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Aim

The magazine for young people



Many favors which God gives us ravel out for want of hemming, through our unthankfulness; for though prayer purchases blessings, giving praise keeps the quiet possession of them.—Fuller

Aim The magazine for young people

BRADEN ACRES
GRADE SCHOOL

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Hope E. Dais, Editor

We can be thankful to a friend for a few acres or a little money; and yet for the freedom and command of the whole earth, and for the great benefits of our being, our life, health, and reason, we look upon ourselves as under no obligation.—SENECA

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Building for Eternity

By Stanley J. Kauer

The Bible uses many different illustrations to show the meaning of true Christian living. One of these is the comparison of life to a building. All of us are builders and we are each day carrying on a work of life construction. What should we think about as we do this building? Jesus said:

"For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it" (Luke 14:28).

Now at first thought we might ask, *Who wants to build a tower? Surely we have no use for such a building—or of anything in the spiritual life which would compare to a tower.* But let us think again. As Christians, we are to let our light shine to others (Matt. 5:16). To be most effective, the light must be in an elevated position. In other words, to let our light shine over the stormy sea of life we need a lighthouse. And a lighthouse is a tower! So every one of us who is trying to live a Christian life is building a tower.

We can understand how that when one builds a material building he should count the cost of the materials, and of the labor; and make sure he has sufficient money to pay for them. What about the Christian life? Can it be purchased with money? Since we know that it cannot, how then are we to count the cost?

True commandmentkeeping Christian living means much more than simply deciding to join the church. As a person considers the matter

of becoming a true Christian, he or she must decide about giving up many things of the world which are not compatible to Christian living. The list will include such things as dancing, use of tobacco, most picture shows, alcoholic drinks, latest fads in dress and hair-do, jazz music, Bible forbidden foods, and decorative jewelry. No doubt you can think of other things which should be added to the list.

When one is really converted, he or she wants most of all to please the Lord and to be useful to Him. The things of the world lose their appeal. But still a choice must be made. Satan tries to get the young Christian to keep some of the things he should give up. Some professed Bible teachers fail to teach the full meaning of Christian living. They do not show what it really costs to build the Christian lighthouse tower. And some try to build, still keeping some false or degrading things in their lives. The result is that the lighthouse is not built—and no light shines forth. Far too many have *professed* to accept Christ, and they have been baptized, but they have kept their worldly ideas and ways. As a result, they do not have the joy of salvation and they hinder, rather than help, the work of the church. In a few years they drop out because they were never really in. Their lighthouse tower was never built because they did not count and pay the costs.

Laying the Foundation

There are many who do count the cost and who begin with the right foundation. This foundation is described in Hebrews 6:1, 2.

“... the foundation of repentance

from dead works, and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptism, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.”

The first three things in the true foundation of a Christian life are: faith, repentance, and baptism. There is no value in baptism without faith in God, and a true repentance from sin. But when one does truly believe, and truly repents, then baptism is necessary. We must follow the Bible pattern. There are people who say they believe in God and that they are living just as good a life as anyone in the church and have just as much chance for salvation, without baptism. But they are much mistaken. Salvation is not gained by simply living a “good life.” Salvation is through faith in Christ and obedience to His divine commands. “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved...” (Mark 16:16).

In Matthew 7 Jesus compares the Christian life to a house. If this house is built on the sands of false doctrines, unbelief, worldliness, and shame, the house will fall; the Christian life will not endure. But if built on the rock of God and His Word, the life will continue on to be useful for God, and will result in eventual salvation to the believer.

In northern latitudes it is important that the foundations of a house be deep enough to go below the frost line. In like manner, we live in a cold world and it is important that the foundations of the Christian life be deep enough to withstand the “cold” of the world. This includes the cynicism, false teachings, and ridicule of the world. The foundation will be deep if we study the Bible as instructed

in 2 Timothy 3:15. True study is a result of an appreciation of Bible truth, yes, even a love for it. In 2 Thessalonians 2:10 we are told of some who will be lost “because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.” Those who study and understand and love God’s truth, will be active in spreading it to others. They will be as described in 1 Corinthians 15:58 “... steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. . . .”

Building Materials

In a natural building, after a good foundation is laid it is important to use good materials for the walls. The same is true for the Christian life. We must follow the advice of the apostle Paul, “. . . But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereon” (1 Cor. 3:10).

In verse 12 we have a list of symbolic materials we may use. These are named as “gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble.” Now in a common building there might not be any gold or silver or precious stones. But we are building a temple for God as well as a lighthouse. Some materials of the temple of old were covered with gold. There were vessels of silver and decorations of precious stones. Into our Christian building must go the gold of true character which will not tarnish, and which endures the test of time. There must be the silver of truth and integrity, and the shining gems of love and holiness. But most of our building will be of wood which is plain every day living. We have our daily work and recreation and our worship. Much of daily life is rather drab and we do many of the same things every day. But as

long as our work and play is good and wholesome, it makes up a good “wall of life.” And just as we would not wish to build with rotten wood, so we must be careful that nothing defiling spoils the wall of our temple lighthouse.

The apostle mentions two other materials which some may be inclined to use. They are hay and stubble. Both are not only useless but absolutely harmful in a good building. They represent false fronts, filler, deceit and dishonesty. They have no place in our lighthouse wall.

The Built-up Christian

Having laid the good foundation, and having used the right building materials for our wall of life, we should continue as useful Christians, towers of light in a dark world. “That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world” (Phil. 2:15).

The Christian is also described in Colossians 2:7 as “rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.” The foundations here are compared to roots, and we have another illustration—that of a tree. The building with the good foundation and well-built walls endures and is useful for its purpose. The well-rooted tree grows and bears its proper fruit.

May we build a good foundation and good walls of life. May we realize that our life is the most important building we will ever build—the only one which will count for eternity. Let us make it a tower of light, and a holy temple for God.

What Made

the Difference?

By L. C. Clark

Susan threw herself across her bed. She could not cry and yet she felt so deeply confused.

John and Bill were home from the Academy. Tomorrow they would leave for summer camp. Mary had been home for several weeks from another academy. Tonight the four had double dated. They had often been together last year as classmates.

But tonight was different. Something new was revealed to Susan. Her old friends were changed. Mary and John still laughed and talked about experiences at church and summer youth camps. The thing that disturbed Susan the most was the way Bill had changed. Before he went to the Academy he took her where the gang hung out and would do things Susan liked. They had been a part of the gum-chewing, hip-angling crowd. Tonight Bill avoided all this. Susan was angry—but why she could not tell.

Pictures of gay high school days passed through her mind. Some were relived with great detail. They were in sharp contrast with this night. The question that cut deepest was, *What makes them so different?* She had tried to engage Bill in conversation on intimate subjects. He was cool and said, "Not quite the time or place to discuss the thought." Somehow

Susan could talk no more about it. She wanted to snuggle up close to Bill, but felt a slight withdrawal. Later Bill did put his arm around her. Though close to him, she felt there was always a space between them. Never had she admired a boy so much, and yet, never had she been so confused.

The four talked about many things. Both boys explained their summer work. For five weeks they were to be at the Church Youth Camp. John was to be in charge of recreation and Bill the director of Junior High groups. Susan was still smarting from Bill's question, "Why don't you come up and spend a week with us at the camp?"

Thus Susan thought over the evening events. Mary was so sweet. Her face glowed with life and purpose. John had always been a nice fellow, faithful to his church and a close friend of Bill. Tonight he was so mature and self-controlled. Susan could not avoid these facts. But the change she saw in Bill really upset her. His invitation to youth camp made Susan laugh to herself. She rose from the bed muttering coldly, "Me at a church camp... no, I cannot go." With this decision she repossessed herself and prepared for bed.

