

# THE FIELD MESSENGER.

THE FIELDS ARE WHITE ALREADY TO HARVEST John 4: 35.

VOL 1

STANBERRY, MISSOURI, TUESDAY, JANUARY, 3, 1922

NUMBER 9

## RETURNING TO THE FOLD

We wander far in paths of sin,  
Like sheep we go astray,  
In wilful disobedience fling  
The golden days away.

We bring Thee lives by sin defiled,  
We offer wasted years,  
Like school boys copy, torn and  
soiled,  
And blotted with our tears.

Repentant now, we return to Thee,  
Thy love and mercy trust.  
Forgive our sins and guide aright,  
Remembering we are dust.

Ruth E. Nugent.

—§—§—

## AN OUTLINE OF OUR WORK

During the last five years the Church of God has been endeavoring to carry on aggressive field work in territories where the 'Third Angel's Message' and the gospel of the coming kingdom has never been preached. Able ministers devoted to the cause of the Lord are sent out, and supported by the tithes and offerings sent to headquarters by the brethren, and each year the field force is increased, and a corresponding increase in funds received, has always been the result to enable the work to go forward. There are general evangelists laboring in many states, and also missionaries who are thus supported, according to their financial needs.

Many calls are received from various fields where ministers are wanted to proclaim the everlasting gospel with power and simplicity, which have to be turned down because of a lack of ministers. We have now many localities booked for meetings from where urgent calls have been received and no minister to send, the evangelists all being busy. We will soon have several more ministers in the field, and then hope to meet the needs better. There are thousands now dying, who for lack of laborers have not heard the message, and it behooves us, as servants of God to shed the glorious light abroad, and

to carry on a greater work than we have ever done before.

Just as soon as finances will justify there will be a work opened up at Jerusalem, Palestine, and the old Churches of God, again revived at Corinth, Judea, Colosse, Ephesus, and throughout all the regions of the Promised Land. These churches were abandoned when the Turks and Arabs took possession of the country about 632 A. D., nearly thirteen hundred years ago, at which time, and since many of our brethren gave up their lives for the very cause and sacred truths that we cherish and hold dear. The Church of God must now be up and doing. There is no time to sleep, and delay matters of so sacred a trust. We are the people to do this work, and every member must consider that they have a place and part in it, and every person do their work for God.

—§—§—

## AT CLAREMORE, OKLA.

On our recent trip in Oklahoma, we stopped over the last Sabbath we were in the state with a company of Sabbath keepers at Claremore. We heard of these people who were formerly S. D. Adventists, but from whom the S. D. A. Conference had withdrawn as this body of people had accepted some truths in advance of the light held to by the main body. Elder Gregory who is now dead raised up the church and preached there for several years. At the time of the trouble between them and the former church they held their own building, and so have a very neat nice building for worship. There were about 25 out to church the Sabbath we were there, and they are fine people. Most all had accepted the truth of the resurrection of Christ on the Sabbath instead of Sunday, and they accepted willingly and cheerfully, our discourse on "What the Church of God Believes and Why", also our sermon on the "Time to Observe the Lord's Supper."

Several of them are tithe payers,

and there is a nice company there zealously holding on to the Bible truths, and holding their worship regularly, although isolated, and rarely ever have any preaching. We received several subscriptions for the Bible Advocate while there, and were very much impressed with their zeal for what they know is right, and they are indeed worthy of much praise for holding right on, and keeping up their services. We hope to meet them again sometime, for they are truly members of the Church of God, as we told them, for they were keeping the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, so have their names inscribed on the Lamb's book of life. We also called their attention to the many times God's inspired church name was mentioned in the New Testament. If our ministers pass that way, they will welcome you to stop over the Sabbath with them. The church is located in the Northeast part of the town.

