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Aim

The magazine for young people

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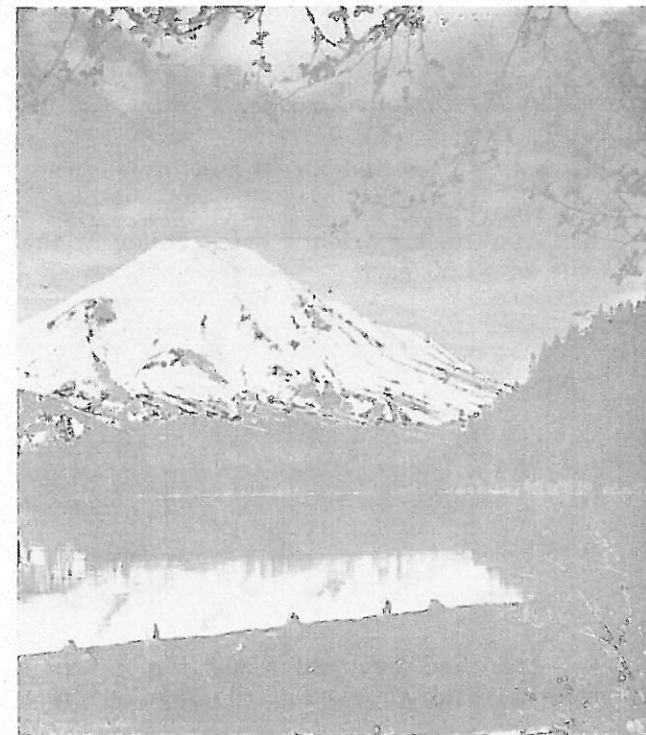
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"Without hearts there is no home."

—Bryon.

Aim The magazine for young people

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Volume XXIX, Number 3

Hope E. Dais, Editor

"Give not thy tongue too great liberty, lest it take thee prisoner. A word unspoken is, like the sword in the scabbard, thine. If vented, thy sword is in another's hand. If thou desire to be held wise, be so wise as to hold thy tongue."—QUARLES

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WHY?

By Vivian C. Hall

To the very small child a simple answer to his question will suffice. He goes on about his play until a new question comes to mind, and then he returns to mother or father for the answer to it. As he becomes older the answer becomes more detailed in order to satisfy the inquisitive young mind. Now at school age he begins to add "why" when mother or father answers his question. He is not satisfied just with the answer, he must now know why, or how, or what, or when. He must have an answer with a reason.

We sometimes have been made to wonder if perhaps the *why* is added automatically at a certain age, for the child doesn't seem too interested in the further reasoning. Yet to another it seems a very serious matter and is listened to with rapt attention. Later one might be surprised to overhear a child explaining the weighty matter to a smaller one with all the seriousness of an expert on the subject.

Small children remember much more of a thing than we sometimes give them credit for, so it behooves us to answer with truth on the level they can understand. But it must be

truth for a child, however small, soon learns to whom he may go for the right answer. Great is his disappointment to discover his parents have been telling him "stories." His confidence in the world of adults is shaken to the point of not knowing whom he can trust. If he can't believe his parents, whom can he believe?

Questions do not end with the first grades in school. The older a child gets the greater the curiosity and as he becomes involved in his studies he wants further light on a particular subject. He goes to reference material to find all he can concerning this thing—its structure, its work, and why it does as it does. Experiments sometimes show more clearly the answers to his many questions, and give him the "why."

The child asks why he must go to bed earlier than an older brother or sister. The explanation that younger children need more sleep to replenish their supply of energy and brain power does not seem to satisfy. As long as they can wake when called and get to school on time, that is all that's necessary. They don't think of that tired feeling with no fast-coming answers as being an indication they've not had enough sleep.

The teen age who is dating looks horrified when told to get in at a certain hour. Why is it necessary to get in before midnight even when there is no school the next day? Others stay out longer, and why can't we? It is hard for the teen age person to take the advice of one who is no longer in his teens. He is sure this person is so old he can no longer remember how it was to go out on dates, to go for drives in the country, to stop at the corner drugstore for a soda, or just to sit and talk with the "gang."

He fails to realize history repeats itself, and even though it is a more "modern" world he lives in, the activities enjoyed by the young folks are essentially the same. Not only are the activities the same but the temptations are the same also. The "old folks" have been through it all. They know from experience and can help the young folks with their knowledge, if only the young folks are ready to accept the advice.

The young married folk many times question why. Why doesn't the budget stretch as far as they thought it would? Why doesn't hubby pay as much attention to his wife now that they are married? Why does the wife let her appearance go somewhat now that she has a husband? Sometimes

these "whys" only arise when everything isn't going as smoothly as both feel it should, or when one or the other is feeling a little under the weather.

The "why" question is with us all our lives. We see someone who does not even profess a Christian life succeed at his job with many an advancement and an increase in salary. Success seems his without any effort whatsoever. He can buy a new home, drive a new car, and dress with an abundance of new clothes.

Nearby may live a man who is a Christian in every way. He may buy a new home, but it is a great struggle and sacrifice to keep it because no matter how hard he tries, the promotions seem to go to the other man. The car he owns is forever breaking down. He can hardly afford to repair it but he can't afford a new one. His family wear their clothes until they are worn out and then if they are fortunate enough to find a sale somewhere perhaps one or two members of the family may have his turn at being outfitted with new apparel.

Why the difference? Why does the non-Christian seem to receive all the blessings? Has this situation or one quite similar come to your attention? Didn't you wonder why?

Many times we have heard of a wreck in which a drunken driver was at fault. The innocent was the person or persons killed or maimed for life, while the drunk receives only minor injuries and is released after a time. He is free again to kill or injure. Why? Why should he not be the person killed or injured, and the innocent person live to carry on his good life?

In illness we sometimes are made to wonder if there is justice. The

So we must run the race of life with patience, knowing that if we are a child of God we will some day know all the answers to our why's.

good person is ill and seemingly with no complications or even serious illness, but he dies. A wicked one is brought into the hospital at death's door and begins a slow, laborious climb back to health. There may even be setbacks and complications, but somehow he pulls through to health once more to continue in a life of sin. Why?

Truly we must "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15). From studying the Scriptures we may receive comfort in a time of sorrow. We may find the answer to a problem that has been bothering us. We may find peace of mind where before has been only chaos. We may find a renewed faith where before we were discouraged and blue.

In order to receive the answers to all these questions that have been bothering us all our lives—the why's that have come to mind at a time when God seemed unjust, or when God seemed to have abandoned us altogether, we must have our lives hidden in Christ. We must be living His will at all times. We must have faith in God for surely without faith we cannot serve God.

We receive faith through hearing the Word of God. When we hear the Word or read the Word we know what God has done for others in times past, and we know what He is able to do for us. Through faith

we know that all good things God has promised us, but which we have not yet received or known, will come to pass. "And ye know in all your heart and in all your souls, that not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the Lord your God spake concerning you: all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof" (Joshua 23:14). Joshua was reminding the people of Israel of God's goodness to them, of His promises He had made to them, of His deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt, and how He had fulfilled all to them. If God made and kept His promises to Israel, He will also keep His promises to us. God is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

So we must run the race of life with patience, knowing that if we are a child of God we will some day know all the answers to our why's. We will know all the reasons for things happening as they did during our life time. And we will know how just and wise God is. "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

* * *

If you ever find happiness by hunting for it, you will find it as the old woman did her lost spectacles—safe on her nose all the time.
—Josh Billings

Youth and Godly Perseverance

By Walter E. Isenhour

IT takes much perseverance in life to accomplish anything good, great and worth-while. Too many people are soft in their approach to stubborn obstacles; too easily intimidated; too quick to give over to opposing forces; too weak to rise to the occasion, and by God's help and grace say, "I can and must win in the battle for the right against the wrong; I *must* be victor!"

Perseverance is holding out and holding on in spite of opposition, discouragements and oncoming tides that would sweep one downstream and away from the goal. One should never think that he will climb in life without effort, strength and power. It is easy to drift downstream, but sometimes it is very difficult to go upstream when the current is flowing hard against us, and bringing down debris—fragments, broken rubbish, trash, etc. How much is this like the devil in his opposition to the people of God as they pull upward and heavenward! He turns loose everything he can against them. Then it is easy to turn loose the oars and drift downstream with the flowing, turbulent waters, although they will land one on the breakers sometime and somewhere farther on.