Weeks passed and the camp question kept gnawing inside. She did not see her friends again but their presence lingered deep inside. Mother urged her to go. At the little store where she worked, the question would torment her and she would thrill over the memory of her friends. Bill, once such a teen rowdy and now a real square. She came to realize she admired this square and this frustrated her all the more.

Camp only one week away. A strange longing to be with her friends compelled her to tell the boss she would be gone the following week.

Bill met Susan at the station. Tanned, strong, and with that pleasant smile, a person with realism written in every movement. Bill told her about the camp. Susan was silent, still awed over the change in this friend. Several Junior High boys were with him. They obeyed his quiet commands. Once a teen age rebel at home and school, now the master of forty, wild, restless boys at a summer church camp. She took her mirror, looked hard at herself. "Still as wild and restless as last year!" she thought.

To her surprise she found Mary a camp housemother to fifteen Junior High girls. How happy she was! Now she could talk to her old friend. But Mary was busy in the

things she loved, and had little time to talk.

The second evening at camp the pastor of the Academy church gave a message on VALUES. Many areas of life were pictured in contrast. He equated public education with Christian education. He gave great support to young people to attend a church academy. This struck Susan with sympathy and rebellion. Was this the answer to her muddled feelings?

That night she lay thinking about VALUES. Her values! She contrasted her values with what she could understand about her friends'. Back home she had many nice friends. She knew their values were not the same but she loved these friends. She could not find an answer, and inside she remained negative. One thought created great friction—*How can they be so simple, so quiet—and yet so happy?* With these questions of values she spent a restless night.

Up early, she walked down to the dock. To her surprise she found Bill working on the motor of the camp boat. He looked up at her and stared into Susan's red eyes. "What's the matter, Susan? You look sick."

"Bill, I am. I must go home! How soon can you take me to the bus?"

Bill stood in surprise. Rather con-

fused, he said, "I just cannot take you now, but I will have Mary arrange a way. Tell me, what is the trouble?"

"I can't . . . !" and she turned and ran up the path.

Mary was at her morning duties when Bill found her. He told her about Susan. Mary sent a counselor for the camp car, and at first chance Mary hurried to the cottage just as Susan was leaving for the car.

"Susan, please don't go yet! What can I do?" Mary asked.

Susan had tears in her eyes as she gave Mary a quick kiss, thanked her for her friendship and climbed into the car. "Tell the boys I enjoyed my stay and will see them next summer."

The weeks passed quickly and soon the young people were headed back to their schools.

John said, "Bill, I am certain we made the right choice!"

"It was of the Spirit, Pal. I would never want it different. You encouraged me to go to the Academy. You stuck with me until I accepted the Lord. It was just what I wanted, but it was so hard for me to give in."

"Thank you, Bill."

The two boys shook hands in token of their friendship and then Bill continued, "By the way, John, Mary would make a wonderful wife for you!"

John looked at Bill, thought a moment. "Some day we will have to make that decision. You know, Mary and I have thought a lot about Susan. Do you think she will make a decision?"

Bill became very serious and replied, "Yes, Susan made a decision. I am afraid it is not as I wanted it."

At Mid-winter vacation, the boys made a hurried trip home. Bill was anxious to learn about Susan. She had not answered his one letter, so now he phoned her. She was attending a big dance at the Musical Gardens. He thought, *I was right about her decision.* The next day Bill phoned again but Susan would not talk to him. The next April the boys learned that she married out of the church and several months later became mother to a baby boy.

Academy finished, college meant hard work at the books and at earning money. John majored in Business Administration and Bill decided for the ministry. The Conference assigned Bill to a good church. When a few years later he found his way back to his home town to hold a special Bible Conference, he made it a point to find Susan. Friendship was renewed. She was so pleased to see him—and she talked freely of her past.

"If I had only gone to the Academy as Mary and you wanted me to, things would have been so different. Look at John and Mary. You know, he is very successful; here you stand, a minister and leader in your church. Your Academy made the difference."

"No, not just the Academy, Susan. It was the things they taught me. They had great patience in showing me my errors. My fellowship with John and the life of my teachers affected me deeply. Susan, you can still accept Jesus. You can make a new life for yourself and family. True, you cannot go back and begin over in time, but you can begin over in purpose. Even more, you can send Philip to the Academy. Who knows the results of such decisions?"

While Bill was talking, Susan's
(Continued on page 23)

Which of the 3?

By Barbara Lucas

A person's life, whether a Christian or sinner, is more or less governed by principles, which are either man-made or God-inspired. Each individual in his own mind selects a set of principles by which he lives. These principles make us what we are. They regulate our actions and develop our personalities. That is why there are no two people exactly alike. To live a successful life, it takes a combination of both the man-made principles (those pertaining to our physical life) and the God-inspired principles (those pertaining to our spiritual welfare). Very seldom do we find even two Christians who live exactly alike. Although neither of them are sinners, yet we find that often they have different ideas on how to live the same principle. This, many times, accounts for the reason that one person is more strict on the same point than another. Yet in selecting our set of principles, we should never lose sight of the fact that God has His standard set. Our principles must measure up to HIS STANDARD if we are to please Him.

1. "WHAT'S THINE IS MINE,
AND I'LL TAKE IT."

2. "WHAT'S MINE IS MINE,
AND I'LL KEEP IT."

3. "WHAT'S MINE IS THINE,
AND I'LL SHARE IT."

There are three principles of living found in the Gospel. One of these three controls our character and attitude toward God and man. Jesus, in Luke 10:30-35, brought forth these principles in the familiar parable of the Good Samaritan. "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, leaving him half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side: Likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was, and when he saw him he had compassion on him and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, 'Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come, again, I will repay thee.'"

The first principle is portrayed in the character of the thief. "WHAT'S THINE IS MINE, AND I'LL TAKE IT." So often we see this principle displayed. There are so many people who think that the world owes them a living. These people receive God's blessing daily and feel God owes it to them for just being here. So they take and take all they can get—

some honestly and some dishonestly; and literally give Him nothing in return, not even thanks. Thus God's heart is wounded by such individuals.

The "What's thine is mine, and I'll take it" attitude can creep in on us, if we are not careful. It can make a thief of us, both toward God and our fellowman. It can cause us to do things in envy, that would steal another's joy or hurt one spiritually. If we are jealous of another's popularity and think it should be ours, the devil can cause us to try to steal it by slandering our friend—thereby taking what was rightfully his. The victim of such a thief is left much like the one in the parable: He's robbed of his respect, wounded in heart, and left half dead spiritually. Let us not be the cause of such a tragedy. This principle has no place in a Christian life.

The second principle of living is portrayed by both the priest and the Levite. They came by and saw the wounded man and passed by on the other side, leaving him stranded. In actions they said, "WHAT'S MINE IS MINE, AND I'LL KEEP IT." How often, we Christians, maybe unawares, possess this attitude; not only in material things, but also spiritually. We receive Christ as Saviour, accept His salvation, and enjoy His material blessings as well. Then we feel, "Now I'm set!" We do very little, if anything, to share what we have with others. In essence, we are saying, "What's mine is mine, and I'll

keep it." We need to take into consideration that what we have is not ours at all, but the Lord's. He has placed us here to be His stewards. He gives us salvation and material blessings, that we can share them with others; and thereby bring them to His saving grace. Are we His faithful stewards? The illustration also portrayed a church leader as well as an ordinary person. This tells me that even God's ministers must watch, lest they possess this selfish attitude. May God give us a real burden for souls; for that is our only safeguard against such a principle.

