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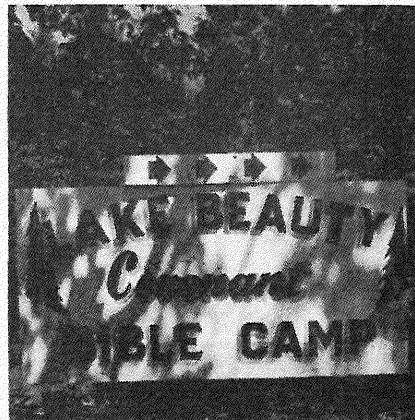
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27

Euphemisms

DECEMBER 1968

Aim

The magazine for young people



... A scene from a past winter youth
retreat. Another such event is
scheduled at the end of December.

Aim The magazine for young people

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Hope E. Dais, Editor

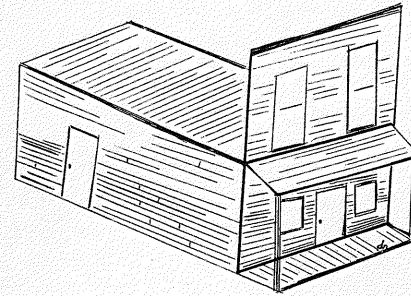
The smallest number, with God and truth on their side, are weightier than thousands.

—C. SIMMONS

It is only an error in judgment to make a mistake, but it shows infirmity of character to adhere to it when discovered.—BOVEE

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The Pretender

By Dorothy Nimchuk

"Say, Gary," the other boy's eyes widened with ill-concealed admiration, "where'd ya get all the dough?" A low whistle escaped him. "I thought you were broke!"

"I've got connections," was all Gary would admit.

"Connections! Yeah, man," exclaimed another lad. "He's the treasurer of the local FYC at his church. Get it?"

A low laugh went round the circle of boys gathered in the semi-darkness. They had met half an hour earlier behind the old Starks' house which had been vacant for years.

A late-model car coasted in the drive, lights off. Disengaging itself from the shadow of the car, a tall form approached. "Got the dough, Gary?" Blake inquired as he joined the group.

"Yes, I—" began Gary nervously.

"The boy scout robbed his little brother's piggy bank," interrupted one of the others.

"Don't matter how he got it," interposed Blake's authoritative voice. "It's enough to fill the flivver with fluid

and get us safely to Gatesville and back."

The heckler fell silent. Self-appointed founder, leader and shepherd of his little following, Blake's word was seldom if ever disputed.

"Well, come on, guys," urged Blake. "Let's get started. We have to keep our 'Christian' friend here in good graces at home. His parents are out of town, and will not be home till quite late. We'll have to be back before they return."

"O.K., Cinderella," smiled a slim youth, John, not unkindly. "We'll have you back before the stroke of twelve."

"Cinderella nothing," spat the former heckler, unable to keep silent, "more like a 'Judas.'"

"Maybe so," agreed Clint. "Cinderella never stole her fairy godmother blind."

"That's enough," warned Blake. "Let's cut out!"

As the boys, six in all, rushed to the waiting auto, Gary's heart did a double take. "Judas!" In spite of his growing association with this gang over the past months, a hard corner

of conscience still pricked occasionally.

Bored with his humdrum existence in sleepy little Beaverton where nothing ever happened, he had simply looked up Blake one day and said he'd like a few thrills out of life before he got too old to enjoy them.

Blake, keen business man and quick judge of character, saw in Gary a good potential and accepted him. The other boys never quite included him as a part of their group.

Blake set Gary up as lookout man. Since Gary was so well-known about town, he could easily drop in for a casual visit at any one of a dozen or so homes, learn when the occupants were to be away, discover where valuables were kept, and inform Blake.

Blake had kept Gary relatively in the background of the gang's activities. Of late, however, some of the other members had kicked at this. If Gary were to receive a share in the loot, then he must be willing to share the risk involved.

"Where we headed, Blake?" questioned Clint.

"Crump estate in Gatesville. Old boy left for Europe only yesterday. Servants on vacation. One caretaker lives in a cottage at the rear," recited Blake. "Gary sure gets the information outta these guys."

Gary breathed in the heavy night air. This was living. Here was excitement! —Escape at last from his stuffy, narrow existence as pastor's son in a small-town church. Here he was himself and could express his thoughts and feelings. Yet, through it all, a nagging doubt persisted, which he promptly pushed to the back of his mind, refusing to recognize it

or to give it audience.

As for the FYC funds, he'd return them as soon as he got his cut on this deal and no one would be the wiser. Judas indeed!!

Half an hour later saw the boys stealthily feeling their way across Noah Crump's well-manicured lawn. Slipping from bush to silent bush, wraith-like in the dark, they reached the house. Using a crow bar, Clint began prying open one of the big kitchen windows. Suddenly, lights went on all over the supposedly empty house, searchlights flooded the yard, and a commanding voice spoke over a hidden loudspeaker. "The jig's up, fellows."

Gary, having advanced more slowly and cautiously than the others, now stood cowering behind a large maple tree just outside the glaring perimeter of light. Good thing he knew his way around this place. He now slipped quietly away down a little-used garden lane. He wondered who tipped the cops.

Once having reached the highway, he managed to hitch a ride with a long-distance trucker. Less chance of being recognized this way, he thought. By the time the news came out, the trucker would be well into the next state and Gary would be safe at home in bed. He reached there, none too soon, as his parents drove in not five minutes after he had crawled wearily into bed. Exhausted as he was, sleep did not come easily to Gary that night.

* * *

Mother woke him early. "Get up, son," she exclaimed. "You don't want to be late for your trip."

"Huh?" he replied, rubbing sleepy eyes and endeavoring to turn over and

The other fellows must have all been caught. Would they tell that he had been with them . . . ?

go back to sleep, "what trip?"

"Why, don't tell me you've forgotten," smiled Mother. "It's the FYC trip to that forsaken, western ghost town in the hills west of town. It's a long drive so you must get an early start," she urged. "You're supposed to drive the bus, according to Brother Stuart. He's sprained his arm and can't go along. His wife will still go as chaperone."

Mother gathered up the sheets from Gary's bed almost faster than he sprang out of them. Wash day, and she intended to get it done before dinner. "I'll have breakfast ready by the time you wash and dress," she promised.

"The Stuarts certainly make fine youth sponsors, don't they?" she continued. "I'm glad you have such wonderful times in the FYC. Why, only last night some of our local boys were picked up for attempted breaking and entering. I surely don't know what this world's coming to. . . ." Mother's voice trailed after her as she descended the stairs to the first floor.

Gary found the nearest chair and sank his five-foot, nine-inch frame into it, his knees suddenly weak under him. The other fellows must have all been caught. Would they tell that he had been with them? What was that old saying, "Honor among thieves . . ." or something of the like?

* * *

The trip to Thornapple Gulch, as the ghost town had been early christened, was uneventful and slightly boring to Gary, who had made the trip

on numerous occasions. One thing did stand out though. Just before boarding the bus for the return trip, one of the younger girls asked Sister Stuart why the buildings had such high fronts when only a one-story structure protruded behind its tall facade.

"Oh, it lent a little grandeur to the town, I suspect." A hint of amusement tinged Sister Stuart's voice. "The people could believe their town was bigger and better than it actually was."

"Sort of a false front," suggested one member of the party.

"Yes," said Sister Stuart, "it helped to hide the meanness and smallness which was really the make-up of this out-of-the-way mining town."