We realize that our young people today certainly have much to pull them down. The downward trend of the world, the flesh and the devil are strongly against them. The rivers and tides are pulling hard on the downgrade physically, mentally, morally and spiritually. Temptations abound on every side. Evil men and women—evil youth—are all about us, and those who look up, resolve to go upstream, and set forth with all patience and perseverance to stem the tide of all driftwood of the devil and the world, have something on their hands to contend with. We say this, not to discourage our young people, but rather to encourage them—letting

Hold on and hold out in your high and commendable, sublime and noble plans and purposes.

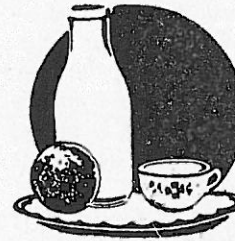
them know, before they meet the hard tests and trials, that they are coming, and to be ready to challenge them, by God's good grace and sustaining power. Praise His holy and matchless name forever.

Youth, *you* can make good in life in spite of all that is against you. Just realize that where sin abounds, grace much more abounds (Rom. 5:

(Continued on page 22)

DIET-RITE CHRISTIANS

By Verna McCoy



DiETING is a fad that apparently will never become old-fashioned. There are diets to gain weight, diets to lose weight, diets to maintain weight, diets for diabetics, etc., etc. If followed judiciously and under the direction of a wise physician, they can be very beneficial.

There are about as many different pills, gadgets, and methods for dieting as there are people experimenting with them. One can walk down through the aisle of most any supermarket and find a grand array of foods in the diet-rite form.

Teen-agers (girls in particular) are susceptible to the dieting craze because of the emphasis put on being a "slim Jane" or "slim Jim" by clothing manufacturers and advertising agencies.

TEEN-AGERS, let us advertise it far and near that we need to be getting in tip-top shape for the Kingdom of God. We all can have the counsel of the same Great Physician in recommending our dietary needs. Take courage, for this diet is one where we can feast—feast on His Word. "Thy words were found, and I did eat them" (Jer. 15:16). If we hunger and thirst after righteousness we will be filled (Matt. 5:6).

The food recommended by the Great Physician, if taken faithfully and in the proper amounts will so uplift our spirits and vitalize our lives that there won't be cause for the feeling of irritability that so often accompany dieting.

Let's take a look at a sample menu recommended by the Great Physician.

The main course of most main meals is MEAT. "My meat is to do the will of him that sent me" (John 4:34). It should be our main desire to strive to do the will of our heavenly Father.

If any of you have had to be on a salt-free diet, you know that food isn't nearly as palatable as it is when seasoned with SALT. Likewise "Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man" (Col. 4:6).

Another very important food eaten at nearly every meal is BREAD. "Man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the

mouth of the Lord doth man live" (Deut. 8:3).

We have been taught since we were infants that MILK is one of the best and most basic foods as well as a very good beverage for our meals. "I have fed you with milk" (1 Cor. 3:2).

Even when dieting, most of us still have a sweet tooth and want some type of dessert with our meal. In preference to rich pastries, the FRUITS of the Spirit are strongly recommended and necessary for our spiritual growth. "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance" (Gal. 5:22, 23).

In addition to the above mentioned foods, our diet will need to be supplemented with vitamins, as they are indispensable to normal body metabolism, and disease prevention.

Our spiritual vitamin classification is as follows:

Vitamin A—Acceptance Vitamin. Christ died for our sins and it is only by accepting Him that we can have eternal life.

Vitamin B—Belief Vitamin is essential to the normal functioning of the new life. The Great Physician explains that "all things are possible to him that believeth" (Mark 9:23). "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31).

Vitamin C—Confession Vitamin, must be used every day to keep one in perfect health. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

Vitamin D—Determination Vitamin. This vitamin is especially vital

to the proper maintenance of the skeletal system. A weak backbone ruins posture and our Christian testimony, but by using Vitamin D, one has no fear. Simply *determine* "not to know anything... save Jesus Christ, and him crucified" (1 Cor. 2:2).

Vitamin E—Endurance Vitamin. "Therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ" (2 Tim. 2:3) knowing that "he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved" (Matt. 24:13).

So young people, let's be faithful and DIET-RITE, knowing that our efforts will make us fit for the Kingdom of God.

* * *

All Things Work Together for Good

Frances Holmstrom

Romans 8:28

If all my days were sunny, could I
say,
"In His fair land He wipes all tears
away?"

If I were never weary, could I keep
Close to my heart, "He gives His
loved ones sleep?"

Were no graves mine, might I not
come to deem
The life eternal but a baseless
dream?

My winter, and my tears, and wear-
iness,
Even my graves, may be His way to
bless.

I call them ill, yet there can surely
be
Nothing but love that shows my
Lord to me!

—Selected

To Sew a Fine Seam

By Jessie Truman

Ginny felt like a child on her first day at school as she entered the garment factory with her lunch kit in her hand. She recognized a few of the women who were chatting in the lunch room and one of them showed her the shelf where they kept their lunches. "Are you going to work here?" one asked. Ginny smiled and nodded. The women smiled back their welcome.

The forelady's desk sat at the back of the sewing room; she looked up and smiled as Ginny approached. She picked up a time card with Ginny's name typed at the top and led the way to the time clock.

"Have you ever punched a clock before?" she asked. Ginny hadn't. So the forelady slipped the card in the slot and pushed it down. The clock stamped the time on the card. "You will keep your card in this slot when you are at work, and when you punch out at night it will go in the rack to the left, in the slot with the same number."

They walked back into the sewing room where double rows of sewing machines formed an aisle the full length of the room. Mrs. Ward selected a vacant machine, looked around for a few scraps of cloth, seated herself at the machine and proceeded to demonstrate how to operate it. It was quite similar to the machine Ginny's mother had, but larger. The pressure foot raised and lowered with a knee-pedal, which left both hands free to handle the material. And it sewed so fast!

Mrs. Ward left Ginny to practice sewing, back-stitching to fasten the thread at the seam ends, and just to get familiar with her machine.

The first few minutes were anxious ones. That machine was so fast and powerful, Ginny felt it could leap out at her and bite. Then, too, she knew that those near her were *watching* and wondering how she would make out.

AT TEN O'CLOCK the bell rang for a ten minute coffee break and Ginny filed out to the lunch room with the other girls. Someone loaned her a cup as Mrs. Ward apologized for having forgotten to tell her to bring one. She would also need to bring scissors, a needle and a ripper or razor blade tomorrow. But now she was ready to start work on the coats, which were the main product of this plant.

There were bundles of garments in bins near the workers. Mrs. Ward selected one and took it to Ginny's machine. She untied it and laid the pieces on a small table beside Ginny's chair. Ginny was to sew a yoke to the top of each shell, turn it over and top-stitch it on the right side. Then she would lay it on another table to her right. It was important that the pieces be kept in the exact order in which they were bundled. Ginny would do just this one operation; then the bundle moved on to the next operation. It would go through the different departments until it finally reached the inspectors when the coats were finished.

When the bell rang at 4:30 that afternoon, Ginny left the sewing room with the others, punched the clock, picked up her lunch kit and headed for the parking lot. She was tired, but

confident she could do the work. She knew she would enjoy it once she got over the nervousness that accompanied starting a new job. The women were friendly and asked how she liked it. They understood that it would take a few days before she felt at ease.

GINNY STAYED in this apartment. The constant repetition improved her skill and increased her speed. She was able to observe and appreciate the different operations. Each operator faced problems. As she worked she found herself comparing factory work with Christian living, and was astounded to find the close similarity that existed.

The starting point for the garments was in the cutting room. There the fabrics were spread on long tables in many layers. Black, red, beige, blue, green—all spread in one big pile. The paper patterns were spread and stapled. Then the cutters cut through all thicknesses at one time with a big electric cutter.

Next the bundlers sorted the pieces. They tied into each bundle just the right number of each to complete a dozen shells, or a dozen linings, hoods or collars. Not only are there many colors, but several sizes in each color, so the cutters and bundlers have a big responsibility. The smoothness of the operations in the sewing room depends largely on the accuracy of the cutting and bundling.