The principle of "what's mine is mine, and I'll keep it," can also hinder us from accepting Christ and serving Him faithfully. It can make us feel that our lives are our own, and what we do is our own business. A familiar saying is, "I'm my own boss, and I'll do as I please." Yet the Scriptures tell us that we are NOT OUR OWN. We are bought with a price, and have an obligation to glorify God in body, and spirit (1 Cor. 6:19, 20). Therefore, a person cannot possess the "what's mine is mine" principle and be a Christian.

The third principle of life was portrayed by the good Samaritan. He saw the same man in a helpless condition, and had compassion on him. His many deeds showed that His principle in life was, "WHAT'S MINE IS THINE, AND I'LL SHARE IT." This should be the attitude of every Christian toward God and man. With such an attitude,

God can work in our hearts and lives. He will hold first place, and His will becomes our desire. We will put forth our time, money, and effort to the upbuilding of His kingdom here on earth.

Likewise, this principle will possess a love for all mankind. We will find joy in serving one another; especially the needy, the sick, and most of all, the sinner—for he has the greatest need. We will do all we can to bring joy to others, and share the blessings Christ has so freely given us. He said, "Freely ye have received, freely give." We will be ever so eager to see souls saved and share with others the good news of the Gospel.

Had not Christ possessed this principle, He never would have left heaven, and suffered so for us; then given His life that we, who are so undeserving, could be saved and enjoy eternity with Him. He didn't have to do this; for Jesus Himself said that no man took His life, but He gave it freely. And God so loved that He freely gave His Son. They both, saying to the world, "What's Mine is thine, and I'll share it."

How would we feel today had they both taken the attitude—"What's thine is mine, and I'll take it"? We would be of all men most miserable, I'm sure. For we'd have no blessings. And what we did get, He'd take from us. But we know we serve a God who is willing to give us so much more than we can even ask for. What would be our sit-

(Continued on page 23)

1966 European Goodwill Tour

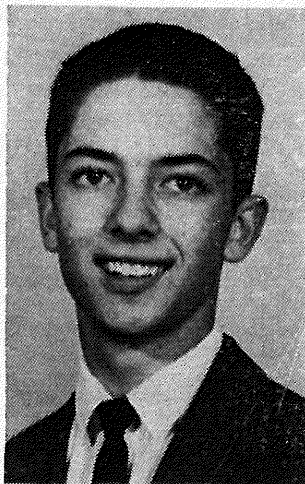
By Jim Fischer

Jim is the president of the Eureka F.Y.C. (which you will find featured on page 21 in our Merit Program). An active and enthusiastic group, one of their recent projects was the purchase of a Highway sign advertising the local church.

On July 24, 1966, one hundred thirty-five teenagers and myself met at The International Music Camp to participate in the 1966 European Goodwill Tour. The camp is located at the International Peace Gardens on the border between Canada and North Dakota.

In 1965, we had been interviewed and auditioned by Dr. Merton Utgaard, director of the International Music Camp. Chosen for the trip were students from 14 states and provinces. There were 60 voices in the choir and 76 students in the concert band; I sang bass in the choir. Included on the trip were chaperones, instructors, publicity directors and one nurse, which brought the total number of persons included on the tour to 148.

The first four days were spent at the camp practicing our mu-



JIM FISCHER

sic. Fifteen songs had to be memorized prior to the trip. During the practice session we presented various concerts in the North Dakota area, traveling by chartered buses.

All of our meals and lodging had been prepaid. We stayed at various colleges and hotels during the trip. Our means of transportation in Europe was by bus, train and ship. We stayed about 3 or 4 days in each country.

We presented a series of 24

concerts in the United States, Canada, England, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Sweden and Norway. Also included in the group was a twirler from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

On July 29, we left Winnipeg International Airport for London, England, on a 165-passenger World Airways Jet; we had a fine flight lasting only seven and one-half hours.

Our first concert in England was on the shore of the North Sea at a summer resort; other concerts were at Ealing and London. Sightseeing highlights of England were: The changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace; Windsor Castle; Westminster Abbey; the Parliament buildings; the Tower of London; Stratford, the town where Shakespeare lived; and St. Paul's Cathedral, the second largest church in the world. Also, in London there are 11,000 double-decked buses, 6,000 taxi cabs, and over 2,700 miles of underground subway.

I soon found that I had a problem—by the time I had the English money system figured out, we left for Belgium.

In Belgium, most of our time was spent in Brussels. Our concert in Brussels had an audience of 2,000 people. Highlights of Belgium were: the sight of the Battle of Waterloo in which Napoleon was defeated; the atomium at the site of the 1958 World's Fair; and the Zoological Gardens at Antwerp.

In Amsterdam, Holland, one can get to any part of the city

by using the canals. We took a tour of the canals and the harbor at Amsterdam. We also saw the house in which Rembrandt, the famous painter, lived for 20 years; and the Ricksmuseum which has many of his paintings. Other highlights in Holland were the visits to a diamond-cutting factory and a wooden shoe factory. (I brought back a pair of wooden shoes for my sister.) Many of the farmers and the workers in Greenhouses still wear wooden shoes. We also made a recording for a radio station while we were in Holland.

On August 11, we had a 14-hour train trip which took us from Amsterdam, Holland, Copenhagen, Denmark. Most of the trip took us through Germany. It looks a lot like home—rolling prairies and grain fields. When we crossed a portion of the North Sea, our train was put on the ship and when we got to the island of Denmark, the engineer drove our train off of the ship, and we were on our way to Copenhagen. Highlights of Denmark were the Mermaid, the Palace, and Tivoli Gardens—a large amusement park like Disneyland.

When we got to Stockholm, Sweden, we attended an opera, saw the palace, and the city hall in which the Nobel Prizes are given. All of the Nobel Prizes except the Peace Prize are awarded here.

Our next stop was Oslo, Norway. I liked Norway better than any other country in Eur-

ope; it was filled with trees, mountains and lakes. While in Norway we visited a historical park where they keep old Norwegian houses, farms, and churches. We saw some old Viking ships, the Kon Tiki (a raft which crossed the Pacific from Peru to the Polynesian Islands), and the ship which Amundson, Sverdrup, and Nansen took on expeditions to both of the poles. The Nobel Peace Prize is given at the Oslo city hall; we also visited this place. Also in Norway we saw a huge ski jump that is used for international competition, and a sculpture park which was created by the Norwegian sculpturer, Vigilante.

We gave three concerts while we were in Norway. When we got to the city of Larvic, Norway, we heard a band and thought there must be some sort of celebration; but we found out that the celebration was for us, since we were the first American group to come to their city. Later in the day, their band members went swimming with us.

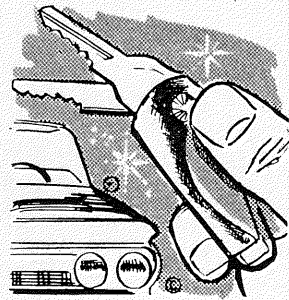
We left Oslo on the 21st of August for Winnipeg. We had a half-hour stop at Scotland.

It was good to be back on American soil, and a pleasant surprise was added when I found out that my vocal instructor from Eureka was in Winnipeg to meet us and to attend the concert that night.

We presented four concerts, plus a recording session. On Au-

(Continued on page 27)

I've Got



"I'VE GOT THE CAR tonight!" These words have been the prelude to an evening of tragedy for hundreds of teenage young people.