Her words haunted Gary all the way back to town as he maneuvered the big bus round the many curves and twists of the highway.

* * *

Sabbath morning dawned bright and clear, with a decided bite to the air. Normally Gary would have looked forward to this day, with a big state youth rally to be held after morning worship and the carry-in lunch; but he was feeling quite mean and small by this time, just like the false-fronted buildings in Thornapple Gulch. Big show in front; in reality, a big nothing! Something less than that which met the eye.

He had forgotten that this was the day the "FYC'er of the State" was to be announced. The winner got an expense-paid trip to General Conference and Camp Meeting in July. Therefore, he was doubly surprised when he was shaken from his private

thoughts as they called his name. Two friends aided the confused youth to the platform, whereupon the emcee promptly began extolling his virtues, and was about to present him with a special certificate when his senses finally became alive and he realized with alarm what was happening.

"Wait a minute," Gary interrupted, wildly, "you can't do this. I'm not what you think I am; not a bit. I'm—I'm—a-a—'Judas,'" he finished lamely, remembering the name the fellows had tacked on him not long before. Shocked looks and gasps of dismay took their toll on the assemblage. Excited whispers began circling the room. Gary held up one hand for silence and continued, "If you'd all be quiet, I'd like to tell you about it, if I may." The voice was humble, submissive. His words in slow, measured tread, like a condemned man taking his last walk, cadenced over the now-silent throng. He was through at last.

"A mess of pottage, a handful of

silver, a few thrills," Gary concluded, "what does it matter now? I sold out to the Devil. I'm just like one of those false-front buildings in Thornapple Gulch. . . . putting on a big front to hide my mean and wretched true self." He paused, "if it's not too late, I'd sure like to try to make it up to my Lord."

"It's not too late," said Brother Stuart softly. "I have an idea that from this day onward you will just begin to live—really live—a meaningful existence."

Gary stood there rather awkwardly. "Well, I guess I'd better go over to Gatesville and give myself up." His gaze traveled round the room till it rested upon his father's face. The love and compassion written so plainly there gave Gary the courage he needed to say, "Will you go with me, Dad?"

As Gary and his father started out, Brother Stuart caught up to them. "Mind if I join you?"

"Our nation is sadly in need of a rebirth of the simple life—a return to the days when God was a part of each household."—J. Edgar Hoover

"Some people's religion is like a wooden leg. There is neither warmth nor life in it; although it helps them hobble along, it never becomes a part of them, but has to be strapped on each morning."

"Prove you're a good sport and forgive your enemies; nothing will annoy them more."

"A man who always says what he thinks is courageous—and friendless."

"It is not what we do, but how we do it that makes work hard."

Selected by Linda Salmons from Norfolk, Nebr. Shoppers Guide

Mini Oaths

By Kenneth Lawson

Many things in the world around us influence us in some way—either directly or indirectly. This influence often causes us to act and live according to the way people around us are acting and living.

We are influenced in this world in the way we dress. We want to look like our friends. We want to dress so we will be accepted in society. (And this desire is okay, to an extent—as long as modesty prevails.)

Another area in which we are easily influenced by environment is our use of words. Words can gradually slip into our conversation without our even being aware of it! We need to *become* aware of it! **THE WORDS MANY OF GOD'S PEOPLE SPEAK ARE NOT WORDS THAT ARE PLEASING TO HIM!!**

This is something about which many of God's people are not at all concerned; and it is certain that there is reason to be concerned. NOTICE Jesus' own words in Matthew 12:37: "... **BY THY WORDS THOU SHALT BE CONDEMNED.**" We must accept the fact that there are certain words that a Christian is not to have in his or her vocabulary! Yet in our church today we find many people who speak words that are neither wholesome nor enlightening! The way Satan has worked is quite underhanded—and yet successful—for he has won many people, even professed Christians—to talk like he wants them to!

Let us notice one more text of scripture; then we will examine some words that are considered "OKAY" even by many "Christians." **THE THIRD COMMANDMENT!** *"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy god in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain"* (Exodus 20:7).

We all agree that this commandment is still for us to obey, and we certainly frown on anyone who uses "GOD" or "JESUS" or "CHRIST" as an oath! And yet—let us notice some of the words that even YOU may be using as substitutes for these—words that are condemned along with the original word itself.

This information was taken from the *Dictionary of American Slang*:
GOSH—a term used by many as a substitute for GOD!
GOL—derived from the word God, and is now often used by children.
GOLLY—an extension of Gol, a substitute for God; used as a mild oath by many children.

DAD—a word used as a substitute for God—used in the following oaths:

DAD BLAMED—which means God be blamed!

DAD BLASTED—which means God be blasted!

DAD BURN—which means God be burned!

DAD NABBED—which means to damn or curse God!

GEE—Shortened term for Jesus, began to be used when there was opposition to using the full word Jesus as an expression of amazement or disgust in swearing. The public simply shortened the word to GEE!

GEES—Used profanely—comes from the word Jesus!

GEE WHIZ—Used as a common swear word—mostly by teenagers—comes directly from the word Jesus!

GEEPERS—Used by many teenagers—comes directly from the words JESUS CHRIST!

The book stated: "Even though these words stem from God and Jesus, they are not now considered taboo, because of their wide use by almost everyone, including the people who claim to be most righteous."

LET US EXAMINE EVEN MORE WORDS USED BY "CHRISTIANS":

HECK—Comes directly from the often-used and very dynamic swear word HELL. Heck is considered useable by most people who do not swear, though it was definitely derived from the word Hell!

DARN—Derived from the word DAMN. Darn is a milder word, but still carries the same meaning: to curse a person or an object. It is used mostly in a fit of anger!

DOGGONE—Means to damn or curse!

DANG—Was, in its original use, a very vulgar word. It eventually became adopted by people as a swear word without even knowing its real meaning! The word is now used to damn or curse!

HOLY COW—Substituted for the words Holy Christ. This slang is in wide usage today by most people!

UP-THE-CREEK—Very widely accepted term today, was once one of the most taboo, with the most filthy meaning. Many use it never knowing what its original meaning was.

The book stated that such phrases as Damn or Hell do not give enough emphasis so the shorter more emphatic uses began to be substituted and are now far more dynamic swear words.

We cannot take salvation too lightly. If we want to enter in to the eternal reward, we must live the life. WE CANNOT BE TOO STRICT IN CLEAN CHRISTIAN LIVING, ACTING AND SPEAKING!!

If you young people or adults are gripped by the habit of using any of

Some 8:12 Col. 4:16 (Continued on page 11)

Tit. 2:6 Luke 18:19
Let your yes be yes & your nay, nay

AIM

Ask Seek Knock

By Donna Larson

Sophomore at

Spring Vale Academy

One of my favorite verses in the Bible is found in Matthew 7, verse 7: "Ask and it shall be given you" is the first part of this verse. Nearly every time I kneel to pray I think of those words. They give one the comfort and reassurance of knowing that God does hear and will answer our prayers. Those words bolster faith—just knowing that what we ask God will give.

The second part of verse seven says, "Seek, and ye shall find." There are many, many people in this world who don't know what this something is and they don't know where to look for it. Many try drugs, marijuana, heroin, LSD, thinking the thrills they receive are what they are seeking. They soon find out this is not that "something," but it's already too late. They are "hooked"! They don't realize the "something" is free just for the asking. By just seeking they can find it. —It is the joy and satisfaction of knowing Jesus and leading a Christian life.