The newly cut garments reminded Ginny of new babies. They come in several colors and sizes, and they are all similar. They have one head, one

back, two arms, and two legs. When they are born they have very little personality, but that develops as they grow. So it was with the coats she sewed. As soon as a worker started sewing, it started to take on a personality. The shells start with the pocket makers. Some have set-in pockets, some have patch pockets. Some pockets are trimmed with little straps and buckles, and some are trimmed with braid. Some had no trimming at all.

When the pockets were finished, the bundles moved up to the joiners. There they joined the shoulder seams, set in the sleeves and sewed the side seams. Other joiners were sewing linings together. The finishers put the linings and shells together and added the collars or hoods which were made in another department. The turners turned each garment right side out before it went to the top-stitchers, then got buttons and button holes, was pressed, inspected and bagged in plastic bags for shipment.

AS GINNY MUSED about all this, she recognized that each operator had her own individual influence on each garment she sewed. It didn't always show on the outside. If seams were taken too deeply the garment would be undersize: If too shallow, the seams would pull out, and not wear well. This is like our influence on the lives we touch. It doesn't always show on the outside, but it could affect the heart. If we are careless in the way we deal with our fellow man he may not regard the Christian way as being of much value. If we hurt him by our selfishness or thoughtlessness, we may lose our influence for good with him.

One day when things were going smoothly, Ginny happily told herself

that she was glad she was a joiner. You could really see that you were accomplishing something as your bundles of pieces became coat shells right before your eyes.

She felt a little sorry for Meg who sat at the next machine and sewed labels on the linings all day. That seemed like such a futile job. But as she thought about it, she recalled a portion of Scripture in 1 Corinthians 12. It said that the body has many members, and each has its job to do. Even the feeble members were necessary and honorable. Paul admonishes us "not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think: but to think soberly—" In fact, she was glad she wasn't a pocket-maker! Their work was very particular and if they made a mistake it was right out in front where it showed. And yet this was the way the Lord organized His church. Some were apostles, some were teachers, some had the gift of healing, and some were just "helps." She guessed that maybe Meg could be classed as a "help" and surely her job was honorable. That label stood for quality material and quality workmanship, just as the label "Christian" means quality.

THE FORELADY was always busy answering calls for help from any of the workers. Sometimes there was a flaw in the material and she would have to order a new piece from the cutting room. When they started sewing a different style it was her responsibility to see that each department knew how to assemble the parts. There were countless details that needed her attention. Sometimes the women grumbled about her when she had to remind them to be more careful of their work.

Ginny liked Mrs. Ward and some-

... just not saying anything was sometimes eloquent.

times she felt real sorry for her. She was caught in the middle, between the workers and the factory overseer. If the coat were not finished fast enough, the orders could not be filled on time and Mrs. Ward was expected to explain. Or if the quality was not good, the coats were sold cheap, as "seconds." This was likely to happen when the operators felt rushed and under pressure. So it was Mrs. Ward's job to try to keep everything running as smoothly as possible. She was not unlike a minister, Ginny thought, then chuckled to herself. Mrs. Ward would laugh if anyone thought she was like a minister; a minister is in charge of his church. He, too, is caught in the middle between his parishioners and his overseer. He is constantly on call to give comfort, counsel, instruction and encouragement. He tries to keep the church work running smoothly so that more can be accomplished for the Big Boss.

Suddenly a verse that the young people's class had discussed recently, Hebrews 13:17, came to Ginny's mind. It seemed to apply to Mrs. Ward as well as to her pastor. It says, "Obey them that have rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."

"Yes," Ginny thought, "if Mrs. Ward cannot give a good account of my work, I'll lose my job." If a worker is unable to do satisfactory work, or if she fails to produce a reasonable amount, she is bound to lose her job. It was as Jesus said—

"Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth, that it may bring forth more fruit."

THE WEEKS FLEW BY and before she knew it, factory work was becoming a way of life. It really kept one on a strict schedule and Ginny found herself giving up some of the pleasures she used to enjoy. It called for self-discipline and laying aside every weight so that she could "run with patience the race that is set before us."

It wasn't that there was anything wrong with the pleasures she had enjoyed. But they took too much time from her free hours. Social events had to give way for more necessary activities. Her clothes had to be kept clean and in repair. Her room had to be cleaned regularly.

Then there was her daily Bible study, and prayer meetings she could not neglect. Ginny felt a definite need for study and prayer as her associations at the factory constantly challenged her in her Christian walk. Some of the women enjoyed telling the latest juicy gossip, or the big joke that was off-color. Or relating the events of the recent week end which invariably included a drinking party. Ginny wanted no part in all this talk. The challenge came in not participating in it and still remaining friendly. She found that just not saying anything was sometimes eloquent. She was not alone and found warm friendship with others who were striving toward a higher goal.

(Continued on page 22)

The Unknown Genius

A genius eked his life away
And never proved his worth,
Who could have sent a golden ray
Of light across the earth
To bless and cheer the lives of men
And help them find their place,
If he had used his tongue or pen
To tell of God's rich grace.

By
Walter E.
Isenhour

He let his precious years go by,
Beset with golden weeks,
Which could have lifted him quite high
Where fame and honor speaks,
And tells what God can do for those
Who live to do His will
Like patriarchs and saints who chose
Their rightful place to fill.

His life was lived on planes quite low
Because he left God out
And chose the way the sinful go
Who never turn about,
Nor face the better way of life
That leads to heaven's goal,
Where all great souls are free from strife
While endless ages roll.

He could have mastered some great art,
Or left a mark behind,
To bring lost souls to God's great heart,
Thus blessing humankind;
Whereas he lived and passed away,
A genius never known,
Whose life is but a blank today,
For which he can't atone.

O careless youth, give God your time,
Your talent and your all,
And then reach out for heights sublime
Like useful men and tall,
Who tower up above the mass
Of those who have no aim,
Who gain no greatness as they pass,
No honor and no fame!

Vicky is a 16-year-old sophomore and a cheerleader on the "A" team at Memorial High School. Vicky has been coming to church now for about a year. She is nice. All of the young people love her.

"Say, Vicky!" called her best friend, Betty, "Are you going to young people's meeting since there isn't a game tonight?"

"Yes," she said. "I'm going. Who has the lesson tonight?"

"I'm not sure," said Betty. "But I think that Lois has the lesson tonight."

Lois is a real Christian and loves to do all she can for her Lord and Master. Always willing to lend a helping hand whenever needed. But every time that Lois has the lesson it seemed that Lois was talking straight to her, and she felt uneasy about it. "Oh, well," she said, "I have gone before and it hasn't hurt me; I guess this time it won't hurt me any either. I'll prepare for the worst."

To Vicky's surprise, Lois didn't come straight out with her thoughts that evening. Vicky could sense that there was something that was bothering Lois, but she didn't know how to approach her to try and comfort her. She just walked out without saying a word.

"Vicky," said Lois Monday at school, "Are you going to 'Young People's' next Friday night?"

"No," said Vicky, "We have a game with Marrison High. Why don't you go to the game with me and stay overnight?"

"Vicky," said Lois, "My religion means more to me than that. And it should to you, too. You always seem to think more about your school than about God. Is your school more important to you than God? If you don't have time for God, then do you suppose the day will come when He won't have time for you?"

**By Violet Knoll
New Auburn, Wisc.
FYC Member**

"How often do you read your Bible?" asked Vicky.

"I read my Bible every day and pray," said Lois. "A person can never know too much about the Bible. My Bible says that we should have His Word hid in our hearts so that we might not sin against Him. And that's reason enough for me to read my Bible daily. It also says 'thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.'"

"What if you were in a car accident and were killed? I know it's a terrible thought, but just suppose. Then it would be too late for you to make your stand for Christ, and to live a Christian life. When the Lord gets ready to come, He's not going to wait for the slow pokes. Would you be ready for Him to take

A Real



Friend

you? What would you say? Would you say that you were kept too busy being loyal to your school and you didn't have time to serve Him?"

Just then the bell rang. "Think about what I said, Vicky," Lois called back to her.