They have introduced an evening when healthy, vibrant young people have started out with the whole world ahead of them, only to end in a horrible traffic accident that claimed life and limb.

This year a young man died in a hospital. He had lain in the hospital, a patient, for ten years as a result of an automobile accident which occurred when he was a teen-ager. Ten years of pain, ending in death, is a terrible price to pay for carelessness!

A carload of teen-agers, starting out for a neighboring city

the Car Tonight

By Charles Van Ness

to see a high school basketball game, never completed the trip. A major highway accident, which took the life of the young driver and injured his passengers, thrust its chilling hand of death into the evening of fun.

Why do so many teen-agers have accidents? Why is it so hard for young people to obtain insurance? What is the cause of these tragic accidents? Is it because a teen-ager is a poor driver? Is it due to lack of driving judgment? Can a teen-age driver not know and obey traffic laws?

If what safety experts say is true, the real cause behind most traffic accidents is Satan! According to B. L. Corbett, managing director of the Milwaukee Safety Commission, the basic causes of traffic accidents are greed, selfishness, and disregard for the rights of others.

In other words, traffic accidents are caused by an attitude of heart. An attitude that reveals qualities which Satan has planted in the life. It is the spirit of Satan, not Christ, that

makes the driver greedy, selfish, and thoughtless of others.

Speaking further about accident causes, Corbett said a me-first attitude on the part of motorists is responsible for much of the trouble on the highway. When a teen-ager slips behind the wheel of the family car, whom is he going to please, Christ or Satan? The real answer to this question will be expressed in the way he handles the car when his best girl is by his side and his friends are in the back seat.

Technical advances have been made in the automobile of our day. Not only is more horsepower and comfort at our disposal when we drive a modern car, but built into the automobile is a long lifespan. Since 1925, the average life of an automobile has doubled. Six and a half years was once the average age of vehicles. Today the usual age of worn-out cars is twelve years or more.

Yet, any of us can drive to the nearest junkyard and see the twisted body and shattered

glass of a 1965 automobile that has ended its life of service at the scene of an accident—an accident that might also have taken the life of the driver. Is it not time for Christian young people to come to the forefront for Christ in the matter of traffic safety?

Cannot young people feel that the born-again driver who waits courteously for the car who does not have the right-of-way is the hero, rather than the hot rodder who cuts in front of a speeding car? Cannot Christian

teen-agers respond to the impulses that Christ puts in the heart to be generous and thoughtful, rather than the attitudes of Satan to be greedy, selfish, and disrespectful?

The next time you take the car, why not show off in front of the crowd? But show off for Christ. Do it by burying the me-first attitude, and drive with an others-first frame of mind.

You will please Christ if you do. And you will probably find that you are able to say more often: "I've got the car tonight!"

—Lighted Pathway

Taken for Granted?

November 24 marks another national holiday. Thanksgiving Day. During this time we especially think of the many blessings God has given us during the past year.

Some blessings that we receive are often taken for granted—like shelter, food, clothing, and good health.

Let's consider each of these items:

Shelter. Do you have a roof over your head? Clean sheets to crawl between at bedtime? Or do you sleep in a dirty dark alley amongst some discarded boxes? Think of the people that do sleep this way.

Food. We may say we don't have much food. We have plenty, and still complain, because our neighbors have more. I often think of a story I heard when I was a small child. Some missionaries came back from Africa, and told how some of the children sucked the juice from their leftover meat bones, also how the children would go along by the canteens, and reach in the spit barrels, hoping to obtain nourishment from this. Shame on us for throwing so much food away!

Clothing. God will clothe us. We don't need the most expensive garments just to show up others, but we need to wear modest, clean, and comfortable clothing.

Good Health. So many people are suffering in ways that we can't imagine, and still with their crippled bodies they help others, and work for God in so many ways, but we with strong bodies are so lax.

Let us not take these blessings for granted, but thank God for them daily. Read Matthew 6:25-34.

—Phyllis Hayford



Winter Wonderland Retreat

For all young people, ages 15 through 25.

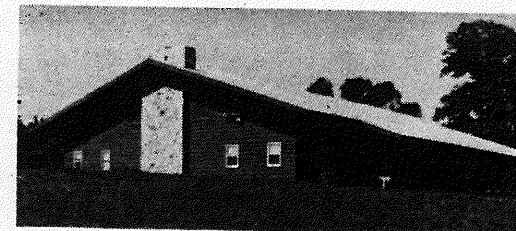
SOMETHING NEW: Christian Fellowship for Young Adults your age. An opportunity to have a real experience with God in a beautiful Winter Wonderland setting. Winter sports as recreation: Snowmobile rides, Ice Skating, etc.

DECEMBER 30, 31, and JANUARY 1 at Lake Beauty Covenant Bible Camp located 7½ miles east of Long Prairie, Minnesota, on Highway 27 and 1¾ miles north.

ATTENTION: Working Young People, this is an opportunity for you to get away from that job to enjoy Christian Fellowship with people your age! Students, plan to include this event in your vacation activities.

For further information and application write:

Elder Delvin O'Banion, Box 176, Eureka, South Dakota 57437



**Lake Beauty
Covenant
Bible
Camp**

Being able to say "I love and worship God," to everyone we meet is one of the greatest things to be thankful for in 1966. I don't think we can even fully imagine how drastic it would be to not be able to worship God without fear. It is so wonderful to be able to have church, youth programs, camps, retreats, projects, and socials. Sometimes, I am afraid that we take these things for granted.

Let's take advantage of our freedom to have and express our religion. Get on the band-wagon for Christ! Help with all of the church activities. You will receive so many more blessings if you are an active Christian, than if you are the type who stands by and watches everyone else do all the work and have the fun.

A simple recipe for having more things to be thankful for is to be *willing* to do everything you possibly can for your church and youth group. God will richly bless you if you are willing to serve Him!—Margie McGill

The Lord gives us many blessings every day, which I am very thankful for; but I am especially grateful to be able to attend Spring Vale again this year. I thank the Lord I was able to "bring" my family with me this time. I am certainly glad that this is a free country in which I am able to attend a Christian school and learn about the wonderful truths of the Bible.—Martha Heavilin

I am thankful this year for many things. I am thankful most of all for the way the Lord has blessed me, and for the promise and hope of eternal life. We need to be thankful for this every year.

It has saddened me to see all the lost souls who are out in this world without any hope at all. This has been brought to my view by traveling through many large cities on this year's Youth Tour. I am thankful that I know the Lord and it is my desire and my prayer to be used in a way that I can reach souls for Christ and that they too may have this hope of eternal life.

—Kenneth Knoll



God is so near to us when we open our hearts to Him. So many times I've failed the Lord but He has lifted me to start anew. It seems I can never thank Him enough for it. Aim's inspiring and challenging articles have strengthened my life in Christ.—Joanne Nienhuis

If I tried to list all the reasons why I am thankful in 1966, it would take a long time and a lot of space. But just because they're innumerable doesn't mean I shouldn't thank God every day of my life for the bountiful blessings He bestows upon me.

In admonishing the people of Ephesus concerning Christian duties, Paul said, "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Ephesians 5:20).

May we each strive to be more appreciative of God's loving kindness.

—Kathleen Roche



Why I Am Thankful in '66



I'm thankful to be able to attend Midwest and Maryville State College. The spiritual atmosphere here at Midwest cannot be measured! We are receiving many blessings, and being spiritually fed from many inspiring messages.