"Knock, and it shall be opened unto you," is the remainder of the verse. Just ask anyone. If the headlines of tomorrow's newspapers were to tell of a new frontier opening up, a free land where no one would have to work, where there would be no sorrow, no tears, no suffering, A place where your every want would be provided and everyone would live happily ever after; flocks and flocks of people would rush, push, and hurry to be the first there. There IS such a place and all we have to do is "knock" and the way to eternal life will be opened unto us. Let's be certain we knock and show others the door to knock upon also, that we may all have the way to eternal life opened unto us.



Answered Prayer

By Melva Carlson, age 13
Elmira, Oregon FYC'er

Darcy, time to get up or you'll be late. Don't forget what day it is," Darcy's mother called as she started down the stairs. Darcy opened her eyes suddenly. How could she forget what day it was! Today she and her girl friend, Jan, were going to town together—alone, too.

Darcy Wallace, a 16-year-old girl who lived out in the country, didn't get to town very often; but when she did she really liked it. The town of Summerville wasn't a very big town, but it wasn't a little "two store and service station" affair either.

Darcy looked at her watch. Oh no! It was 8:30 and she and Jan wanted to be in town by 11:00. Darcy started to plan the things she wanted to do—then she stopped. She had forgotten to do a very important thing! She had forgotten to pray for a safe trip into town and for God's guidance while in town, so she knelt down that very minute and prayed to God. Darcy, being a Christian, had been taught to pray in the morning for a good day and to pray before going to bed for a good night thanking God for His guidance during the day.

After she was through praying, Darcy quickly washed her face, dressed, and went down to breakfast. After breakfast she brushed her teeth and fixed her hair. "Am I through with everything?" Darcy thought. "Yes, I am, and just in the nick of time, too," said Darcy, think-

ing aloud as she looked out her window. "Here comes Jan." Shouting a greeting to her friend, she ran down the stairs.

"Hi, Darcy," said Jan as she and her father came through the door. "Ready to go?"

"You bet! All I have to do is get my coat and purse."

"Well then, let's go," said Jan's father. "I'll have her back by 4:00 at the latest, Mrs. Wallace."

"Thank you, Mr. Collins. I really appreciate your driving Darcy to town like this."

"That's O.K., Mrs. Wallace; my dad was glad to do it," interrupted Jan.

On the way to town Darcy and Jan talked over the things they needed, and soon they were there. They both

exclaimed at how quickly they had gotten there!

The two girls had such a wonderful time buying things and just plain looking around, that the time just flew. Before they knew it, it was 2:00 o'clock. They were both a little tired so they decided to go across the street to the little cafe and get something to eat and a cool glass of orangeade. Darcy ran across the street but Jan didn't. As Darcy was about to turn around to wait for her friend she heard tires screeching—and then she turned and saw Jan lying in a heap in the street. Darcy ran to Jan but a policeman warned her that she should not touch her. Darcy was so upset!

After Jan had been taken to the hospital, her parents, the minister of her church, and a few friends arrived for a session of prayer. Mrs. Collins was crying and so was Darcy. Darcy kept saying over and over, "Dear Lord, take care of her. Make her well. We all have faith in You. We know You can do it. Please, Dear Lord, please!"

That night after Darcy was in bed she remembered what her Sabbath

school teacher had once said. "When things happen to your loved ones, the most you can do for them is to pray. "Pray without ceasing. The Lord can work miracles." With that thought in her mind, Darcy went to sleep.

The next day Darcy received a phone call. It was from Jan! Darcy could hardly believe her ears! The thought of Jan's being well sort of choked her up, but she soon got over it when Jan told her she would be coming home in a few days and that there was nothing seriously wrong with her. She had a broken arm and a bump on her head. The girls talked for a long time when, out of the blue, Darcy said, "Jan, I hope you know we all prayed for you."

"Yes, I know, and I love you all for it, too."

After Jan's accident the two girls became more active in the church than they had ever been. The girls had known before, but now they knew better than ever, that the Lord can work miracles and that prayer without ceasing is a great help every day of their lives.

MINI OATHS (Continued from page 8)

these or other UNCHRISTIAN words, PRAY TO GOD for strength to rid yourself of the habit. Again let us notice what our Master said in the text in Matthew 12:37:

"For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."

LOCK THESE WORDS OF JESUS INTO YOUR MIND!!! Think about them. Think about your desire for eternal life. Then you will see how serious it is to speak only pure words.

Christ is coming back for a SPOTLESS CHURCH. This means the people who are the Church must be spotless, clean living, clean talking—with pure hearts, minds, and thoughts.

God can give you strength to break the habit of using bad words. **TALK TO HIM ABOUT IT!**



Whose Partner?

By Calvin Burrell

Honest young people have been asking the question, "What about dancing?" They want to know what is wrong with keeping time with music the way some do; after all, the Bible tells of some righteous folk dancing, doesn't it?

Yes, the Bible does mention that David danced before the Lord. His dance was a natural, unplanned response of great joy, praise, and thanksgiving to God for God's great blessings to the people of Israel. He danced alone.

On at least two occasions in the scripture, dancing is mentioned with definite evils accompanying it: (1) the Israelites danced in worship of the golden calf that Aaron had made, and (2) it was the dancing of Herodias' daughter that pleased the evil king Herod, and led to the beheading of John the Baptist.

To prove the statement, "Dancing is sin," from the scriptures would be a difficult, perhaps impossible, thing to do: it is not the intention of this writer to attempt it. Let no one, however, jump from the foregoing statement to a conclusion that all dancing, therefore, is proper. We realize that some people, perhaps because of their own lusts or failure to prayerfully consider, will so conclude.

I believe that the modern dance in its many forms and styles is *not* an acceptable activity for the people of God on the following accounts:

Strike one: Immorality

Strike two: Drinking

Strike three: Poor associations

1. If there ever *was* a sense of decency about the dances of the world, it seems to have vanished in the past 10 years. The old pitfall of dancing, too much physical intimacy (hugging, petting, etc.), has been surpassed by other dangers. Now even the tamer dances are marked with suggestive moves designed to create lust

in the participants. I believe it to be extremely difficult for any red-blooded American boy to participate in, or even watch, some of the present-day dances without having his mind dragged dangerously near the gutter level. That's a temptation most of us fellows can do without.

You may say that you need poise, grace, and charm that are gained from dancing. You pay for your poise, grace, and charm with your innocence, natural character, and reputation; that's a fool's bargain for anyone! And how many well-meaning girls have fallen victim to an innocent dance-floor relationship—to lose their innocence at a young age—when the parents were just helping them "fit in" with their group?

I believe the dance to be built largely on improper sex! Let me prove what I say: If a law were passed that only men could dance with men, and only women could dance with women, most dancing would suddenly cease.

2. The association that dancing has with alcoholic beverages is too strong to ignore. If you could prohibit all strong drink from a dancing hall and its premises, the place would probably dry up and blow away within a week!

Too often has "one fellow with a bottle" appeared on the scene at a "well-planned" dance; too often has some guy "just happened to bring some beer," a few drinks of which will break down the well-intentioned young person's resistance, making him even more gullible to the nonsense of the dance floor and the further evils which follow. Too often are the words "dance" and "drink" related to the same sad experience.

3. A good test for any questionable activity would be, "What kind of people does it make you a part of?" Are those who frequent places of dance the brand of people we want to be? What about their conversation, manner of dress, etc.? Do I feel cleaner of mind and of body after having been to a dance? How many "dancers" ever even profess to know and serve the God of heaven? Is this the group of people or the activity I would like to be found with when Jesus comes?