Friday night came and Lois got there just a wee bit late. She looked around for Vicky. Not seeing her, she just s'posed she had gone to the game. Just as Pastor Ken was going to the front of the chapel to say a few words, in walked Vicky, and took a seat next to Lois. As the message went on, Lois looked at Vicky and

found her taking in everything that Pastor Ken was saying.

As the congregation was singing "Pass Me Not, Oh, Gentle Savior," Pastor Ken gave an altar call. Vicky walked up. "Hear my humble cry," she prayed. "Heal my wounded broken spirit, and save me by thy grace. Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry; while on others you are calling, do not pass me by."

As the meeting was dismissed, Vicky caught a glimpse of Lois going out the door. Hurrying to catch her, she grasped Lois' arm with the words, "Thanks, you're a real friend!"

The Finishing Touch

Cecyl Caswell (Fischer)

Written when a teen-ager

I had two good eyes, but I couldn't see
The cross—the blood that was shed for me.
I had two good hands, but I couldn't feel
His wonderful love, so true—so real.
I had two good legs, but I didn't know
How to go the way that I ought to go.
I had a good tongue and yet I was dumb,
I would stutter and stammer, but words would not come.
I had two good ears, but I wouldn't hear
The things that to me should have been so dear.
I had a good head, but did not understand
The nature of things which my Savior had planned.
I had a clear voice, but I could not sing
The joy was not there to make the words ring.

But God opened my eyes and opened my ears
To His message of love, still the same o'er the years.
He now guides my tongue, words of praise swiftly flow;
And He helps me to follow the way I should go.
He teaches me truth, helps me understand.
I can now feel the touch of His gentle hand.
I can sing, for my joy overflows from within,
For God touched me—and healed me—from weakness and sin.

Youth Questions...

Counsel by Ray L. Straub

Question:

What can our state F.Y.C. do to arouse more interest? Many young people in our state who were regulars have stopped attending the state youth rallies.

Answer:

This worth-while question is most challenging and difficult to answer in many respects. Youth groups and leaders everywhere have sought means to kindle interest. Some are successful, while others make little progress. How blessed we would be if all of our youth groups, both local and statewide, would operate continually with glowing enthusiasm.

But, alas, such is not the case. Intensity of interest often runs like a road over hilly country; first up, then down. It hardly ever remains at the same pitch.

The wording of your question may, in itself, lead us to a valuable answer. It appears that more interest is needed. This has been lost by some. In order to regain it some explanation must be sought for the present dis-

interest. Perhaps these reasons are already known to you. If not, those who no longer attend may be willing to enlighten the others as to why they stopped coming.

There are some general reasons why interest is lost in youth activities, particularly in the "rally" type. First, weak leadership allows insufficient planning, causing meetings to run haphazardly, awkwardly, and without inspiration. A poor performance is as uninteresting in a religious service as it is anywhere else! We have varying talents, which means that some will make better presentations than others. Everyone accepts and appreciates this. But, it is difficult to faithfully attend performances that constantly betray half-hearted efforts. Mumbled readings and musical renditions that show obvious lack of rehearsal are tiring and discouraging.

New ideas are always necessary. Nothing wears out as quickly as a good idea. Imagination needs to be employed. Not all new ideas will prove to be good, but they are often much better than good ones that have been worn out.

Youth meetings should convey a message. Rallies that are presented simply to give opportunities for a small number to perform quickly become boring. A meeting should, in its planning, have a sincere meaning that is interesting and essential. Rallies should move along at a good

Do you have a problem? You are invited to send your questions to us for discussion in this column. Address your letter to: Aim, Stanberry, Missouri 64489. Questions of a personal nature—not for publication—will also be welcomed and carefully answered.

pace. Retire leaders who feel they must comment after every number!

Youth needs to reflect its enthusiasm. Various programs involving competing teams incite zeal. Committees might offer awards to groups on the basis of best attendance, quality of performance, etc. Be sure to keep the competition fair with *equal* advantages.

Joy in service to Christ should be shown. A spirit of gladness is contagious and will bring in crowds. We like to be with happy people.

Youth work needs purpose. Some groups are busily engaged in raising

funds for Foreign Missions, others for scholarships. Where there is no vision, interest is lost. People like to be part of something useful and important.

Don't forget the publicity. Let people know what is going on—insist they know. Everyone needs to know the importance of youth work!

The National Youth Department has an excellent slogan for this year; "Do more in '64." Any young people's organization that keeps this slogan in mind, stresses and repeats it often, will most assuredly find itself actually doing more in '64!

The Very Impractical Man

There was a certain man who prided himself in being a very "practical" man. He was very successful in business, and he delighted in telling others the reasons for his success: hard work, study, ability to pick good men to help him.

"It seems to me," said one of the group, "that you have overlooked one of the most important."

"What can that be?" asked the man.

"Faith."

"Bosh!" exclaimed the man. "Faith is the bunk. A thing is, or isn't. At best, faith is another word for luck, or chance. A fellow can't see his way out, or around, but somehow he makes it. Then he says it was because he had faith. I believe only in things I can see."

Just at that moment the man pressed a light switch without checking to see if the power company's generators were still running, or if the wires leading to his house were still up.

He went out with his car to the filling station, and told the attendant to put in five gallons of gasoline, without standing by and measuring the exact amount. Then he went and made a deposit in his bank; he took a note from a friend who said he would pay in six months; he bought government bonds which would not mature for ten years—and all this in an age of atom bombs.

The man made a hurried trip to New York by plane. He could not see the pilot's license, nor see the air that held him up, nor the propellers that pulled the plane through. He had ridden to his office dozens of times without once thinking that the power might fail or the car run off the track. He had dropped a letter in a small slot. It never occurred to him that the letter might be lost or stolen.

But he had often said "faith is the bunk," he—a very impractical man.

—The K. V. P. Philosopher

HAVING FUN

--Not To Be

Repented

Of...

By Lavern Ling

IN Proverbs 17:22 it says, "a merry heart doeth good like a medicine, but a broken spirit drieth the bones." From 1 Timothy 6:17 we learn we are to trust in the living God who giveth us richly all things to enjoy. Also in Ecclesiastes 5:18 we read, "Behold that which I have seen. It is good and comely for one to eat and drink and to enjoy the good of all his labour that he taketh under the sun, all the days of his life, which God giveth him, for it is his portion."

We have all heard it said, "a Christian need not be long faced," and Christians should be happy." The verses which we have just read bear this out. It is also true that we should be sober minded (Titus 2:1-13). How, then, can we harmonize these two lines of thinking?

In Ecclesiastes 3 we read . . . (see center column)

Part of our Christian education then should be to know when to be merry-hearted and when to be soberminded. Why is it that people usually think of a sober person as dull and uninteresting? The definition of *soberminded* in the dictionary is "self controlled or sensible." Also, "temperate, calm, free from exaggeration." Now a foolish minded person might think of a sober person as being

This is a talk that was given by Lavern Ling at an FYC meeting in New Auburn, Wisconsin—with emphasis on foolish talking and jesting.

"dull," but a Christian surely should not.

Let us examine some of the scriptures concerning being sober. 1 Peter 4:7 tells us "but the end of all things is at hand. Be ye therefore sober and watch unto prayer." Does this mean that we should not be happy? Far from it. Seriously talking with our Heavenly Father and watching for His return is a joy for any real Christian.

On the same thought, 1 Thess. 5:7 says, "Therefore let us not sleep as do others, but let us watch and be sober." In 1 Peter 3:8 we are told to be vigilant because "your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."

Did you ever stop to consider some of Satan's tactics in seeking whom he may devour? Does he always try to attract people in an obnoxious way or in ways that seem undesirable? No, he is very sly—and uses devices that seem very attractive and make people want what he has. One of these things is to so preoccupy our minds with our fun that it is hard, if not impossible, to get our minds in a prayerful and sober condition so that we are receptive and can very seriously consider those things which are presented to us in church or in school or in the home.

Please get your Bible *now* and read 2 Peter 1:5-11.

Does this sound like we are to have fun all the time? Can we honestly live up to this scripture if our main objective in life is to have fun? or if our uppermost thoughts are on trying to make funny anything that comes along? That is—anything for a laugh? Have you ever sat in church and had difficulty in trying to keep from thinking what a good time we had at the ball game yesterday—or what a good time I expect to have tonight—or how much fun I'm *going* to have with that new sled—or bike—or car—or boat—or just most anything else?