Often I have the privilege to work in the publishing house. This to me is a blessing. The other day I helped with the Bible Advocate, and Junior Quarterly. I helped put together over 5,000 tracts today. My back started aching. Then I thought, "If only one soul were won from those tracts—or interest aroused, it would be worth a dozen backaches." I thought of the different homes these papers go into, and how many people actually read them, and how many Christian people are spiritually fed because of these papers. This to me is a blessing in return.

Let Thanksgiving Day be every day, and give God Abundant Thanks.

—Phyllis Hayford

Living at SVA, I am thankful for the school and the faculty. At Spring Vale there is a challenge before every student to live a Christian life for our Lord.

I thank the Lord for all of the many wonderful blessings that He has given us at Spring Vale.

The students that came here this year were looking for a closer walk with God, and the Lord has already answered many prayers. This I am thankful for.

There are many things in which I am thankful. But the one that sticks out in my mind most of all is Jesus. I only wish that I could do more for the Saviour.

How can anyone say there is no God?—Ivan Burrell

Editorial

One young 6-year-old, assuring his parents he wouldn't pick up the words his playmate was heard using, put it this way: "You don't need to worry! Sometimes they go around a few times, but they don't come out." Asked where they go around, the reply was, "In my brain."

We could profitably use this child's theory in our own everyday conversation. James' familiar observation is, "... If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body."

We would surely find it desirable, when the impulse-to-speak-out invades, to first let it "go around a few times" while we decide whether it should "come out."

Jesus said, "For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned" (Matt. 12:37).

If you and I really took this statement literally and seriously, don't you think we would let our words "go around" a few more times before we speak out?

It seems to have become sort of a virtue to be one who comes up with a quick, smart answer in just *any* situation.

Have you tried to cultivate that "virtue" yourself? Maybe too many of us are on the wrong track. It may give you sort of a thrill to describe how you really "set Professor Green back" with your quick answer—and you might even get a round of laughter. But quite possibly most, if not all, of those who hear your colorful account, will come to the rather subconscious conclusion that you really are a rather rude, inconsiderate person.

I like the account of Jesus' conduct as given in John 8. Before He answered a word, He stooped and wrote on the ground. I'm sure we would agree that Jesus, in His wisdom, didn't need time to think over what He would say. Yet, He recognized the expediency of this lapse of time.

Proverbs says, "Seest thou a man that is hasty in his words? There is more hope of a fool than of him."

Another aspect of this matter might be introduced with the saying, "You can always tell a wise man by the smart things he does not say."

How is it with *you*? Do you have to have every little thing that comes to your mind? When the conversation becomes lively, are you discontent unless you can chime in some kind of a remark of your own? Or can you listen contentedly unless you have something really worthwhile to contribute?

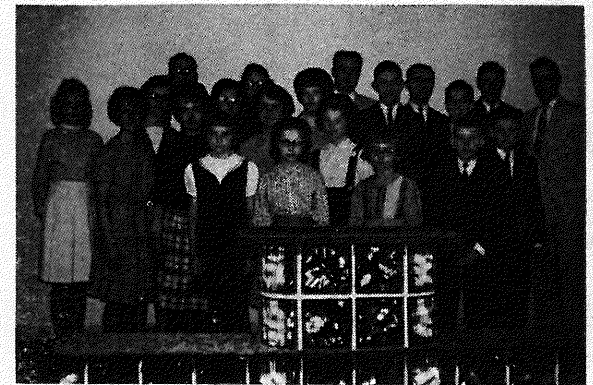
Let it "go around a few times in your brain." Okay?

Make a Mark of Merit

By Nathan Lawson

This month in this program we want to feature some of the accomplishments of the second quarter of the 1966 Mark of Merit year. There were many activities carried on by our FYC groups across the nation during the second quarter. Most of these projects were efforts to see the work of Jesus Christ go forward. It does one's heart good to know that our young people are concerned about our Church and especially concerned about people who are unsaved.

Several of the reports for this quarter were outstanding. I thought Eureka, S. D. had an especially good report, so I have chosen to feature it in this month's AIM. Here is Eureka's second quarter report of activities:



The Eureka FYC group featured this month. President: Jim Fischer; Vice-President: Mylo Fischer; Sec.-Treas.: Vicki Moldenhauer.

Standard I. FYC Organization—Completed the first quarter.

Standard II. Registering FYC—Completed the first quarter.

Standard III. Rallies or Youth Meetings. 30 pts.
Three Youth Rallies held.

Standard IV. Projects 45 pts

1. The young people purchased a sign to advertise the Church. It cost an estimated \$122.80.

2. The youth spent 4 hours one day distributing Searchlight Radio broadcast handbills and tracts.

3. The young people send a card to each contact of the Searchlight Radio Program. This card offers them a one-year free subscription to the Bible Advocate or Aim to be paid by the Eureka FYC.

4. They gave 7 gift subscriptions to the Bible Advocate and 5 gift subscriptions to the Aim during this quarter.

Standard V. Socials 20 pts.
The young people held two socials to provide activities for their FYC members.

Standard VI. Business Meetings 5 pts.

Two business meetings were held.

Standard VII. Quarterly Report 5 pts.

Their report was on time and very well completed.

Standard VIII. National Support 10 pts.

They sent \$12.78, 15% of

their total second quarter income to the National FYC to carry on the National work.

Standard IX. Foreign Worker—Completed the first quarter when they sent \$6.00 to help support our Foreign Worker.

Standard X. Aim in all FYC member homes—completed the first quarter.

We have many groups of young people who are very active in the gospel work. We praise the Lord for this. We also have some groups who are not very enthused with this important work. We hope that we will all be inspired to do greater things for our Master.

OUTSTANDING PROJECT OF QUARTER

Harrisburg, Oregon, completed the most outstanding project of the quarter. They built a large float and entered it in a local parade. It won the grand prize. Congratulations to the Harrisburg FYC. A picture of this float may be found in the September AIM.

OTHER WORTHWHILE PROJECTS included:

Sending 1,000 tracts through the mail. Giving a \$5 donation to Spring Vale each month. Sending up balloons to advertise Sabbath school and Church. Singing regularly for shut-ins. Building a new bulletin board. Giving free Bibles to needy people. Running concession stand at camp meeting to raise money to help a foreign student attend Midwest Bible College. There were also many other worthwhile projects.

NATIONAL FYC SUPPORT

Many FYC groups send in very good contributions to the National FYC. This involves 15% of their total income for the quarter. We are thankful for this support. We want to work toward a full-time youth worker for the Church of God. We already have need for such a worker and with prayer and faithful support we hope to be able to have such a worker in the future.

TAHLEQUAH, OKLAHOMA, is leading in total Mark of Merit points. There are several groups that are well on their way to winning a Golden Mark of Merit Award. Continue to work for the Lord.

EUREKA, SOUTH DAKOTA, is leading in the effort to win the LIGHT HOUSE AWARD (FYC of the year in the Church of God). There are several other groups that have an excellent chance to win this award. REMEMBER, the total Mark of Merit points will be added to the total Bonus points at the end of the year to determine the Light House Award winner. Work hard! Everything we do is one more thing we accomplish for Christ before He will be coming again in the clouds of heaven.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 1967—a new Mark of Merit Year.

I want to mention now that in January, 1967, a new Mark of Merit year will begin. If your youth group is not active in this program, **START PLANNING NOW** to work through this program next year, 1967. **WRITE NOW** for your FYC Manual (35¢ each). Organize your group of young people and start working through the Mark of Merit program. It means that you will have to work hard for Jesus Christ, but I know that this is the only thing that is worthwhile in this life.

If you have questions about this program, feel free to write, so that when the new year begins you will be ready to work for our Master. My address is: Nathan Lawson, Midwest Bible College, Stanberry, Missouri.

