965:

"International Guard Against Satan"

Join our programs now and help our church stand firm against the challenges of our time. We draft no one, but we need more volunteers now. Your helmet, your shield, and your sword are waiting for you. Accept the training that can help you serve your God and Church better.

Here is the five point improvement program. Meeting all five standards will make you a 5-star general in the Lord's army.

A. **Be on active reserve** for your local Merit System team. Play an active part to keep your local group active in the Lord's service. Don't let activity die without living up to our name of Faithful Youth Challengers.

B. **Join the ready reserve** by being an "Evangelette." This program is a personal Merit System of witnessing and being a real asset to your church. Write for a pamphlet on this program for ways you can help. This won't take much of your time, but it's an organized method of service. Consider it.

C. **Belong to the Civilian Skywatch Corps** by looking into the Scriptures daily in the 2T4G program and being ready always to warn others of the soon returning King.

D. **Join the Sword Drill Unit**—Memorize eight Bible verses each month and be better qualified to make Christ the center of others' lives. This drill will keep you on target for Christ and keep your swords sharp to guard against Satan.

E. **Further your education by participating** in studies that will teach you how to be a better soldier for Christ. Quizzes on portions of our Commander-in-Chief's text will begin early in 1965.

Join the International Guard and invest in eternity. Anyone between the ages of thirteen and twenty-five can join. Retirement benefits are unequalled. These are spiritual fitness programs. Won't you volunteer for service to be in that number when the Saints go marching into that Capital City where Christ will reign?

Foreign Correspondence Activities



WE NEED YOU!!!

to send us your ideas and results on our project of purchasing a typewriter for the Ahoada, Nigeria, Church Office. The FYC plan of procedure was outlined in the November issue of *AIM*. Won't you again refer to last month's issue and join with other FYC Groups over the country in responding to the plea for the needed machine which will greatly assist our African brethren in carrying out their duties as representatives of our Church there?

Send your suggestions to 903 E. Boone, Tahlequah, Oklahoma 74464, and we shall put your good deeds to work for God's cause. The results of the drive for the typewriter are being sent to Brother Nelson Dimkpah regularly, so let's join forces and show him some real results in this Christian endeavor!

IN BROTHER DIMKPAH'S OWN WORDS

Thanks to U. S. FYC for help in securing typewriter

"Dear Sister in Christ:

Greetings in Jesus' Holy Name. Your well-written letters dated the October 9, was received today and thank you much for writing me.

Glad to learn that steps are being taken seriously against the purchase of the typewriter we appealed for. It is for the Church. The price of a typewriter here in Nigeria differs according to the sizes. The larger size costs from 60 pounds and the smallest size costs from 48 pounds to 52 pounds. We anticipate from you dear ones over there the money to purchase one here or purchase one and then send it to us—for the church use"

Reports on Annual Camp Meeting to be held at Aba

"For your information there is going to be the Annual Camp Meeting of the two Districts as from January 2 to January 10, 1965, at different places.

The Aba District Annual Camp Meeting will begin on the evening of January 8 through to January 10, 1965. Ahoada District will then be the first to hold her meetings—since Aba has been the general place of all the Churches of God 7th Day Meetings. We hope to travel by train, some by motor carriers, cars, etc.

It is very much interesting to meet with other brethren of the like faith in such an occasion and share blessings among the Church-

es of God Members. Do we expect to see the long-hoped-for visitors from the State? I mean Messrs. Hugh Butrick and Ray Straub who are booked for Nigerian Work in 1965? Will their coming be real? Have they started coming from your home? What plans have you people made for the work and workers in Nigeria?"

Nature's mystery in Africa

"We are now enjoying and looking at annual flood. It is higher this year than last year. Every path, road, farm, and some homes are flooded. People's crops are damaged by water that rises every day. It will abate as from the ending of this month. Nature is wonderful. It is a great mystery to observe the rise of the flood of water on every side of the District. Praise God for His wondrous work."

YPO Meeting at Oboburu

"There was a meeting of the YPO at Oboburu on the 3/10/64. The meeting was opened with an hymn 220, Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus. Reading from Hebrews 10:1 by Jacob Daniel. After roll call and collection discussions were made relative to our moving to Okwuzi for open air services which would take three days stay. The attendance was poor due to much water by the way. We also donated a few pounds to help purchase zinc for to roof the parsonage for the white folks' lodging, when they arrive in Nigeria. Meeting closed.

N. T. Dimkpah"

Watch forthcoming issues for reports from Africa's leaders, letters of introduction by new officers, and an inspirational article written by their own business leader.

—Jewell Linville

RESOLVED

By ARTHUR TINSDALE WHITE

Resolved that as each day goes by,
Some kindly word or thought I'll try
To pass to him I chance to meet
In home, or mart, or busy street.

Resolved, to lift some load or blight,
To step aside, to try and right
Some wrong, which word, or act, or
thought

Of mine, the mischief may have
wrought.

Resolved, to see nothing but good,
Nor speak of aught I hear that would
Bring grief, or doubt, or fear, or
shame

To anyone, or cloud his name.

Resolved, that I this year will be
Controlled by faith and charity,
With hope that all around me may
Strive ever for a brighter day.

—Selected

FYC NEWS and REMINDERS

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT FOR 1965

Sister Jewell Linville, an FYC'er who has done an outstanding job in 1964, will continue in this capacity in 1965. Many have enjoyed her reports in AIM monthly. This, however, is only a portion of her work.

A booklet, "What Can I Do?" by Jewell is now available from the FYC office. This gives a report of the Y. P. work in several foreign countries and is designed to help you help FYC'ers in foreign countries. Write for a free copy now.