A. N. Dugger.

—‡—‡—

## GENERAL REPORT

The brethren who are keeping this noble work moving along with their tithes and offerings are especially anxious to hear of good results from the preaching of the message, as it is going forward in various places, and for the benefit of all who are more or less concerned in the last message to the world before the coming of Christ, we are glad to say that a good number of new names have been added to the list the past month, since our last report. The work has been considerably hindered by contagious diseases over the country compelling some evangelists to close their meetings, just at the time when people had become deeply interested, but the work will be taken up again, and has already been in most places.

Elder Miles has resumed his work at Maryville in the new church house recently completed, and he says there are a number very much interested in the gospel truth, and

## THE FIELD MESSENGER

about nine who are very favorable of taking their stand with the Church of God. He began his meeting at Maryville soon after the printing of the last Field Messenger, but was compelled to close because of sickness. Elder L. I. Rodgers who so very recently closed the Milan meetings with such excellent results that a church of forty-seven members was raised up, has resumed work there again, and several others have been added to the church. Elder R. E. Hosteter was compelled to close his meeting near South Gifford, Mo., but returned there last week. There are a number of good people considerably interested in the truth in that neighborhood. Elder M. W. Unzicker and wife after closing the effort at Crowder where fourteen came out, have commenced a meeting at Calvin, Okla., where at last report a good interest was awakened. Elder R. A. Barnes is now devoting his time to the ministry in Oklahoma, and in his last letter stated he was soon to commence a protracted meeting near Henrietta, Okla. Elder J. T. Williamson on account of sickness closed his last meeting, but was soon to commence another in the vicinity of Johnson Cty, Mo., when we last heard from him. Eld. E. F. Thorp was compelled to discontinue his efforts in new fields on account of the sickness of his wife about two months ago, but from a recent letter he is soon to hold a public debate in Grubbs, Ark., and we presume will be out in the work again before many weeks, at least we hope that these conditions will be true. Elder L. L. Presler took a severe cold early in the fall which settled in his bronchial tubes, and through the advice of the doctor he discontinued preaching for a few months. He wrote recently that he was much better, but still had some coughing spells, but thought he would be out in the work again before a great while. He is now at Brush, Colo. Elders J. G. Gilstrap, and W. F. Damewood wrote a few weeks back that their gospel car constructed from an army truck, which they purchased and equipped, was almost ready and that they would soon be out in the work, with it for several months. Elder J. A. Riggs is now holding a meeting in a new field near Dane, Oklahoma. The work in other places is going forward, and let each one pray that more workers may be raised up to carry it on, and that more people may begin the solemn duty of paying their tithes, that arrangements may

be made, to provide the needs for other ministers to go out and enter the general evangelical work, and carry these precious truths to many more new fields.

—†—†—  
AT MARYVILLE, MO.

It was during the last days of July 1920 that we went to Maryville to commence the first effort ever put forth there to raise up a Church of God in the city, and upon our arrival we found a show (the devil's workshop) on the ground where our tent was to be pitched, so could not get possession until the night after the Sabbath, and our meeting was announced to commence the night following. By and by the Sabbath came and the sun went down, with the show tent on the ground, but at the breaking of day on Sunday morning the neighbors noticed that one tent had gone sometime during the night, and that another one had been pitched and was almost ready for use, which seemed mysterious to them. By 7:30 P. M. on Sunday an was ready and the meeting started off in full blast. The crowds continued to increase each evening until the large tent was filled night after night. Some commenced to inquire, What are they? To what do they belong? And some said, I wonder if they will establish a church here?

After about four weeks we spoke for the first time on the Sabbath question, this being the first time that a thought had ever entered the minds of many who were coming every night, that we were Sabbath keepers. Then, some said, We hope they will not establish a church here, for they are Jews, and there is danger of people losing their religion if they join with them. To all this we paid no heed, but continued for nine and one-half weeks, bringing the meeting to a close because of the cold weather in the month of October.