In closing, I want to say to each one of you young people, "Be faithful to God." Let us each one look ahead to 1967 and then look into the future to the day when **ETERNAL LIFE WILL BE OURS**, and we can see Jesus Christ face to face.

Pray for the work of the young people.

WHICH OF THE THREE?

(Continued from page 11)

uation had they felt, "What's mine, is mine, and I'll keep it"? We would have no chance for Salvation or Eternal Life. We'd be **DOOMED!** How thankful we should be, and so willing to give our lives as a living sacrifice unto Him. God grant that today might be the day we'd say, "**GOD, WHAT'S MINE IS THINE; I GIVE MY ALL TO THEE.**"

* * *

WHAT MADE THE DIFFERENCE?

(Continued from page 8)

face became bright. Tenseness was gone; her tears stopped, and a deep smile recalled earlier days.

"Bill, I think you have said just what I needed to hear. I have told Philip about the difference I could see in the *Christian* fellows when we were

young. He wants to be like you and John were. If the Church Academy can do for Philip what it has done for you, I want him to go."

At that moment a car stopped in the drive and Susan's husband came promptly into the house. After short introductions, Joe said, "May I call you Bill?"

Assurance granted, he continued. "Bill, I just came from a good friend of yours. We have had several talks recently. He is a wonderful person. You know Bill, I just may be at your church tonight. Susan, John and Mary will be after us."

* * *

*There is a place in God's good grace
Where one may rest his soul,
In spite of strife around his life
Where evils surge and roll;
For God is there to answer prayer
By day or darkest night;
So 'neath His wings he trusts and
sings*

And fears no curse nor blight.

—Walter E. Isenhour

What Thanks Can We Render ?

By Verna McCoy

What thanks can we render to God? This question found in 1 Thess. 3:9 can be answered for us in Ephesians 5:20, "Giving thanks always for ALL things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Our blessings are far too numerous to count, but at this Thanksgiving season it would be beneficial to consider some of the things for which we should be grateful.

Foremost in our thoughts should be thanks for the gift of salvation through God's beloved Son. Also thanks for His Word, the Holy Spirit, and the privilege of prayer; which all enable us to give us the desire to draw nearer to Him.

Though often taken for granted, we should not neglect to give sincere thanks for our daily material blessings of food, raiment, and shelter. Sometimes it is especially difficult for us as young people to resist the desire to have the latest in fashionable attire or to be clad in a "go-go" mode. But we are admonished in 1 Tim. 6:6, 8 that "godliness with contentment is great gain," and "having food and raiment let us be therewith content." (Even though the food may not be steak, and the clothes often hand-me downs.)

There are intangibles for which we can express our gratitude, too. If we are Christians, we can be very grateful for peace of mind.

The next time you get to feeling "snowed under" with homework, thank God for the ability to learn, reason, and evaluate.

M I N U T E M A N

As I see gorgeous fall leaves fluttering by the window I am once again thankful for mental and physical facilities to perceive the handiwork in God's magnificent creation.

For the love and kindnesses of family and friends we ought to render thanks.

"To have a friend is to have one of the sweetest gifts that life can bring; to be a friend is to have a solemn and tender education of soul from day to day."—*Anna R. Brown Lindsay*

If we are striving to live close to the Lord and grow spiritually we will be able to recognize His divine leading in all things and we will thank Him for the trials as well as the abundant blessings.

It may be extremely difficult to express gratitude for tribulations, but "knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope" (Rom. 5:3, 4) gives us ample reason to be joyous.

Many of you readers are students in a public school and are having your faith tested often in regard to Friday night activities, etc. If you can be victorious over these temptations your faith will certainly increase and you can experience joy and thanksgiving in knowing you are striving to do what is right.

If you are attending a church school, thank God for making it possible; remembering that your faith will be tested there, too, because a church school campus is not off-limits to Satan.

"If anyone would tell you the

shortest, surest way to happiness and all perfection, he must tell you to make it a rule to yourself to thank and praise God for everything that happens to you. For it is certain that whatever seeming calamity happens to you, if you thank and praise God for it, you turn it into a blessing."—*William Law*

We do indeed need to be thankful for good health; particularly so when we realize there are literally thousands handicapped physically and mentally. But Christians are not exempt from sickness. Sometimes it takes sickness to slow us down enough for us to learn lessons of eternal value. With eternity's values in view, we can praise God on beds of affliction.

"Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby" (Hebrews 12:11).

So we see that even discipline, wisely given, is something for which to be thankful.

I hope that as you read this brief listing of things for which to be thankful, you will call to mind the blessings that have been yours in particular.

Think about these things often. If we would give more thanks each day it would remove many of the grumbles and gripes and replace everyday friction with joy and happiness.

The following verses are for
(Continued on page 27)

2T₄G - Take Time for God

By Vivian Hall

If you were to have dinner guests at your house, I wonder what kind of food you would serve? Would you feel it was a good chance to get rid of last night's leftover roast, and other odds and ends you'd been putting back during the week? I hardly think any of us would do such a thing. Would we not be planning the best menu we know how to fix, and then when we select the food for that menu make it the best? We would be most careful that the meat be the choicest with no marks or blemishes to detract from its tempting appearance. We would make sure the table was set to show off to the best advantage careful preparations.

In Malachi God is warning of the careless conditions of Israel at that time. Even the priest whose duty it was to look after the sacrifices upon the altar was not careful to select the choice lamb. He had become careless, or perhaps selfish in wishing to keep the best for himself.

Is it sometimes our failing today also? Do we wish to keep the best for ourselves? Do we tend to begrudge God our loyalty to Him—our service to Him?

Are our offerings given freely and joyfully or do we count first to see if we can spare a certain amount? Do we think of things we could have bought with that amount even as we give? Why should our house guests be so much more worthy of our special attention? What have *they* really done for us? For One Who loved us enough to give His life that we might live, we do not return even the courtesy of the best food. The priests were guilty of selecting second-best to offer as sacrifice.

I wonder about our service to our Lord today—are we still offering second-best? Are our lives only second-best—our thoughts of God only second thoughts while our first thoughts concern ourselves

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

and our comforts? I wonder how "comfortable" the cross was? Do you not think it grieves our Heavenly Father when He sees our lack of interest in spiritual things? How He must mourn our lack of spiritual concern! Truly we need an awakening to the duty that is ours. Let us make of our lives the very best specimen—without spot or blemish, and let us serve Him with our best effort. Let us not be satisfied with that effort until it can be called perfect—not by man for he sees only the outside, but by God Who sees our hearts. As we read the chapters for this month, let us consider our lives—*really* consider them, then let us pray for God's help in perfecting our lives.

AUTUMN SPEAKS IN WHISPERS

By Carolyn Clements

*The lingering leaves rustle
and whisper gaily-painted tales
to the brisk tune
of the autumn wind.*

*The dying sun
in all its glory
enshrines the age-old
brick and ivy
of the tallest cathedral spire.*

*The earth at dusk
is vibrant with the deep,
yet bright, hazy blue
of the autumn sky.*

*And I sit—alone,
but not caring,
not regretting
while lost in the beauty
of my Father's world.*

* * *

1966 European Goodwill Tour

(Continued from page 14)

gust 24, we had a farewell banquet at Bismarck, North Dakota, and then presented our final concert that night. This concert was highlighted by seeing our parents, relatives and friends.

I enjoyed the trip very much, I thank God for a safe journey and I wish to thank the Brothers and Sisters for their prayers.