Immorality—one strike!

Drinking—two strikes!

Poor associations—three strikes!

The Bible says in James 4:4: "Whosoever therefore, will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God!"

Dancing, you're out—out of my life for keeps.

Young folks, when it comes to dancing, whose partner will you be?

Youth Needs Truth

by Ray L. Straub

WHEN YOU think you're open minded, make sure you're not just empty headed!" This word of caution spoken by a teacher some time ago deserves careful attention nowadays when open-mindedness is revered as a crowning virtue. There is, at times, a striking similarity between what one considers to be an open mind, and an empty head.

While the curious person is the one who learns, it must never be forgotten that curiosity need not be naive, if it is to serve us. If open-mindedness means that we must expose our thinking to every kind of teaching that the human imagination can devise, we must similarly require the man of keen taste in foods to eat everything from caviar to garbage, and we must require the wine tester to subject his delicate taste buds to drenchings of pickle juice. It is absurd to suggest that the person who is willing to learn must give ear to and waste his time on every idea that approaches him.

A youth in his teens and early

twenties is facing the challenging time of life when he disciplines his mind. He learns quickly to sift ideas, instantaneously judge them superficially for merit, and retain those teachings that appear to be worthy. Sadly, this ability to discipline the wit is not achieved by some until later adulthood, while others never develop the ability to think logically, make accurate snap-decisions, and give wise analysis to ideas that deserve pondering.

Tragically, many people in this age of gadgetry have become such slothful containers of unworthy opinion, that wholesome thinking is quickly and radically besmirched, if it is accepted at all.

So, the youth's responsibility to be kind to his mind, is an absorbing one. The longer this job is put off, the more difficult it is to use the power of the human brain to God's advantage as well as to the individual's.

Let's think together about ourselves and our church. What do you suppose is the strongest point (virtue) of the Church of God (Seventh Day), causing her

to stand out amongst all other denominations? This is a rather difficult thought to wrestle with, but there are few questions that are more worthy of an answer.

Let's analyze. Can it be our size? No. Certainly not! This is easy to answer without much thought, since we are quite aware that we are one of the smaller religious denominations.

Perhaps it might be our rapid growth? How we wish it were! Our music? We have some that is excellent, but it takes little time to hear the better music on a much larger scale in other church groups.

Is it our standards? We do preach about them a lot, and there are serious attempts made to hold the standards "high" (conservative, actually). Perhaps we can note some accomplishment in this area in our church, but we would have to admit that some groups have been far more conservative than we are, not allowing their men to wear neckties, nor even to drive new automobiles. Some do not allow their men to shave, or their ladies to appear in public with their heads or elbows uncovered. This kind of conservatism surpasses ours, and so the matter of standards leaves us without sufficient distinction to justify our existence.

Let's consider the matter of doctrine. Could it be that our doctrines distinguish us from all other churches, giving us a good reason for existing and working as a separate church body? Can we think of any other

church denomination that believes just like we do? There are some who almost agree with us, but they worship on the first day of the week. This is quite a difference, because for us to worship on Sunday would compromise our consciences too much. Others believe almost exactly like we do except they prefer to work as an independent local group. Well, this again is quite a sizeable difference, because it is a cardinal doctrine of our church that Scriptural precedence indicates a need to be organized in order to carry on a more effective service for our Master. A doctrinal point which bars cooperation in a solidly unified effort is as major as any other.

Apparently, it is doctrine that gives our church its peculiarity to all other churches. While there may be other points where our church makes distinctive claim, these are disputed and more difficult to assign significant value to. The matter of doctrine is quite obvious and difficult to argue much about. Others may not agree with all the teachings and take issue with them, but they will not find it difficult to admit that they are quite different and unique.

Our church relies upon the strengthening of her youth for her own strengthening. She has experienced new and rare blessings in the recent past such as substantial growth in membership and stature. Perhaps the most significant contributing factor to these blessings is that

the Church has, through God's ever-loving mercy, captured the interest and enthusiasm of a greater share of her youth. God be praised!

It is vital for youth to know that strength is not only found in what is felt, but more lastingly in what is learned and known. Emotions are fickle, knowledge is reassuring. Feelings cause delightful spurts of growth, but learning makes progress meaningful. Emotions explore through the wilderness for fountains of blessings, knowledge paves the roads that retain access to them. A driver can, with great emotion, run an automobile through rugged and smooth terrain at fluctuating speeds, but a taught and trained mechanic must keep the machine in condition to prevent the traveling experience from being short-lived.

It is ever so commendable to love the Church, but one cannot love something long which he knows nothing about. The more one ponders a Divine truth, the more Divine his thinking becomes. While the exhilarated emotion accelerates, the smooth-running, transformed, analytic mind will eventually provide the power to pull the load to Beulah Land.

Young people of our church must know the doctrines. The church needs to recognize anew her burden to teach them. Proper emphasis on the knowledge of doctrines is necessary for us to justify our existence as an organization, and such recognition

is needed in order to show the world Whom it is we serve. Lack of concern for indoctrination reflects disinterest in the answer that we must give to the Founder of our church.

If one has an open mind, let him open this valuable instrument to the study of the doctrines of his own church first. Our teachings have every qualification to merit this prime consideration. They have Scripture as their only basis, untainted by special "revelations." They have withstood the onslaught of innumerable heresies that seek to divide and dissect the Church. They stand open to logical amendment through cooperative and collective efforts of the Ministerial Council; and yet, in context, no significant change has resulted in several years. Men have stood by these doctrines, offering them for analysis for years, and they have stood boldly and enduringly against the attacks of the ages of hell. No other code of beliefs is more worthy of concentrated study.

Once these doctrines have been learned, it is the responsibility of a member of a free society to be open minded. This does not mean, however, that the mind just be emptied again. There is another matter that should not be forgotten. In study, the Bible stands as the final authority on matters of doctrine. Any teaching that cannot be harmonized with other Scripture on any given subject must be rejected or revised, since the Word's own claim is

...It can only be testified by this writer that the learning of the accurate and invaluable teachings of the Church...causes one to love and respect the Church and her Christ!

that *all* Scripture is given by Inspiration.

Paul's admonition to Timothy must here be noted. "Till I come, give attendance... to doctrine. Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee. Let... servants... count their own masters worthy of all honour, that the name of God and His doctrine be not blasphemed. If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to do wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; he is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railing, evil surmisings, perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself" (1 Timothy 4:13, 16; 6:1, 3-5). These are but a fraction of the several verses in both letters from Paul to Timothy wherein he exhorts to rely strongly upon doctrinal accuracy.

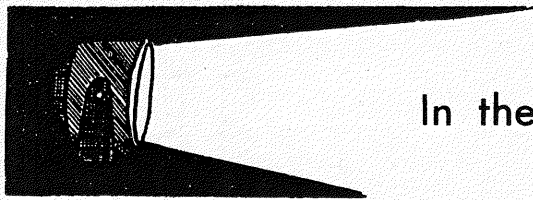
It is the Divinely commissioned work of the Church to safeguard Truth. Paul calls the Church the Pillar and Ground of the Truth (1 Timothy 3:15). Various officers and talents of the members are placed by God

into the Church for the purpose of fostering unity and knowledge, and "that we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive" (Ephesians 4:14). If one is to be of valuable aid to the Church, he must know how to assume his responsibility in safeguarding her truths.