We are told in Ephesians 4:29 to let no corrupt communication proceed out of (y)our mouth, but that which is good (not funny) to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And in chapter 5:1-4—notice—"Nor foolish talking nor jesting which are not convenient." What does it mean, "Which are not convenient?" This means, which are not fitting, which are out of place for the occasion.

Let's each one of us—you—and you—and me, examine our own hearts and ask ourselves, *Am I often, or am I at all guilty of this?* In jesting carelessly we not only keep our own minds from being in a receptive mood, but we also

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;

A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;

A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;

A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace."

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

engage the minds of others so they, too, are distracted. This is something we have to school ourselves in and pray to overcome.

Also even a fly or a bee or a baby may be the means of distraction. To ignore these things and keep our minds on the sermon or lesson is not easy if we have not trained ourselves to do this. We need to heed the admonition found in 1 Cor. 15:33. "Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners,"—But—"Awake to righteousness and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God."

AND—how can we expect to have the knowledge of God if our minds are hunting for *anything* to think about, except what we should be listening to? Paul finishes this verse by saying, "I speak this to your shame."

Sometimes youngsters deliberately disobey; then, do or say something foolish to make their parents or teacher laugh. They seem to think that because they laughed that all is O.K. Think seriously of this for God will be the judge.

Then there are those who make jokes about church, the preacher, the Bible, sex, or some other very sacred or serious thing. They seem to think that because it's funny and good people can't seem to help but laugh, that it must then be O.K. Most sincerely it is not! This doesn't make it right!

Then there are those who belittle one another and make cutting remarks, but as long as it is said in a funny way, this makes it all right. Or does it?

And what about the older brother

or sister who calls a younger one "That little monster," or "that little stinker"—or "Stupid." Did you ever think about the verse in Matthew 5 which says "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"? Did you know that the word "Stupid" means nearly the same as this word "Raca"? And is an empty-headed stupid person any worse than a monster?

Yes, a merry heart doeth good like a medicine—how true this is. A person always feels better in company with a happy person, than in company with a dejected or miserable person. This can be very uncomfortable, and the sooner one can get away from such a person the better you feel. This is especially true of youth.

And, yes, Christians above all people should be happy people! We are told to rejoice, even in persecution. Why? Because we have that wonderful peace in our hearts that being right with God and having the hope of eternal life can bring. Yes, let's have our fun when it is the proper time and place to do so, realizing that Jesus is there and in on the fun—and act accordingly.

There is also a time to refrain from having fun, learning to completely eject it from our minds that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom—that we may think soberly, do justly, and "walk humbly with our God."

* * *

It is better to be serving God in solitude than serving sin with a multitude.—*Matthew Henry*

The Editor's Page

JUST HOW FAR DID HE FALL?

Over the News Broadcast one day I heard the report that a person (let's say, Jim Jones) was cleaning snow off from his roof, when he slid 16 feet down the roof and dropped 8 feet to the ground. Later that same day, I heard on a different Newscast that Jim Jones, who was cleaning snow off his roof had slid and fell 24 feet.

My first thought was—*Mmmm, two entirely different stories... 'wonder which one is the truth.* Then it occurred to me that it was the same story, but at first it had *sounded* different because it was told differently. Poor Jim did slide and fall 24 feet. I had mentally placed a comma after slid—the newscaster didn't intend one.

Am I getting too complicated? Then let's get the point of all this. It brought to my mind something that has concerned me for quite some time—the tendency we have to often quote the words of another. We need to be very cautious about our many words, and about our attempt to repeat a conversation.

We can bear false witness against another by carelessly quoting something they have said or by giving an inaccurate impression about their views on some matter. In our language (and no doubt in any language) the tone inflection that is used in a conversation is as important (often even more important) than the actual wording. Also the conversation surrounding a statement can completely change the meaning—and most especially the *density* of the meaning.

The varied connotations which could be taken from a statement are not always as simple as the example above. This one could be clarified by simple mathematics—not so with most misunderstood meanings. There are times when two people may seem to tell very different accounts concerning the same incident. We must not be hasty to jump to the conclusion that someone is lying. Often a very detailed explanation about all the circumstances involved would reveal that neither had knowingly told an untruth, and that the two stories do fit together surprisingly well, even though they may have seemed far apart at first.

Have you ever recalled something you have said, realizing it could be taken the wrong way if quoted out of context? At such a time you surely hope no one will quote you carelessly. *(Turn to next page)*

We must give this same consideration to others. Taken out of original conversation and the speaker's tone, the intent of words spoken may easily be distorted when passed from one to another. The damage may not necessarily be intentional; nevertheless, it can be very real.

"In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise" (Proverbs 10:19).

* * *

YOUTH AND GODLY PERSEVERANCE

(Continued from page 6)

20). Hear what Jesus said to the Apostle Paul in his sore tests and trials: "My grace is sufficient for thee" (2 Cor. 12:9).

Young people, you don't have to be swept away with every tide, every contrary wind, everything that is against you. Be patient and persevering. Hold on and hold out in your high and commendable, sublime and noble plans and purposes. The very, VERY best things in life are higher up than the beggarly elements of the world.

Look up, pray up, walk up, go up. Take the blessed old Bible as your guide book through life, and hold to the unchanging hand of the Bible's wonderful, marvelous, glorious Author—the God of the universe. He is powerful enough to lead, guide, direct, uphold, sustain and keep you in His will, love and service until the battles of life are all fought and won. Hallelujah!

Oh, be PERSEVERING pilgrims on the heavenly journey! You don't have to throw up your hands and surrender to the evil, wicked forces that are about you and against you.

Let go of the world and let God have you—have your body, your mind, your talents, your life and soul. All this is your privilege, your duty, your right and reasonable service. Be heroes, not cowards. Be victors, not defeated give-ups. Be strong in the Lord and the power of His might. You can, you should, you MUST if you are to amount to anything good, blessed, lovely, noble, successful and sublime in this life, and later stand on the opposite shores of time and wave the palms of eternal victory and shout God's praises with the saints and sages of all the ages. Youth, O youth, be PERSEVERING!

* * *

TO SEW A FINE SEAM

(Continued from page 12)

THIS EXPERIENCE was teaching Ginny many valuable lessons. She understood the value of organization and teamwork. She learned to discipline herself better and to follow instructions. And she recognized her need for the Holy Spirit in her life to strengthen her each day. Truly, she was in the world but she sincerely longed to keep herself unspotted from the world.

It helped to remember Titus 2:11-15. "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works."

The following is a letter received from Brother John E. Orié of Ahoada, Nigeria, Africa, in which he lists names of those FYC members in the Idu-Osobile District that would like to correspond with a pen pal here in the United States. If anyone is interested in corresponding with any of the names listed, please write to me for the names and addresses. Send your letter to: Mrs. Jewell Linville, 511½ East McKinney, Neosho, Missouri.

Dear Mrs. Linville:

Yours dated 16th December, 1963, was received on the 27th in st. In fact, it was very surprising to see the reply of the letter which I have counted missing, really my joy is beyond expression and the contents very impressive. With the joy I reply immediately thanking greatly and wishing success in your new appointment.

Meanwhile, I have to introduce myself fully to you, though you had heard a gist introduction of myself through my first letter. I am a bachelor 21 years old, holder of Middle II Certificate of the Eastern Nigerian Ministry of Education. Attended a Radio Servicing Engineering Institute for three years, obtained a diploma in Radio Servicing for the Institute. Meanwhile, managing my own business at Omoku, 8 miles from our town, leader of Idu-Osobile FYC and also choir leader of Ogba District.

Yes Sister, with regards to our FYC activities here I am very pleased to report that our August extensive tour had resulted institu-

Foreign Correspondence Activities

... Another interesting report from our youth foreign correspondent, Jewell Linville. Notice especially the opportunity for foreign pen pals.

ting of six local FYC groups, which had merged to consider various matters relating to youths in the district, though many other local groups are applying that I should come to instruct them, which I should in the near future.