FYC EMBLEM DECALS

A water transfer decal is now available to anyone wishing to have one. They are four inches by four inches with the FYC emblem in blue and white. The words "Faithful Youth Challengers" and "Church of God (7th Day)" appear on the decal. Get some for car, front door, and notebooks. We are asking 25¢ apiece or 5 for \$1.

1965 MERIT SYSTEM

For two years the Merit System has added interest to the local FYC program. The basic program will remain the same, but an addition to the program will make it possible to earn more than 500 points. If we can get complete accurate reporting

from local groups we should be able to select a group of the year by most points earned. Send your reports in on time and help summarize your activities so that the director can get an accurate picture of your activities.

Brother Dale Lawson has consented to serve as director of this program another year. Dale is a very busy young man and dedicated to the success of this program. Make his job easier by good, prompt reports. For any questions on the Merit System write: Dale Lawson, Midwest Bible College, Stanberry, Missouri.

FYC OFFICE:

For any questions, materials, suggestions, or help on FYC activities write to:

Faithful Youth Challengers
10601 E. 26th St.
Independence, Mo. 64052

or
Faithful Youth Challengers
Publishing House
Stanberry, Missouri

1965 PROGRAM YEARBOOK —Will It Stop or Go?

We would like to have all young people and other readers of AIM to gather good poems, readings, and programs that have been presented in your area. Find and send these now before you forget. Don't depend on

"John" to do this. He may be depending on you. This book can be a big help to our FYCs, but as yet we have very few materials for it. We need to start typing these now if it is to be ready by February. Remember, leaders and sponsors from all over really appreciated their copy of the 1964 Yearbook!

Remember the letter from Trinidad that said, "I have received the yearbook and this book is a masterpiece. I sincerely trust that the ones responsible for its creation do not stop there; one should be published every year and in time that we can all make use of its programmes." Whether we have enough material to print a Yearbook depends on you. Don't you depend on John!

You Can Be Creative

Why not try writing an FYC program? Examples of different programs can be found in the 1964 Yearbook. You might pattern your program after a story, a Bible event, a historical event, a television or radio feature, or some personal experience from life or nature that can be built around special music, poems, and other features filled with many lessons for Christian living. Turn your imagination loose and let the Lord inspire you to be creative.

A SONG . . .

We would like to have an FYC song to use at rallies. Can you use an appropriate melody and write words for our FYC? You will probably have more success using FYC in the lyrics rather than Faithful Youth Challenger. Let us hear what you come up with.

EVANGELETTE PROGRAM AVAILABLE

When you receive your copy of the December AIM we will have in print a brand new program in which an individual can participate in a personal merit program. Write for your copy or order enough for your group. The program starts right off in January so order your copy now. Consider it carefully before you decide against it.

TAKE TIME FOR GOD—2T4G

Are you too busy, too? There are no seven minutes in any day that will do you more good than the time spent in reading the Book that takes on greater value every time you read it. Every day has 1440 minutes so could you take seven to read the Bible and offer a prayer? This pause refreshes, makes your life richer, and helps you to have a greater purpose in life.

To receive the certificate for this award you start reading the chapters suggested. Read a chapter a day and have prayer. After you have done this for a year (365 consecutive days) you write in to Faithful Youth Challengers telling them you have completed a year in the program and we will send you the certificate. If you miss a day you start over the next day. As an FYC'er, can you accept a real challenge?

Do you know that you can read the Bible through in a year by reading three chapters a day and five on Sabbath? Our suggested reading in AIM will take you through the New Testament by early October and from Daniel through Malachi by December

31, 1965. You could add to this other chapters of your choosing.

You will have more success with this program if you read and have prayer in the morning. Putting it off until bedtime may lead to crowding it out of the day. A chart will help your progress. Have a definite time for daily reading. Make it a habit but always make it meaningful. Let us hear from you as you progress. If you are too busy to "Take Time for God" daily, you are indeed too busy!

JUST THINKING

If the world in which I live is a disagreeable place, I can try changing myself. If the people around me are unfriendly, I can try to be friendly. I can try putting on a smile in the presence of those who are storming; and speak a word of thankfulness in the conversation that is filled with complaint. Perhaps I can be a bit pleasant for the benefit of those who are down-hearted. This might change my world. —Sunshine

If you make your job important it is quite likely to return the favor.—Selected



From the FYC Mailbag

CALIFORNIA

"... For an idea in AIM how about testimonies on 'why I enjoy being a Christian' or 'an outstanding blessing'. I feel once this would get started it would work quite well. Maybe you could title this page - "YE ARE MY WITNESSES."

SOUTH DAKOTA

"... hoping that during Thanksgiving vacation we'll be able to make a tape recording for the FYC library."

MICHIGAN

"This afternoon we organized the Spring Vale Academy FYC. There is considerable enthusiasm among the students and we should be an active group.

Please send us a mimeographed pamphlet on youth week activities."

MINNESOTA

"We will make a tape soon as you suggested. We are tape recording at a radio studio every week so we can make a professional sounding tape for the library."

OREGON

"... would appreciate having at least two more FYC yearbooks. We only have two in the group now and when we need one it is often hard to acquire."

OHIO

"... was wondering what I could do best to help the FYC. I would like to be of service in some way."

ILLINOIS

"... We would like to use your filmstrip on the 'Life of Christ,' Set IV."

The emblem at the right will accompany articles or materials concerning Spring Vale Academy in future issues of Aim. This emblem has been designed to convey the following messages:



1. S.V.A. represents the school and its name.
2. Our purpose is to teach salvation, induce a vision for God's work, and then make application.
3. The lighted torch is a symbol of a lighted pathway for life's work.
4. Within the lighted torch we have the school motto, "Flame of Faith."

We want each Church of God member to become familiar with this important symbol. Won't you support it with your prayers and contributions. It is an investment for eternity.

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