* * *

MINUTEMAN

(Continued from page 25)

you to memorize in November and thereafter. If you have kept up-to-date on your memorization, the first one will merely be review as it was assigned in September also.

Colossians 4:2

Psalms 66:2

Psalms 100:4

Psalms 145:3

1 Corinthians 15:57

2 Corinthians 9:11

Ephesians 5:20

1 Thessalonians 5:18

* * *

People don't always believe everything they hear, but often repeat it just to be on the safe side.

* * *

Not he that reads most, but he that meditates most on divine truth, proves the wisest, choicest Christian.

A Paraphrase on The Acts of the Apostles

(Continued)

By Nathan Straub



THE GOSPEL SPREADING 11:19

Now the ones who had become scattered because of the persecution that came because of Stephen, traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch. They preached the word to no one but the Jews. Some of those men who were evangelizing were from Cyprus and Cyrene. When they came to Antioch they preached to the Grecians, telling them about the Lord Jesus. The power of the Lord was with them and a great number believed and turned to the Lord.

When news of these events came to those of the church in Jerusalem, they sent Barnabas to go to Antioch.

When Barnabas arrived and saw the result of the grace of God, he was happy, and told them all that with the conviction of their hearts, they would cling to the Lord. Barnabas was a righteous man, filled with the Holy Spirit and faith. Because of his work, many people were added to the Lord.

Barnabas left for Tarsus to find Saul.

When he had found Saul, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year then, Saul and Barnabas met with the church and taught many people.

The disciples were first called Christians, in Antioch.

In those days prophets came from Jerusalem to Antioch. One of them, named Agabus, stood and indicated, by the Spirit, that there would be a great famine throughout the whole world. This, then, did happen during the reign of Claudius.

The disciples decided to send help to the brethren living in Judea and each man was to give what he could. They did this and sent the help to the elders through the care of Barnabas and Saul.

CHAPTER 12

JAMES WAS KILLED 12:1

About that time, Herod the king, made it his business to torment some persons of the church. He killed James, the brother of John, with a sword.

PETER WAS IMPRISONED 12:3

When Herod saw that his persecution of the church pleased the Jews, he

went further and seized Peter, too. This happened in the days of unleavened bread.

When the king had arrested Peter, he put Peter in prison and had him guarded with four sets of four soldiers, to retain him. The king intended to present Peter to the people after the Passover.

Peter was then kept in prison; but prayer to God was being made unceasingly for him by the Church.

The night before Herod would have brought Peter out for presentation, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers. He was held by two chains and the guards outside the door kept the prison secure.

Then a light shined in the prison and an angel of the Lord came to Peter. The angel struck Peter on the side, raised him up and said, "Get up quickly." Then his chains fell off his hands. The angel said, "Dress yourself and tie on your sandals." Peter did as the angel instructed. The angel continued, "Wrap your robe around yourself and follow me."

Peter went out and followed the angel. Peter did not know that what the angel had done was true. He thought he saw a vision. After they passed the first and second wards, they came to the iron gate that leads to the city. The iron gate opened for them by itself. They went out and went through a street. At this point, the angel left Peter.

When Peter came to his full senses, he said, "Now I know for sure, that the Lord has sent His angel and has freed me from the grip of Herod; and from everything the Jewish people were expecting would happen to me."

As Peter thought of this, he came to Mary's house. Mary was the mother of John Mark. At Mary's house, many had gathered and were praying.

Peter knocked at the gate and a young girl named Rhoda came to see who was there. When Rhoda recognized Peter's voice, she was happily excited and failed to open the gate. She ran in the house and said that Peter was standing outside the gate.

The people said to her, "You are confused."

But Rhoda insisted that it was true, so the people said, "It is his angel."

Peter kept knocking and when they opened the gate and saw him, they were amazed. Peter waved with his hand indicating that he wanted silence. He told them about how the Lord had freed him from prison. He said, "Go tell this to James and the brethren."

Then Peter left and went to another place.

When daytime came, a large stir was made because no one could account for Peter.

When Herod had looked for Peter and could not find him, he questioned the guards and ordered that they be executed.

HEROD AT CAESAREA 12:19b

Herod went from Judea to Caesarea and stayed there.

Herod was highly displeased with the people of Tyre and Sidon; but they made Blastus, the king's assistant, their friend. Using Blastus, they came to Herod as one man, wanting peace. This was because the people of Tyre and Sidon lived on the aid from Herod's country.

On a set day, Herod sat on his throne, dressed in royal robes and made a speech to his callers. They shouted, "This is the voice of a god, not of a mere man."

Immediately the Lord's angel struck Herod. He was eaten by worms and died because he did not give God the honor.

THE WORD GREW 12:24

The word of God grew and multiplied.

Barnabas and Saul left Jerusalem after they had finished their ministry there. They took John Mark with them.

(To be continued)

From Across the Seas

Reported by Jewell Linville

Atheism in Germany

"OUR CHURCH HAS TO GO THROUGH A GREAT TEST . . ."

Brother Helmut Strauss writes:

"I would have written sooner, but I have been sick for several weeks. But thanks to the Lord . . . All brothers and sisters here in Germany were praying for me and I am sure the Lord has accepted all those prayers. Now I am able to work again and answer your letter.

"Our Church of God Mission work here in Germany is very young. Right now we are moving forward very slowly. *Our Church has to go through a great test.* It is going up and down. Our mission work here in Germany is entirely different than yours in the U.S.A. because we have to deal with two state churches. The Roman Catholic Church and with the Lutheran Church. And it is very hard to draw people out of those state churches. It is a hard fight for every soul. And they also fight very hard against us. But thanks to the Lord for this we could establish so far under those circumstances.

"WE HAVE ONCE IN A WHILE A NICE CONCERT . . ."



"We also have a number of young people which are attending regularly our meetings including our son, Ernest. He is right now 15 years old. Altogether we have around ten in the age between 10 and 15 years old. We also have a number under this age. So we hope and pray, that those boys and girls will stay in the right faith like the parents. Our boy,

Ernest, is the only one who knows the English language. Those boys and girls are also playing piano—guitar—mandolin—and flute. *So we have once in a while a nice concert.*

"ATHEISM IS SPREADING OUT MORE AND MORE . . ."

"Our main troubles are: We are not able to follow up all calls from different directions from Germany. We have not the financial means. We are not able to print more tracts so we are not able to draw the attention toward our Church work. In spite of all troubles, we are still doing our best to the Glory of God and are happy, that He has chosen us to this work.

"*The Atheism is spreading out more and more also here in Germany.* Germany is no more the land of the reformation. Everything points to the end of the world and the soon coming of Jesus Christ. And I am sure you will see the same things like we do over in the U.S.A. We all have to do our very best to the Glory of God because, we do not know for how long. This way I want to ask you and all young people in the Church of God to pray for our mission work here in Germany. We have a hard stand, but I am sure we will be the winner and not the loser. Jesus Christ is with us and we have the truth. So let us pray for each other that the Lord may bless your work in the U.S.A. and ours here in Germany. This is my wish and prayer for you.

"The Lord bless you and be with you all always. In Christian love and your Brother in Jesus—

Helmut Strauss and family and all brothers and sisters from our Church here in Germany"

WEST INDIES NEWSPAPER AD BRINGS BLESSING

Thanks to Elder Weekes of the West Indies for his newspaper ad for students for the Searchlight Correspondence Course!

As a result of this ad, many students have enrolled and many inquiries have been received by the Searchlight School. Among these students is Miss Rosemary Martin, 18 years of age, and a blessing indeed to the many people with whom she corresponds in various countries, as this is a hobby, of hers.