The Idu-Osobile FYC is the most progressive in the district, with the following officiating for the current year: Chairman, Jonah Nwobodo; Vice, Peter Ejukwn; Leader, Brother T. Orié; Assistant, Jepheth N. Orié (my junior brother); Secretary, Luke Omofo; Vice, Job Ejukwn (financial); Treasurer, Mrs. Evelyn Nwobodo. Due to the absence of some officers in the last meeting held last 27th instance, appointment of new officers was postponed till January, 1964, which I hope to report. Our present officers worked excellently well and hard towards the progress of the meeting. They purchased a small camera costing F157 (about \$6 in your money). With this I think our relations with you should be greatly improved in this 1964 by d.v.

We are greatly preparing for our camp meeting which is taking place on the 11th and 12th January, 1964.

Our projects and activities will be fully sent after the camp.

... Below are the members of our group with ages:

Jonah Nwododo	26
Peter Ejukwn	25
Jephet N. Orié	19
Job Ejukwn	15
Joshua Ike	16
Andrew Patrick	15
Mbadiwe Uchein	11
Mrs. Evelyn Niwobodo	20
Elinah Uchein	16
Rosaline Benjamin	13
Dinah John	15
Chukwndi Godpower	9
Beatrice Orkwown	10
Godpower Eke	26
John E. Orié	21
Israel Krammer	18
Luke Omodo	15
Godpower John	15
Clement James	15
Enoch Sunday	12
Miss Comfort Thomas	17
Filisia Krammer	13
Salomy Eke	16
Mary Samuel	10
Beatrice Adieil	15
Marther Eke	12

These also need pals all over. Group photographs shall be sent after camp. Hoping to hear from you soon again. Thanks.

Your Brother,
J. E. Orié

* * *

The world is almost totally pagan today because so many of us are only half-Christian!

* * *

We must not be satisfied to be better than someone else.

—C. Earl Cooper

Midwest Bible College

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Master Jesus Christ.

Blessings were received by God's presence and all who attended the fellowship meeting on January 11 in the Stanberry chapel.

By January 15-17 time had come for each student to show his learned progress in semester tests. The test days seemed long and as though they would never end but sighs of relief and words of encouragement were heard at the beginning of a new semester.

On Sunday night, January 26, a going away party was given by the church young people in honor of Jerry and Darlene Moldenhauer who left us to attend Spring Vale Academy second semester. Their faces were all aglow in mixed emotion of leaving home but looking forward to the wonderful experience to be received at Spring Vale. The former students of Spring Vale Academy, Dan Coulson, Roger Blankinship, Elizabeth Taylor, and Esther Martin, put on a Spring Vale Booster Program. Elder Kauer showed films of previous years taken at Spring Vale. The students surprised Darlene by celebrating her birthday on the same night. Games were played and everyone had a wonderful time. Daniel Camero ended the program by singing "Precious Memories" dedicating it to Jerry and Darlene.

Especially after hard work put into classroom study, students deserved the enjoyable evening of skating and social supper hosted by the St. Joseph young people on February 2. A few falls were received by some and the results were skinned knees and bruises which made it a little uncomfortable



School Reports

to sit through all the Monday morning classes.

The highlights of all the activities was the Mystery Dinner sponsored by the Student Council on February 9. Stirring up the curiosity of about ninety people, tickets were sold to raise money for the student banquet to be at the close of school. A program for entertainment was presented for the appreciated guests who invested in a worth-while project.

For local church entertainment the student council sponsored an evening of films shown on Oregon, Washington and Texas. A well-spent evening of viewing God's creation was had by all.

—Betty Kanady

Spring Vale Academy

The month of January has been very busy for us here at Spring Vale. To start the month off we had an exciting basketball game with Durand Methodist, January 11. The score was 29-32 in their favor but we found out later that they forfeited to us.

Sabbath, the 18th of January, the students attended the Michigan quarterly all-day meeting at Muskegon. Elder Turner gave the message for the morning worship service. Following a young people's program, Elder Nelson Caswell spoke to us.

The next week Spring Vale was quieter than usual as most of the students were studying very hard for the semester tests, which were given January 22-23.

After the tests were over Thursday, the afternoon was spent preparing for the annual Midwinter Cheer Banquet. That evening you could hardly tell you were in the same place because the atmosphere had changed so much. A program was given after the meal. The secret pals, which were chosen earlier in the month, were revealed. Some of the students were surprised when they found out a brother or cousin had their name or that two people had each other's name.

As soon as the banquet was over, some of the students left to go home or to a friend's home for the semester break. The rest went to a basketball game against Grace Bible School. We lost that game 39 to 50.

Our new semester started January 27th with registration for classes. Six new students came for this semester. They are: Rosemarie Saucedo, Don Gitthens (seniors), Darlene Moldenhauer, Barbara Mann, Diane Castleman (juniors), and Jerry Moldenhauer (sophomore). This makes our enrollment 24 now. We are very glad for these new students.

Wednesday evening all of the students except the seniors went to Flint to see a travelogue. This time it was on Ireland. The seniors couldn't go because they were having a bake sale in town Thursday and they had to bake all the goodies that night. They made about \$25 toward the gift they are going to buy for the school.

The students and faculty gave a wedding shower for Mr. and Mrs. Edward Turner, Saturday night. Ed-

ward attended Spring Vale all four years and his wife, Marylou, attended here a little while this year.

All the students went to the Methodist Church in Perry, and saw the movie "King of Kings," February 4. This was about the life of Christ and was very good as it stayed close to the Bible.

Please continue to remember us in your prayers. God bless you all.

The 23rd Channel

The T.V. set is my shepherd. My spiritual growth shall want.

It maketh me to sit down and do nothing for His name's sake, because it requireth all my spare time. It keepeth me from doing my duty as a Christian, because it presenteth so many good shows that I must see.

It restoreth my knowledge of the

Grow More In '64

Young people, do you know there is treasure buried right in your own homes? Yes, indeed, the pages of your very own Bibles hold buried treasures. It is only for you to dig out and mine these precious stones and claim them for your own.

We have all studied about the days of the gold rush in the west when so many families gave up so much and risked so much to join the throngs that went rumbling westward in covered wagons. These courageous enterprisers of 1849 soon became known as "forty-niners." "California or Bust" was their slogan.

We are over a century too late to classify as "forty-niners" so let's be "ninety-sixers." Starting in January we have been picking out eight precious nuggets each month for you to claim as your own. That is just about two a week. If you memorize all of these suggested verses you will have learned ninety-six by the end of the year. Ninety-six verses to use and to cherish. Isn't it worth a little effort?

Imagine having precious treasure buried right in your back yard and being too busy or too negligent to bother digging it up! Yet that's precisely what many of us are doing. We don't have to make our way over swift waters or treacherous mountain paths and fight off savage Indians to find our treasure; we don't even have to leave our doors. It's right there between the covers of our Bible. Let's cash in on it!

Again we make the suggestion that you write these verses out on file cards with the verse on one side and the location on the other. It is a convenient and enjoyable way to study and learn them. We may have competition on this memorization work later on, so come on, Prospectors, let's make it "NINETY-SIX OR BUST!"

Romans 12:21

Romans 12:1

1 Corinthians 2:9

Psalm 119:165

1 Corinthians 13:13

Hebrews 11:1

1 John 2:15

Revelation 21:4

things of the world, and keepeth me from the study of God's word. It leadeth me in the paths of failing to attend the evening worship services, and doing nothing in the Kingdom of God.

Yea, though I live to be a hundred, I shall keep on viewing my T.V. as long as it will work, for it is my closest companion. Its sounds and its pictures, they comfort me.

It presenteth entertainment before me, and keepeth me from doing important things with my family. It fills my head with ideas which differ from those set forth in the word of God.

Surely, no good thing will come of my life, because my T.V. offereth me no good time to do the will of God; thus I will dwell in the place of the Devil and his angels forever.

—Submitted

* * *

You can't change the past, but you can ruin the present by worrying over the future.



PEACEFUL WINTER SCENE

I see beauty in nature,
In carols the bird sings.
Small rabbits in warm fur,
To their coats the snow clings.

Softly the snow is falling,
Upon the ground so bare.
The bob-o-links are calling,
Their many songs to share.

Tracks of many animals,
On the snow are written.
The flowers, trees, and laurels,
In their coats are hidden.

I see beauty in nature,
In the woods and streams.
In them dwells their Creator,
Go! Almighty, the Supreme.