It must be frankly admitted that a weaker program of the Church today is the indoctrination of her youth. The writer entered the ministry of our beloved Church with insufficient knowledge of the precious truths he was commissioned to teach. The struggle for survival demanded that some rapid learning begin, and it can only be testified by this writer that the learning of the accurate and invaluable teachings of the Church has barely begun. How this learning causes one to love and respect the Church and her Christ!

Can you remember how wonderful and peacefully cleansing it felt to become acquainted with Christ as your Saviour? Another such experience awaits you. When you energetically begin your study of the peculiar and everlastingly true teachings of

(Continued on page 32)



In the Spotlight

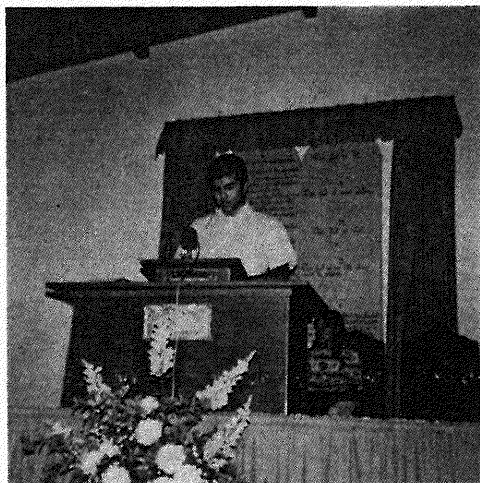
Bloomington, Calif. F.Y.C.

Greetings to each and every one of you from the Bloomington FYC. Our FYC is doing a great work for the Lord here. We help out in church meetings as much as possible.

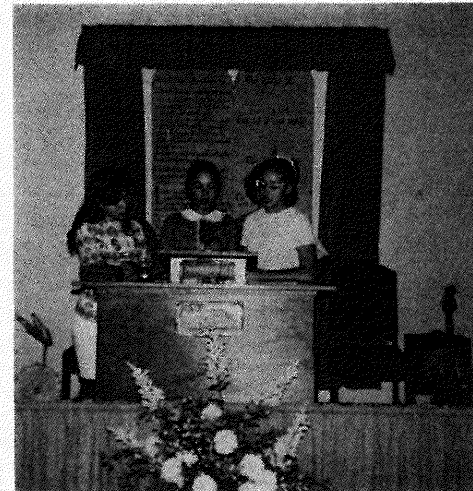
The Bloomington FYC was first organized around 1960 when Elder Trinidad Padilla was the pastor for our church. Elder Padilla was the one who formed and encouraged the youth group. As the years went by, the original FYCers who first started out

in the organization either got married or went into service. The new FYCers were not too well organized and they slacked off with the activities of the church; but still they hung on with the help of God.

Recently the Bloomington FYC is becoming strong and encouraged again, with the help of some of the members. At present the Bloomington FYC is progressing more and more each day, with the help of God.



A Bloomington F.Y.C.er singing a solo during one of the youth rallies



A special number being presented by the girls' quintet of the Bloomington F.Y.C.

Brother Henry Urquizu was the sponsor for the FYC group for a couple of years. He honestly did a great work with the group.

Later Brother Urquizu turned the sponsorship over to Brother Frank Padilla, because he is now in charge of the missionary work in San Diego. Our new sponsor, Brother Frank Padilla, wants to help the young people as much as possible, so let us pray that God will give him knowledge and wisdom to work with the young people. I truly can say he seems very enthused and is very patient to help out with our group. The Bloomington FYC officers are as follows:

- Chairman—Al Saucedo
- Vice-Chairman—Debbie Diaz
- Secretary-Treas.—Julie Pacheco
- Historian—Yvonne Padilla

The youth group always has activities and projects planned for the youth. One of the projects the youth have is helping clean the church building every Wednesday, and keeping up the yard work.

Another project is helping to pay

for two Spring Vale students every month.

We go to visit the shut-ins, mental institution and members of the church who are not able to come. Every Friday night is youth night and we take part of the service. Every third Sabbath of every month a joint youth rally is held. The four local churches get together and present their specials, talks or testimonies. We rotate the location of the meetings between the four churches: San Fernando, Ontario, L.A. Spanish and Bloomington. The youth also plan socials, recreation and fund-raising projects.

Just recently the Bloomington youth challenged both the L.A. Spanish Church and the L.A. English Church to a baseball game. After winning a victory over the L. A. Spanish, the Bloomington youth played the L. A. English. We were very proud and happy to be the winners in both games. More important, both games were enjoyed in good Christian fellowship. After the games we all had lunch together.

Remember to pray for us that we may be better examples for Christ. I know even though we have temptations in this world, we can overcome them and be a light for Jesus Christ if we let Him in our hearts!

Ruben Zaragoza, Reporter

TESTIMONIES OF SOME OF THE FYC MEMBERS

I'm very proud to be in the Bloomington FYC. Everyone is so friendly. We are a closely knit group working for the glory of the Lord. There is always something going on. We have youth rallies, we clean the church, we have the Friday evening Bible study, and we visit the sick.

Just recently we had an ice cream social. We made 15 gallons by hand. Then we sent a package to Spring Vale for our students there. I really enjoy working in the Bloomington FYC. I pray that God will strengthen me and help our group grow.

Bonnie Almond

It's really a lot of fun working with the Bloomington FYC. There are more activities coming up all the time. I wish all the FYC's could be as active as we are. Our Mark of

Merit points are going up!

In these last days every Christian should work for God harder than ever. This is what Bloomington is doing. We give our AIM to others so they can read it. On October 5th we had a soft ball game. We won over both the Los Angeles Spanish and English churches. I pray that God will help me lead the FYC.

Al Saucedo

The Lord has been so very good to me. I can never finish praising Him. I want to live a life that will glorify Him in all things. I want all your prayers that I may have strength and courage to overcome the world and its desires. I know I'm not the greatest Christian that ever lived, but with the help of the Lord I can make it through life.

Please pray for me that I will be a witness for the Lord. I know the Lord is on my side—and that's such a wonderful feeling!!

Susie Urquizu

Greetings from the Bloomington FYC. Hi! First of all, I would like to express my feelings to let you know how God

has really blessed our group. Whether we have problems, business to discuss, or activities and recreation, I think our group is really great! I would like for everyone to remember us in prayer that we may continue to live a life that is fit in the eyes of God! I know from experience that we have temptations and trials, but that is where I have found out that we should stand

up for Christ. Pray so that our group will grow larger and stronger in the Lord!

I would like for you to pray for me, that my knowledge will grow stronger in the Lord, and I'll be a light and testimony for Christ. I know we can if we accept Him as our personal Saviour!

**Your Christian friend,
Diane Avila**

I'm not too sure how to start this out, but one thing I know is that I'm trying to live for my blessed Redeemer. I pray each day that I'll have a closer walk with God and be an example to others.

I'm proud to say that I belong to the Bloomington FYC. Ever since I joined it, I've been closer to God. And this gives us a better chance to communicate with other young people. There are problems in our group, but God has been with us in all our doings.

Our Friday night services are really a success. On this night the youth take over the service. These services have been a great inspiration to all of us.

We are in need of all your prayers. Please do pray for us so that we might have a closer communication with the Lord.

It's been wonderful these three years for me. I hope all the youth in the churches can be part of these groups. It will be a blessing to each and every one.

God bless you, my fellow Christians!