Miss Martin uses this means of witnessing for the One whom she loves so dearly—our Blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. We include this item of interest as a special tribute to Miss Martin for her service to our Lord.



THOUGHT FOR YOUTH: Are you doing as much? Have you discovered your talent and means of witness for Christ? YOU, too, can witness through such correspondence.

Perhaps your local FYC could place such an ad in one of your newspapers. It is a wonderful means of carrying out a worthwhile missionary project.

—Jewell Linville



School Reports

SPRING VALE NEWS

Spring Valers never have a dull moment. From the time school started it has been hurry, hurry, with never a minute's rest.

Because of needed work time, school was delayed for two weeks. The announcement reached most of the students, but some did not receive theirs which led to having six boys and three girls on campus for this two-week period.

The boys took up the task of getting the new house ready for the Sweets and Patchens.

Since the beginning of school there have been four new rooms completed in the boys' dorm, and the basement of the new house has been tiled for the senior girls. Heating is now being installed in the north end of the boys' dorm.

Other improvements on campus have been: the landscaping of the pines, including eradication of the dead trees and pulling up of the weeds and stumps; and the laying of wire for an intercom system to connect all the homes and school buildings.

Recent donations to the schools have been from: Brother Howard Fridde, an engine for the school bus; Brother Lidell, a kitchen sink for Brother and Sister Burrell's apartment. Brother Elden Taylor sent an

electric range for the apartment, also. The kitchen received contributions of food and other items from Brother and Sister Jule Weir of Wisconsin. Sister Jennie Hosteter and Brother and Sister Artis Cummings brought 4 bushels of green beans—also much cabbage, onions, celery, carrots and tomatoes. Brother and Sister Wilmer Durham sent winter squash, and Brother and Sister George Ross sent summer squash.

A new mimeograph machine was purchased recently which was an answer to prayers since the old machine was in need of several parts.

Besides many material blessings here at Spring Vale we have received bountiful blessings from God. Each Sabbath afternoon is FYC and fellowship time which is spent in praising God; in songs, prayers, poems and testimonies. A short revival was conducted the second week of school by Elder Patchen for 3 days when many wonderful changes were made in the lives of many.

In the boys' dorm, it is their practice to have prayer in different rooms every night for those who have burdens on their hearts or who are wanting a closer walk with God. The faculty meets every morning for prayer before they begin their day. The girls report blessings from their evening worship and prayer services nightly. Every Wednesday evening the entire school body enjoys joint worship in the auditorium with the boys and girls taking charge, alternating from week to week.

Spring Vale is continually endeavoring to make better Christians out of boys and girls for Jesus. Always remember Spring Vale and its needs in your prayers.

Reporter, Kenneth Brunson

MBC NEWS

The migration of old and new students alike marked the beginning of another school year at Midwest Bible College.

The school has been involved in numerous activities since the beginning of the year. Among them were: A welcoming party for new students at a roadside park, with games, and plenty of barbecued chicken; youth rallies; a singspiration in the City Park to raise money for tuition for Brother Hendricks from England.

National Youth Week was a week filled with inspirational programs, a delicious and beautiful banquet, a campfire service that especially brought us together in the Lord.

Some tests have already been given, and as most of the students will tell you, they were designed for much study!

We thank the Lord that everyone has secured a job. Some find it necessary to be a "jack of all trades," but everyone has work.

The College closed for the week of the Ministerial Council. The senior class, along with three teachers, (Elder Kauer, Elder Dale Lawson, and Elder Moldenhauer) went to attend the council in Denver.

We find a very tight schedule here, but we enjoy being together and learning how we may best teach the gospel to lost souls. Pray for the teachers and students here at Midwest, so that much will be accomplished.

—Mark Ling

news and reminders...

New Foreign Correspondent for Youth Work

We regret we have to announce that Sister Jewell Linville has recently resigned from her position as Foreign Correspondent for Young People. The Department and young people both at home and overseas have surely appreciated her excellent work. Truly she has been a jewel as she worked for the Lord in this capacity. "Thank you, from all of us, Jewell."

A new Foreign Correspondent has been assigned to start work soon and we are happy to tell you that she

looks forward to her work with real enthusiasm and with desire to be useful in the service of our Lord and Saviour. Our new correspondent is:

Miss Phyllis Hayford

Box 160

Stanberry, Missouri 64489

Youth Work in the Midwest

A team has been organized to represent Midwest Bible College and to do some youth work in the mid-western states. They will be traveling to some churches here in the Midwest on weekends. The team will consist

of Mark Ling, Ken Knoll and Jerry Pedersen, a trio from Midwest Bible College; Elder Dale Lawson, National Youth Chairman and faculty member from Midwest Bible College; and his wife, Ethel; Darlene Moldenhauer, pianist.

In November, they will be in Oklahoma at the Oklahoma Quarterly Conference. Early in December, they plan to be in Denver, Colorado—and over the Midwinter Vacation, they will be at a youth retreat in Minnesota. They will also be visiting other youth groups in and around Missouri.

Aim Readership

Just a note to remind you that the year will soon be over and we want you to qualify for the AIM READERSHIP AWARD by having Aim in the homes of all the members of your youth group. Also, you will want to be missionary-minded and send at least five gift subscriptions to those in your area who are not members, and thereby qualify for the AIM MISSIONARY SEAL on your award. The deadline is December 31, 1966.

National Youth Week

We have been hearing some good comments about National Youth Week in several of the churches. One report appears in this issue. We would like to hear from you concerning your program during National Youth Week.

General Conference and Camp Meeting

Plan your schedule so you can attend General Conference and Camp Meeting next July. It will be held at Palmer Lake, Colorado.

Youth Week in Ontario

The Ontario, California, F.Y.C. participated in National Youth Week from September 21 through 25. The youth had charge of all services during these days. On Wednesday we had a debate on evolution vs. creation. This debate was very interesting and informative.

On Friday night we had an evangelistic service. Brother Trinidad Padilla from San Fernando gave a very inspiring and effective talk. We were also blessed by Brother and Sister Padilla's singing.

On Sabbath, the youth had charge of the Sabbath school and worship service. Members of the Youth Class taught all the other classes. A guest speaker gave the sermon.

The high point of the week was a play presented by the FYCers in the afternoon Youth Rally. This was a five-act play which was written by the young people. The name of the play was "The Power of Love." It showed how the love of God can save even the lowliest of sinners.

The play seemed to be a great success. Some adults liked it so well that they helped us schedule it to be put on at a Nazarene Church in Baldwin Park and at the Church of God in Los Angeles.

On Sunday, the youth had a baseball and football game at a nearby park.

I am sure that all the work and planning that went into this week (and especially the Play), was well worth it. I feel that God blessed us and will bless others who really want to do something for Him.

Tom O'Haver, Reporter

DON'T FORGET THE OLD FOLKS

Oh, don't forget your folks at home
As up and down the land you roam;
Remember father, mother dear,
To whom you owe a lot of cheer
For what they've done in by-gone days
To care for you in many ways,
To rear and train and make you strong
To stand for right against the wrong!

Take time to write them now and then
By type or pencil or by pen,
And maybe send a check or bill
To let them know you love them still,
And show them as their years grow few
That they are precious yet to you;
That in your heart they have a place
That time and distance can't erase.

Yes, don't forget the old folks please
And pray for them down on your knees,
For they have weathered many storms
And time and age has changed their forms;
But love and kindness is a trait
That's never, never out of date,
And if you'll give them this and more
You'll reap it back on glory's shore.

—Walter E. Isenhour

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