After some three weeks from the time we closed, we commenced again in a large hall up on one of the main streets, where we continued for three weeks. At the end of this time 55 had taken their stand for the life of Christ and the commandments of God, all of whom, with the exception of six or seven, remain true to the time of this writing.

And now, just a few days over one year from the time we closed the meeting in the hall, these brethren and sisters are comfortably situated in their own new church house, which is located just across the alley

from where the tent stood in which we held the meeting. They have a comfortable little building, fronting Second Street, which is a paved street leading from one depot to the other, by driving just one block out of the way. The property is just about one half paid for, and the brethren and sisters are paying their pledges monthly to the Church Treasurer to complete the payment on the property. Occasionally a nice donation comes from the outside and for all such they are truly thankful.

December 6th we commenced a meeting in the new building, but were compelled to close for a few days on account of sickness. Hope to commence again before these lines reach the readers of this paper. The interest is fair, considering the sickness at this time of the year, and there is a prospect of several additions to the church at this time. In fact, some have already expressed a desire to become members of the Church of God. Sister Corbett, who was one of the Bible workers during the first meetings, is assisting in this effort, whose efforts cannot be overestimated. Pray for this effort, is our request.

Herbert Miles.

—†—†—  
REPORT

Dear Brother Dugger:—I will give a short report of my labor at Mt. Carmel Church. We began meeting there Sunday evening Sept. 11, 1921, and continued for seven weeks, closing Oct. 30, 1921, with five converts. Three of them came out from the Christian Church. One brother had been a Seventh Day Adventist, but left them because of the prophecy of Mrs. White. The other lady had never professed any religion. On Sunday afternoon before closing that evening the converts were baptized in the Sheridan River, at the old Battle ground of the north and the south. It is called See's Ford. It was a fine place, rock bottom.

All of these converts are heads of families and fine people. They have a union church, and while I was there the community had a basket dinner and reshingled, painted and papered the church. Then at night after services they elected their board of directors for four years, two of the brethren being elected as members of the board.

A Sabbath School of 14 was organized before I left. They ordered literature and are now having an interesting school. Later I went

## THE FIELD MESSENGER

back and preached over Sabbath and Sunday and another lady came forward and accepted the truth. I was visiting east of South Gifford and found another lady who had been a member of the Church of God for years. Altogether there are seven members near that place and about five or six others who are interested and are keeping the Sabbath, and I hope they will soon unite with us. The brethren made up an offering before I left. I sold six Bible Home Instructors.

Nov. 30 I began a meeting at Union Temple about seven miles north and west of Mt. Carmel. I continued at this place two weeks being compelled to close on account of sickness. There were some here who were interested. The following is an extract from a letter I received after the meeting closed.

"I believe it would have killed me if mother's life had not been spared so I could read the Bible to her and prove that Jesus never changed the Sabbath, that it is man's work. I must do all I can to bring the ones who are so dear to me to the true light. We must have the whole law or God cannot set His seal upon us, and we must have the seal of God when Jesus comes. Away with the mark of the beast, no more of it for me. I certainly praise God and the Lamb for sending you our way. Russell is deeply interested on the Sabbath question. I meet with most all the Holiness folks at mother's since you have gone home, and all the other Sunday folks. It gives me a little pain in my heart when they turn me down, but I have left all to follow Jesus, so they will have to go with the rest of the world."

R. E. Hosteter

## FROM MONTANA

Dear Brother Dugger:—Since my last report Oct. 12, 1921, I have made 21 visits, loaned 26 papers and 200 leaflets, and three books. Interest is good, and I look for good results, two are waiting baptism and there are more to follow. How thankful we should be to our heavenly Father. My prayer is that some good may be done through my labors. Will write more soon. Your brother,

G. H. Mossey

## REPORT FROM MICHIGAN

Will try to make a brief report of the labor done in Michigan since the Conference. Bro. Geo. P. Wilson

has labored in Newaygo County for two weeks. Several acknowledged the truth and quite an interest was shown. The prospects were good for two ministers to accept the Sabbath and the Church of God faith. He received a strong invitation to come back and expects to do so in the near future.