Debbie Diaz

FOR SALE

ONE CROSS—Nearly new. I cannot carry it and keep up with the world and its crowd.

ONE TALENT—New, except slightly shop worn. It has been laid away for several years.

ONE FIVE PIECE SET OF ARMOR—(see Eph. 6:13-17 for original description) all pieces in good shape; only need polishing.

ONE BUNDLE OF CHRISTIAN OPPORTUNITIES—Seldom used, but possibilities unlimited.

ONE BADLY USED INFLUENCE—Buyer may be able to repair.

The above items are located in the basement at the corner of Careless and Neglect Streets. Signed— Many a Christian



Part of the youth group posing for a picture during a baseball game.

The Gripe Stopper

DO YOU have days when nothing seems to go right? Do you go through life spouting off "gripes" and complaints about obstacles in your path? Maybe some Miss Hopeful has turned you down when you asked for a date. Maybe Mom has said you couldn't buy a certain dress. Maybe . . . maybe a thousand different things.

One reason we complain is because we have the attitude that we are not getting what we deserve—we deserve something better. If a friend or enemy ill-treats us, then we get hurt and complain because deep down inside we feel we didn't deserve such treatment. (The fact is that the worst that we receive is better than we deserve.)

We need to get a higher, more realistic view of life. We, in the letter of it at least, believe that "all things work together for good to them that love God, to the called according to His purpose"—but we don't put the spirit of this belief to practical use in our everyday lives. Just to the extent that we do, then we will be relieved of fretting, anxiety about future provision and trials, grumbling, "griping," complaining, etc. We will indeed "give thanks to God for ALL things," to Him making our thanks and supplications

known. We will not be bothered and upset by disrupting circumstances in our lives because, as Jim Elliot expressed it, "we believe in the God Who pulls the strings of ALL circumstances"—and *that* to the ultimate good of those who truly love Him.

No matter what transpires in the person's life who truly loves God through Christ Jesus—whether he is assailed, cursed and ill-treated by friend or foe—ALL things work together to his ultimate good. Maybe he needs the trial to test his patience and increase his understanding. Maybe the rod of chastisement is being laid upon him for not walking close enough to his heavenly Father; sin in his life needs to be burned out as dross, and his Father is the Master Refiner, purifying His gold—conforming it to the image of His only begotten Son. He is to look for God's purpose in everything that transpires in his life. He is to seek diligently for the lesson God might have in it.

WHEN I WAS about eight years old I read a story of a coal miner who was always saying, "God knows best." One day as he and his fellow workers were gathering together to enter the mine, a small dog ran by and snatched the lunch bag out

(Continued on page 31)

Editorial

While watching the exciting seventh game of the world series, one person in the room commented, "I know a man who bet \$100 on this game."

I found this startling!

I watched the game with interest, simply because it was an exciting display of clean, keen competition. —But to imagine having \$100 at stake (a large amount of cash to most of us)!

For me it would take the joy out of the sport if I knew I stood to lose such an amount of money and yet could do *nothing whatsoever* to influence the outcome of the game!

I could not help but compare this to the "game" of life. Each of us has something at stake—our own *eternal* life. The difference is that there *is* something we can do about the outcome. Though some prefer to treat this life as though the end result will be the same regardless of the "plays" we make, ignoring the situation will not change it.

We cannot ignore our responsibility in this life, hoping it will go away. Rather, it should be regarded for what it is—a wonderful gift of free will and free choice—an opportunity which God has granted to us—His children. If we were robots under God's control, forced to follow His way and do His will, life would be uninteresting, unchallenging, and unrewarding.

What a joy Christian young people find as they face up to the challenge of life! —Finding real meaning. —Choosing true friends. —Establishing a real relationship with our Heavenly Father.

For the youth who chooses to go his own way and ignore the privilege which our loving Father offers, the wise preacher has fitting words:

"Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment" (Ecclesiastes 11:9).

From Trinidad...

By John Lemley

As 1968 draws to a close, consider what you, as an individual young person in the Church of God, have done to create closer unity among the youth of the world. How often have you given the foreign youth groups a special place in your prayers this year? How long has it been since you have written to an FYCer in another land to offer him encouragement and help? How much financial assistance have you given to promote our foreign work? How many gift subscriptions to AIM have you given?

A letter which was received from Elder Weekes, the overseer of the Church of God in Trinidad, expressed the desire for all of this and more from us here in the States. Following are a few excerpts from his letter concerning the youth work there:

Greetings in Jesus' name! It was so nice hearing from you for the first. Your letter has created quite an impression here. . . .

I have done some of the things you requested and they are as follows:

We sorely need tracts; we have none and we have plenty of work to do with them. So please send as many as you can.

Enclosed please find a letter for AIM from one of our youth. This same young man wants to go to Midwest to pursue studies in the ministry. I am glad for him and would like you to do something for him in this respect. In fact we have two who want to go there. They need information as to when term starts, costs, and immigration requirements. The boys need financial help. I suggest that you help in this way if you can.

We are getting some AIM, but are in need of about six more copies per month.

The FYC here wants very much to resume entry into the Mark of Merit program. Please help with necessary material.

How can YOU help with these requests? What can YOU do?

(1) Pray for them. (2) Write encouraging letters to them giving ideas for their work. (3) Promote enthusiasm and give ideas for activities and projects by sending gift subscriptions for AIM. (Think what you would be missing out on if you didn't receive AIM each month. All gift subscriptions can be sent to the Secretary Treasurer of the FYC: Mrs. Jewell Linville, 113 Elm Street, Stanberry, Missouri 64489.) (4) Write pen pals and find out what their needs are. (I am compiling a list of FYCers in other countries who want pen pals; I would be glad to share the list with you. Just write and let me know the country you want to write to and the age, etc., of pen pal you want. I will do my best to find one that just suits you.)

Finally, you can join us in our desire to organize our young people into one solid organization throughout the world. Become deeply interested in the future of the church, and feel that if we can carry the gospel as young people in a well-organized manner, it will greatly help us in the work of the church in the future. We need to work and pray together so that we may gain that firm foundation which is only found in Jesus. Please pray for all the young people throughout the world as we lay a firm foundation on the solid Rock.

TRINIDAD YOUTH CAMP—SUMMER 1968

Our FYC group here in Trinidad had our first outdoor camp during the summer vacation. This was held in our sister island out in the north—Tobago.

Our group consisted of approximately fourteen members. I'll grasp this opportunity to give a general outline of the camp.

Well, after landing in Tobago we immediately started to our place of residence by awaiting vehicles. On arriving there we all settled down—and thanked God for helping us to arrive safely.

Then we engaged in the regulation of our activities for our camp which was to last for the short period of five days. Our fields of activities were both social and spiritual.

Our spiritual feature I thought to be very influential to the persons who eagerly resolved to lend an ear and pay great attention. One night at Belle Garden, where we held our first service, there was a crowd of over a hundred people.

Then for our social times we often went to the beach called "Bay" where we took advantage of bathing in the prettiest of all

the waters I have ever seen. We also walked at night in the calm of the atmosphere, with the brilliant moon and the stars above peering down, and the cool sea breeze blowing around us.

Our youth camp was well spent. On Sabbath we went to church and spent a fine day, then on Sunday we witnessed a baptism of some of our members—then traveled to church where the group put on a play, "The Lost Sheep." When church was finished we hurriedly returned to our camp and then to the Sea Port to return to Trinidad.

Camp was really good except that we could not travel as we wished because of high transport fare.