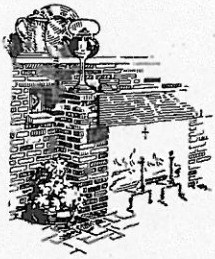
—Martha Heavilin,

New Auburn, Wisc. F.Y.C.

He Leadeth Me

In pastures green? Not always; Sometimes He
Who knoweth best, in kindness leadeth me
In weary ways where shadows be;
Out of the sunshine, warm and soft and bright
Out of the sunshine, into the darkest night.
I oft would faint with sorrow and affright
Only for this—I know He holds my hand.
So whether in the green or desert land,
I trust, although I may not understand.
So, whether on the hilltops high and fair
I dwell, or in the sunless valleys where
The shadows lie—what matter? He is there!
Where'er He leads me I can safely go;
And in the blest hereafter I shall know
Why in His wisdom He hath led me so.

—Author Unknown



Heart to Heart

by Elden W. Fischer

WANTED: MRS. MURPHY'S COW

Years ago in Chicago, Mrs. Murphy's cow kicked and upset a kerosene lantern and started a major fire in the city. The fire was not brought under control until a good share of the city was burned down. Someone once said that the only time when people run or flock to a church is when the church is on fire. That statement is true, not only in the literal, but in a spiritual sense as well. Let's set our churches on fire and you will see that even in modern times much growth can be witnessed.

Fire is often used as a symbol of God (Deut. 4:24). Christ also is described as a refiner's fire in Malachi 3:2. Fire, as a mark of the Lord's presence and acceptance, often fell from heaven on the animals sacrificed to the Lord under the old covenant. "Being on fire for the Lord" is a phrase worn out by repetition, but not by practice. How about stepping up our FYC activities by putting forth a greater effort to achieve our goals? The month of March is an excellent time to start. As nature comes to life, let's match it by more life in our FYC program.

One FYC'er writes concerning AIM, "Every FYC'er should sit down and send in a suggestion or thought. Since this is the Young People's paper, we young people should get down

to business. Why should we depend on the adults to make up our paper? We should not let only a few do all the work, but put our sleeping pills away and put on our thinking caps . . . a good resolution for 1964 is to lend a helping hand."

THANK GOD FOR PROGRESS

January 1963 was a month of forward strides in the Y.P. Department. AIM took on a new look. Response from the field was good. We were sponsoring a foreign worker. Manuals were available and the Merit System was launched. "Take Time for God" was introduced along with other regular features in AIM. We are thankful for a greater Youth Camp program in the Church of God. We can see progress in the Young People's activities, but let's not console ourselves with gradual progress. We need something like Mrs. Murphy's cow to kick the lantern.

REMEMBER OUR PASSWORD

For 1964 our password is R-E-S-P-O-N-D. You can always write us with suggestions for a better youth program and ideas for AIM. Since the Denver Camp Meeting we have been trying to get orders for pins with the FYC emblem, but the response has not made it possible for us to put in an order. If response

does not pick up, we can only interpret it that your interest in the project has waned and we will cancel it as a possibility. The letters from local leaders and sponsors in the last month have been encouraging. How about the rest of you writing, too, and telling us what you like and what you don't like about our program? Your leader and your secretary should not do all the writing and thinking for your group.

Paul wrote to the Romans, "For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." But unfortunately, to separate God from our love is not so hard. Too often it doesn't even take principalities to halt our good intentions—just "minimalities!" And often other creatures are allowed to separate God from our love. We 2T4TV but don't 2T4G. We 2T4 dining but we don't 2T4 feasting on daily spiritual food. We put forth a lot of effort to grow financially, but we leave it up to our leader or sponsor to teach us the Bible verses on the Grow More in '64 program. Can we consider ourselves Christians and not know or be interested in studying the teachings of the Bible?

GOALS FOR '64

We are aiming our efforts in 1964 toward wider coverage for AIM. We plan to print more local news. Keep informed on National and local projects by reading AIM. This month we will distribute our program books just off the press. Dale Lawson is directing the Merit System Program

this year. We hope to triple the number of winners in this program over the four Gold Merit winners and the three Silver Merit winners of 1963. Jewel Linville will keep you well-informed on the foreign fields. We will continue sponsoring a foreign worker in Nigeria this year, but we are still waiting to hear from Elder B. I. Tikili on this matter. Elder Noah Camero is taking over 2T4G this year as a continuation of the program begun last year. In 1964 we will be developing an Audio-Visual Library of Bible Story filmstrips, colored slides, and tapes of local FYC programs or other talent. We will be working out special plans for our first National Youth Week in September. We treasure your ideas so don't bury them, but send them to us.

The Church of God has many devoted and capable leaders among its young people. With the proper support these leaders can build a greater church for the Lord. We should not be content with our size, but must take the gospel to others in every way possible. I am convinced that our hope lies in our present generation of Y.P. Let's make this FYC work grow to the place where it will demand a full-time worker and then more. You can, in your lifetime, see a Church of God that is greater than the present day church. If you are building a social organization you may not succeed, but when you are building on Christ, then God will give the increase.

When "Mrs. Murphy's cow kicks over the lantern," let the Lord use you to spread the fire.

* * *

"The sweetest music is not in oratories, but in kind words."

"Take Time for God"



By Noah Camero

BUILDING FOR GOD—2T4G

Were you to enter into an edifice and begin to separate the stones from the mortar and the nails from the boards, what would happen? I would say you had better run for cover because something would be bound to fall!

That is what Nebuchadnezzar did to Jerusalem. He pounded, battered, shoved and pushed until the massive walls of Jerusalem and the temple came thundering to earth. Jerusalem beheld. Its people wept and lamented for seventy long years. For seventy years they beheld the useless ruins, the heaps of waste.

Then came Ezra and Nehemiah. They too beheld the spectacle of sorrow. They wept; they lamented, and then they had a vision. A vision of hope. They arose to the mighty challenge. Onward they went. Preaching, teaching and reaching hearts with their urgent message of faith and works.

The people began to see not a heap of ruins only but a vision of a new temple. And all Jerusalem set about to make this vision a reality. Talk about obstacles, objections—they really had them. But nothing could quench the invincible, indomitable spirit of God's people. With hammer in one hand and a lance in the other they labored night and day. Determined, persistent. How could they fail?

Joy flooded their hearts as they stood beholding their new temple. A living witness to the undying faith of God's servants. To divine favor and human effort.

Today Satan seeks to destroy the Church of God. He is a Master Wrecker. His strategy is simple. He seeks to divide and tear. Apart from God and from one another we fall limply. And so he will reduce us from a living Church to an ineffective heap of splits. What a challenge for you!

Arise today with the spirit of an Ezra or a Nehemiah. Show us your hope through your faith. Show us your faith through your works. There is need to build at Midwest, at Spring Vale, at Denver. Everywhere. Strive for unity. Strive for progress. Strive faithfully always remembering that faith knows no limits!

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Chapters</i>
March 15	Ezra 1
March 16	Ezra 3
March 17	Ezra 4
March 18	Ezra 5
March 19	Ezra 6
March 20	Ezra 7
March 21	Ezra 8
March 22	Ezra 9
March 23	Ezra 10
March 24	Nehemiah 1
March 25	Nehemiah 2
March 26	Nehemiah 3
March 27	Nehemiah 4

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Chapters</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Chapters</i>
March 28	Nehemiah 5	April 6	Psalms 33
March 29	Nehemiah 6	April 7	Psalms 34
March 30	Nehemiah 7	April 8	Psalms 35
March 31	Nehemiah 8	April 9	Psalms 36
April 1	Nehemiah 9	April 10	Psalms 38
April 2	Nehemiah 10	April 11	Psalms 39
April 3	Nehemiah 11	April 12	Psalms 40
April 4	Nehemiah 12	April 13	Psalms 41
April 5	Nehemiah 13	April 14	Psalms 42

M A K E M A R K M E R I T
of

By Dale Lawson

ANOTHER WINNER

We were happy to receive another report for the last quarter of 1963 and be able to award another Silver Mark of Merit. This award goes to the Claremore FYC. Claremore earned the Silver award easily and I feel sure with a little more push they can win the Golden Award in 1964. They are the second FYC in Oklahoma to earn a Mark of Merit. Keep up the good work.