And now, after summing up the camp's activities, one of the things I learned was: "when our young people desire to be released from their own locality, send them ahead and you'll find out who they really are." Camp was fabulously and wonderfully spent and I would that I could have gone every year.

By Charles Phillip Browne

Make a

MARK
OF
MERIT

by Nathan L. Lawson

Recently a new president has been elected in these United States of America. Soon the Republican party will take over and we will have a new power in office. Members of this party will be given high positions in the government of our country. Those who have worked hard and have been successful for the party will receive these high positions.

I am looking for a day when another ruling power will come to govern this world. Christ is soon coming to set up His Kingdom here and to rule this world. He too will choose for high positions in the Great Governments those who have been faithful and have worked hard. This will be God's rule. You can be chosen for Eternal Life and to a great position with Christ if you are faithful and have worked hard for Him today.

Following is a list of Mark of Merit reports through the third quarter:

Tahlequah, Oklahoma	397.5	312
St. Joseph, Missouri	345	30
Bloomington, California	340	489
Eureka, South Dakota	435	564
Tacoma, Washington	425	0
Spring Vale Academy	270	0
San Antonio, Texas	425	437
Midway, Oklahoma	355	38
Sacramento, California	390	70
Elmira, Oregon	455	529
Lodi, California		
Ontario, California	415	543
Kansas City, Missouri	390	56
Stockton, California	385	30
Marion, Oregon	185	50
New Auburn, Wisconsin	395	262
Detroit, Michigan	135	52
Tulsa, Oklahoma	90	
Alfred, North Dakota	165	8
Wichita, Kansas	150	
Stanberry, Missouri	135	
Fort Smith, Arkansas	275	48
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	205	5
Marion, Iowa	185	

Good 4th quarter reports by all of these groups could give them an award for the 1968 Mark of Merit year. In order to be eligible for the Lighthouse Award (FYC of the Year in the Church of God, 7th day) a FYC group must also win the Golden Mark of Merit Award. It looks like three groups are in close competition for this award.

Plan to start next year in this Merit Program

The year is soon ending. Organize your FYC group and plan to join us in the 1969 Mark of Merit Year. The New Year in this Merit Program will begin January 1, 1969.

PROJECT OF THE MONTH

"Help-your-pastor" month. Find out several things that your FYC can do to help your pastor. This can be passing out tracts, cleaning at the church, helping with his church letter, supplying money for a church project, or any other thing that your pastor would like you to do. Organize your FYC and be a real help to him.

2T4G

Take

Time

For

God

By Kathleen Roche

It has been said that "the pleasantest things in the world are pleasant thoughts; and the greatest art in life is to have as many of them as possible."

No matter how idle or how busy you are, as long as you are awake you are always thinking. We may hear someone make the remark, "I just wasn't thinking," when the truth of the matter is probably the simple fact that they just weren't thinking about what they *should* have been at that particular time.

Sometimes we find it difficult to keep our minds from wandering. We know we should be concentrating on the history lecture, but it's so much more enjoyable to sit and dream about the fun you had at last night's basketball game. And if we're not careful when we go to church, we even catch ourselves paying more attention to someone's new coat than we do to the sermon.

Wise Solomon warns us that as a man thinketh in his heart, so is he (Proverbs 23:7). So we must be careful to cultivate our thoughts so that we may be thinking only those things which are becoming to a Christian.

We read in Isaiah 55:7-9, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return

unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord, for as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

So we see that if we want to really gain spiritual strength from our daily Bible reading and prayer, we must unclutter our minds of anything that might interfere with our spiritual growth and *think* about what we read and pray. If we mutter a hurried prayer and rush through a chapter a day just to be able to say we have done it, we aren't likely to gain much from it. But when we pause and really talk with God (like you would to your closest friend—because, after all, that's what He is!) and concentrate on what His Word teaches us, then we will be benefited.

So let us take advantage of these privileges we have. Let us forsake our unrighteous thoughts, and He Who is "able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think" (Ephesians 3:20) will richly bless.

"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

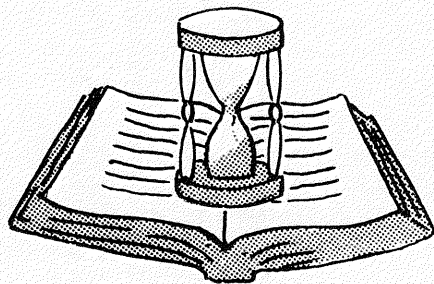
"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things" (Philippians 4:7, 8).

Date	Chapter
Dec. 15	2 Kings 6
Dec. 16	2 Kings 7
Dec. 17	2 Kings 8
Dec. 18	2 Kings 9
Dec. 19	2 Kings 10
Dec. 20	2 Kings 11
Dec. 21	2 Kings 12
Dec. 22	2 Kings 13
Dec. 23	2 Kings 14
Dec. 24	2 Kings 15
Dec. 25	2 Kings 16
Dec. 26	2 Kings 17
Dec. 27	2 Kings 18
Dec. 28	2 Kings 19
Dec. 29	2 Kings 20
Dec. 30	2 Kings 21
Dec. 31	2 Kings 22
Jan. 1	2 Kings 23
Jan. 2	2 Kings 24
Jan. 3	2 Kings 25
Jan. 4	1 Chron. 1
Jan. 5	1 Chron. 2
Jan. 6	1 Chron. 3
Jan. 7	1 Chron. 4
Jan. 8	1 Chron. 5
Jan. 9	1 Chron. 6
Jan. 10	1 Chron. 7
Jan. 11	1 Chron. 8
Jan. 12	1 Chron. 9
Jan. 13	1 Chron. 10
Jan. 14	1 Chron. 11

ATTITUDES

- Keep your temper to yourself. It's useless to others.
- Respect the other person's time. When yours is up, leave.
- Win confidence by keeping information given in confidence.
- Never stop learning your work. You'll never know it all.
- Treat private affairs as private property. Keep out.
- Talk to yourself if you're inclined to exaggerate.

—North American Union News



MINUTEMAN

The Overcoming Life

by Carol Millican

"A Will to Work . . ."

Well, faithful Minuteman soldier, here it is December and time for a quiz again. This marks the end of our series of "The Overcoming Life," but of course that DOESN'T mean that you will stop "overcoming." In this series we have only scratched the surface of the mountain of vices large and small that each of us needs to eliminate in our lives; but those that we have considered are among the most common trouble makers. Let's see how well *you* have been able to recognize them by shedding the light of scripture on them!

I. Quote the verses indicated by these clues:

1. What verse in Ecclesiastes indicates that all things have a time and a season? (1:1).

1 Corinthians 3:19

James 1:5

James 3:17

Proverbs 23:4

1 Corinthians 1:6

1 Corinthians 1:7

2 Timothy 3:14

2 Timothy 3:15

2. Quote the verse in Ecclesiastes and the one in John that give good reasons for us to use our time well (Eccl. 9:10; John 9:4).

3. Quote the verse in Isaiah that indicates we spend our money for the wrong things (55:2).

4. Quote the verses in Malachi that indicate how we will be rewarded if we are good stewards in financial matters (Mal. 3:8-10).

5. What verse in Matthew indicates the extreme difficulty of a rich man entering into the kingdom? (19:25).

6. What verse in Deuteronomy indicates that God owns all wealth? (8:18).

7. What verse in Isaiah tells us that if we take time for God we will be blessed with strength beyond ourselves? (40:31).
8. Quote the verse that tells us to lay aside every weight (Heb. 12:1).

II. Complete the following quotations and give the text:

1. "Be not hasty . . ."
2. "Make no friendship . . ."
3. "But I say unto you whosoever is angry with his brother . . ."
4. "For wrath killeth . . ."
5. "But seek ye first . . ."
6. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves . . ."
7. "Wait on the Lord . . ."
8. "Whatsoever thy hand findeth . . ."
9. "Yet a little sleep . . ."

If you can quote all these verses, you are well armed for front-line duty as a Minuteman soldier. May they be a great help to you in leading an overcoming life for Christ.

The memory verses for this month are centered on the theme of "wisdom"—the kind of wisdom we should seek and what the Bible considers to be a wise man.

THE GRIPE STOPPER

(Continued from page 22)

of the man's hand. As he ran after the dog to retrieve his lunch, the other miners entered the mine and were killed by an explosion. The man who was always saying "God knows best" was providentially saved by the small dog.

IT WAS A TERRIBLE thing for Joseph to be sold as a slave by his own brothers. They were jealous of Joseph. They threw him in a pit, and then when the slave dealers passed by they took him out of the pit and sold him as a slave. But this was

one of the "all things" working to the good of Joseph. As you know from the Bible story, Joseph rose from the rank of slave in Egypt to become a ruler—second only to Pharaoh. Later he was the means of saving his entire family, including his brothers who had sold him. By God's purpose Joseph was taken to Egypt and saved all of his father's family from starvation. Joseph knew the truth of "all things working together for good to them that love God." He later told his brothers, "You meant it for evil, but God meant it for good."

If we can grasp this truth and

its practical application in our everyday lives, we will have a better hold on life. We will feel secure, realizing that when we love God we are indeed wrapped in an envelope of His love. And we love Him because He first loved us.

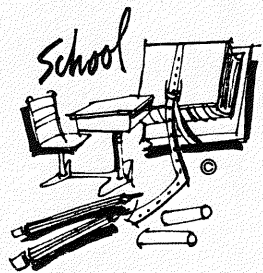
—Glen Berry in Youth's Living Ideals

YOUTH NEEDS TRUTH

(Continued from page 17)

Scripture, you will re-discover the Word made flesh, Whom we behold as the glory of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth!

—Reprinted from April '63 *Aim*



School Notes

ABOUT MIDWEST BIBLE COLLEGE

One of the highlights this past month at Midwest Bible College was a trip to Boicourt, Kansas, a small town 160 miles southwest of Stanberry. This has become a traditional journey made annually by a varying group of students and faculty members to encourage the church members there. It is always a joy to fellowship with the people of Boicourt and join with them in the blessings of the Lord.

Five carloads pulled out of Stanberry early Sabbath morning to provide the church at Boicourt with both a morning and an afternoon service. Elder S. J. Kauer (Director of M.B.C.) delivered the message in the morning, and Elder Dale Lawson (Instructor at M.B.C.) provided the

food for thought in the afternoon meeting. A hearty meal of natural food, supplied by the local church, was enjoyed between the two services. During both meetings the students took part with songs and testimonies to the glory of God. It is the desire of the leadership of the college to give the students much practical experience in promoting the gospel of Jesus Christ.

By way of providing experience and also filling a need, Richard Trigg (a senior at M.B.C.) and family were sent to St. Louis for two weeks to replace the pastor, Elder John Kiesz, during his temporary absence. He reported enjoying the trip and experience very much.

Many M.B.C. students took part in the weekend F.Y.C. (Faithful Youth Challengers) spiritual retreat held at

a scout camp south of Albany, Missouri, November 1-3. Such retreats give all who participate in them a real opportunity to gain a closer walk with God. No distractions of ordinary life were there to turn one's attention from spiritual things. Even the rain did not hamper the blessings received; rather, it gave the participants a chance to prove that they weren't fair-weather Christians.

The students and faculty of Midwest Bible College wish to extend their sympathy to the family and friends of the late Elder Ivan Harlan. He conducted a wonderful series of spirit-filled messages as guest speaker for our revival services November 3-9, and those who attended received much food for thought as well as a spiritual uplift.

After having completed nine-week's

tests, the students were dismissed from classes while the ministers left to attend the Ministerial Council in Monterrey, Mexico. Three students, Lael Tikili, Ronald Sanders, and Victor Burford, were asked by the pastor, Elder John Kiesz, to take charge of services and visitations in St. Louis, Missouri, during Elder Kiesz's stay in Mexico.

One of the students who went to St. Louis, Victor Burford, had only arrived in Stanberry on Sunday night, November 10th, from Jamaica, West Indies. He plans to become a minister and we at the college wish him a successful stay here in the United States.

Please remember us in your prayers as school continues, that we may gain greater visions of service for the Lord.

—Ron Sanders

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news and reminders . . .

National Registration

To those FYC groups who have so willingly responded to our drive for registrations, we want to say an emphatic "THANK YOU!" Your cooperation is deeply appreciated.

Michigan is leading the states with a registration of 74 FYCers, with other states trailing closely. The following is a report of registrations received to date:

Michigan	74
Missouri	50
Oregon	42
Kansas	39
Oklahoma	33
California	26
Wisconsin	22
North Dakota	21
South Dakota	21
Arkansas	15
Texas	15
Washington	11
Iowa	10
New York	7

If your group is not among those listed above, won't you support your State FYC by sending us your registration today? Not only is the registration important for support of your state, but it is imperative to your group in order for it to have proper and effective contact with the national program. It is through these registrations that we form our mailing list for national letters of information, promotion, encouragement, etc.

This correspondence helps in every way to tie your local FYC program to that of the national. Won't you quickly respond with your registra-

tions? Registration blanks may be obtained from the National FYC Office at 316 North Willow, Stanberry, Missouri 64489.

Yearbook of Programs "1969"

The Yearbook of Programs "1969" is in the process of being compiled. Much material has already been gathered but there is still a real need for more program materials. *If you or your F.Y.C. has any interesting and original material that could be included in the yearbook, please send it to the National F.Y.C. office.* We want to make this the best yearbook we have ever produced. Your contributions of materials can help to make it that.

We already extend a special "thank you" to those who have contributed to the yearbook.

Presently, our goal for distribution of the new yearbook is early 1969. Be looking for a notice concerning it in News and Reminders.

YOUTH CONFERENCE—Huron, South Dakota—1969

Remember that July 11-19 is the date for the General Conference with special programs and activities planned for Young People. Plan now to be there.

Motto—1969

The motto for 1969 is being selected, and will be announced in the January issue of *Aim*.

PLAN AHEAD

Don't let camp meeting plans be crowded out next July!

START PLANNING NOW—

**so you can be present for the youth activities
during General Conference
and Camp Meeting
at
HURON, SOUTH DAKOTA**

PROCRASTINATING?

Recently a 9-year-old boy was telling me some of the big words he and his classmates had chosen for their spelling words at school. *Procrastination* was one of them.

I wish that along with the spelling, this little boy might learn as thoroughly the meaning of procrastination—and learn, as well, how to avoid it.

Procrastination seems to be an enemy of all, and has been described as the "thief of time."

Have you procrastinated in sending in those gift subscriptions to AIM? Have you procrastinated in sending in your *own* subscription? Don't let this common "thief" rob you and others of the blessings in AIM magazine.

Send your subscriptions to: AIM, Box 158, Stanberry, Mo. 64489