Claremore, Oklahoma
1st & 2nd quarter 230 pts.
3rd & 4th quarter 140 pts.
Silver Mark 370 pts.

QUARTERLY REPORT

You will soon be receiving your quarterly report forms for the 1st quarter in 1964. Be sure and report all your activities of the first quarter. We can give you credit only when you

report your work.

Fill out your reports neatly and accurately. Also send them in as soon as you can. These matters help us tremendously on evaluation and may also help you especially if you are borderline concerning a Mark of Merit.

If for some reason your FYC doesn't receive a quarterly report blank by the end of the quarter, just write out your report and send it in. We would like to have the reports by April 15 if possible.

YOUR EFFORTS

Remember FYC, your group can be a beacon in your community. May it guide many souls to our wonderful Saviour and His glorious kingdom. Let us make an all out effort, for soon the night cometh when no man can work, and the days of opportunity and harvest will be over.

FYC NEWS and REMINDERS

Attention—Pen Pals!

If you would like to correspond with another FYC Member in Africa, names of those who would like pen pals are listed in the letter from Brother John Orie on page 24. Please write Jewel Linville for information.

FYC Pins

Response is beginning to pick up on FYC pins. Have you ordered yours? We are anxious to get these made up and out to all of you, but we must have 200 orders before we can take the big step. Let's reach the goal before April. If we don't reach it soon we will simply have to cancel the project entirely. All you need to do is drop us a card saying you would be interested in an FYC pin at the cost of \$2.15. We will put your name on the list. Better yet, order as a group. Have someone in your group, perhaps your leader or secretary, write us and tell us how many your group will want. Some FYC groups have done this already and others have notified us that they will be sending an order soon.

Attention, Leaders!

We want to keep our files up to date, so we are asking all FYC lead-

ers to re-register the members in your group. Several groups have done this already which we greatly appreciate. Among the groups that have re-registered we have found that many members have moved, married or become members since our last registration and occasionally we have been able to correct an error in birthdate or name-spelling, so we know this is an important and necessary step. It is also important to you if you are competing for a gold merit certificate this year. We would also like a list of your group's officers. Please don't put it off!

Coming Soon . . . FYC Yearbook

Work is steadily progressing on our 1963 Yearbook of projects, programs, and poems for FYC groups. This will be a mimeographed booklet and will be free to all FYC leaders on request. If you would like one, simply drop us a card. We hope to have these ready by the time this issue of AIM reaches you.

Pen Pals Wanted!

Albert is an 18-year-old soldier who is in Electronic School in New Jersey. He is originally of Denver, Colorado. Write to: P.F.C. Albert L. Smith, RA-17651053, Co. O Trp. Command U.S.A.S.C.S., Fort Monmouth, New Jersey 07703.



From the Mailbag

We want to share with you some letters which are typical of those we receive each month. We wish space would permit us to print the entire letter, but we have tried to pick out the meat of each one, hoping they will give you an idea how some of our groups and leaders are working.

San Antonio, Texas (Spanish group)

Since some of our young people have moved to another state, I feel

the need to register our young people again (enclosed)... We would also like 18 constitutions and membership cards for the names that are registered here... In one of our meetings we discussed the FYC pins, and some of our young people are interested in ordering one... Maybe we can make some kind of a plan and order for the whole group... I am glad to say that our group is going to send 15% of our funds to the national office... The following are the names that want to join the 2T4G program.

Alfred, North Dakota...

... Our group decided to send two gift subscriptions to the BIBLE ADVOCATE this month. We are also sending \$5.00 to the Free Tract Fund.

We ask for . . .

Comments— Your suggestions for Y. P. activities are helpful to both the National FYC office, and to local FYC groups. Send your letters—we can share them with others through AIM.

Testimonies— What blessings have been yours in recent years? Tell others. Send your letter or article to us that we might help you share your experience with others.

. . . Will you RESPOND?

Send to: Elden Fischer, 10601 E. 26th St.,
Independence, Missouri 64052

California...

I would like to have the Y. P. manual and any other literature concerning the FYC. We are endeavoring to organize our youth in a better way. Any suggestions or help you can offer will be appreciated.

We have chosen three reporters, whom you will be hearing from occasionally.

San Antonio, Texas (English group)

... I guess you wondered whether or not we were ever going to get started down here with the FYC organization. We finally held our first meeting January 19 here in San Antonio...

... We also want to begin the merit system... At our next meeting I will find out about FYC pin orders. (Registration and list of officers enclosed.)

... The AIM really means a lot to me and I enjoy reading every bit of it. I really like the 2T4G program. ... The Youth Question section is one which I think most of the young people will really enjoy and benefit from.

Let's all strive to make AIM a real success in 1964. Conroe, Texas...

The new year has begun and our local FYC group is hopeful of making 1964 a good year. We pray that the Lord will always be uppermost in our hearts and minds so that we can accomplish much for Him.

We had a business meeting last evening during which we elected officers and also discussed the merit system. We plan to be very active as a group in working for a merit award...

... As a group we voted for the motto, "Aiming God's way." "Our aim, His fame" was the second choice. Five members definitely want a lapel pin at the cost of \$2.15.

I started a new registration list. I will send it to you after next weekend when everyone has had a chance to register... I am enclosing a copy of our "Teen Talk" which we put out monthly...

Moundsville, W. Va. ...

The West Virginia FYC welcomed the new year and bounced off to a good start with their new officers and new projects for January. The new leader is Wayne Hall...

At the January rally the program presented was entitled "The Good Ship." Those who were present received a blessing from the presentation.

Sabbath afternoon, January 18, the F.Y.C. group assembled, prepared and distributed literature. A section of town was selected and over 300 pieces of Christian literature was handed out. This was their missionary project for the month of January. The local court granted the FYC permission to use an already hung tract rack in the courthouse. With the help of the pastor this rack is kept filled with the latest tracts from the publishing house.

The fund raising project for January sponsored by the FYC was the making and selling of candy... After a lot of hard work and sweet fun the group netted \$18.

The FYC reaffirmed a resolution to support the national FYC and support a foreign missionary... We hope in time to come all our FYC will have AIM in their homes...

Plan Now for Youth Camp This Summer

Write to:

IN MICHIGAN

Sleeper State Park, Near Caseville
June 21-28

Elder Floyd Turner
Rt. 5
Owosso, Michigan

IN MISSOURI

Sagmount Bible Camp, Near Joplin
June 15-21

Elden Fischer
10601 E. 26th Street
Independence, Missouri

IN OREGON

Silver Falls State Park, Near Silverton
June 10-17

Elder Rudolph Haffner
Rt. 3, Box 707
Junction City, Oregon

Radio Log

for

FAITH FOR OUR TIME

Canada, Chilliwack, B. C. CHWK (1270 kc)—5:30 p.m. Sun.	Iowa, Des Moines KIOA (940 kc)—6:45 a.m. Sun.
Mexico, Monterrey XEG (1050 kc)—10:30 p.m. Mon.	Michigan, Holland WJBL (1260 kc)—4:45 p.m. Sab.
Alabama, Scottsboro WROS (1330 kc)—7:15 a.m. Sab.	Missouri, Joplin KFSB (1310 kc)—9:15 a.m. Sun.
California, Modesto KTRB (960 kc)—9:00 a.m. Sun.	Missouri, St. Louis KXEN (1010 kc)—10 a.m. Sun.
Colorado, Brighton KBRN (800 kc)—9:00 a.m. Sun.	North Dakota, Jamestown KSJB (600 kc)—9:45 a.m. Sun.
Colorado, Grand Junction KEXO (1230 kc)—7:00 p.m. Sun.	Oregon, Portland KLIQ (1290 kc)—8:45 a.m. Sab.
Iowa, Cedar Rapids KCRG (1600 kc)—7:45 a.m. Sun.	Washington, Puyallup KAYE (1450 kc)—6:30 p.m. Tues. KAYE (1450 kc)—9:30 p.m. Thurs.
Kansas, Iola KALN (1370 kc)—9:15 a.m. Sab. KALN (1370 kc)—9:15 a.m. Sun.	Wisconsin, Eau Claire WEAQ (790 kc)—8:30 a.m. Sun.