Bro. Thomas Howe commenced laboring at Coopersville and was there over a week, the people were interested in hearing the truth.

At Jenison, Michigan, Brother Howe and Bro. Wilson labored together for a week and closed the meeting because the holiday season came on.

At Jenison in the spring we expect to baptize four who have taken a stand for the truth.

While here the suggestion was made by Bro. Howe to build a portable tabernacle in Michigan to hold the meetings in, the same as in a tent. He is willing to give \$50 and it ought not to cost any more than \$200. He has conferred with others and they are all willing to have it. At some places we have no meeting place and this would be a help to the work in Michigan. It will be owned by the Church of God in Michigan. More meetings would have been held in Coopersville if there had been a place to hold them. An effort was made to get a building but it proved impossible so the meetings were held in a private home which was very inconvenient. With an interest in the progress of God's work in Michigan.

Thomas Howe, Geo. P. Wilson.

## AT DALE OKLAHOMA

During our recent tour over the state of Oklahoma we had the pleasure of meeting the Sabbath keeping brethren at Dale, Okla., where we conducted a lengthy debate with a minister of what is known as the Church of Christ.

It will no doubt be interesting to our people to hear of the circumstances leading to this discussion. A few years ago in the Church of Christ Sunday School class of Dale the question was brought up, if there was a direct command in the Bible for partaking of the Lord's Supper every first day of the week, and the question was left for the next Sunday, and some were appointed to look the matter up. At the next Sunday School those who had made an investigation reported that they had failed to find any

such a command, but they had learned that the Bible taught the Lord's Supper to be a yearly ordinance. The school was somewhat divided, and the evidence was presented, for it being a yearly and not a weekly institution. As the weeks went by, and the question was further investigated, it led two ministers, Elders T. J. Marrs and Bert F. Marrs, to discover that after these facts were revealed, there was no evidence either for the observance of Sunday in any way whatsoever. This caused the matter to become more interesting, and finally six families stepped out commencing to keep Saturday the seventh day Sabbath, and to observe the Passover yearly. They knew nothing at this time of the Church of God, or even that there was a church in the world that partook of the emblems of the broken body of our Lord, on the time it was instituted each year. They had heard of the S. D. Adventist people, but not agreeing with them relative to the prophesies, as well as the time of partaking the Lord's Supper, they were not attracted to them. Finally Brother Bert F. Marrs while away in another district teaching school, got hold of a Bible Advocate, which was then two or three years old. This led Elder T. J. Marrs to write us a letter, to ask about the time we observed the Passover, and some other points of faith, to which we made immediate reply. We see by the above the good that someone did by sending out that copy of the Bible Advocate, whoever it was, and if we cast our bread upon the waters it will not return to us void, so let the good work go on of spreading the truth by handing out your papers and sending them through the mail.

Last September Elder Searcy of Oklahoma City, Okla., made a special trip to Dale, and held a meeting there, seemingly for the express purpose of getting the Sabbath keepers back into the church, and showing them where Sunday was the right day. This led to considerable debate and Brother and Sister Hendershott who were Sabbath keepers, took issue with the Elder, following one of his sermons against the Sabbath, and after Elder Searcy had stated he would meet anyone in debate on the question, they wrote us and propositions were arranged, and time set for the debate Dec. 1st. We also discussed the kingdom question, Nature of Man, as well as the

Continued on next page

THIS PAPER IS THE OFFICIAL FIELD ORGAN OF THE SEVENTH DAY CHURCH OF GOD, WITH HEADQUARTERS AT STANBERRY, MO.

"Entered as second-class matter May 13, 1921, at the post office at Stanberry, Missouri, under the Act of March 3, 1879."

#### AT DALE, OKLAHOMA

Continued from page 35

Sabbath. We had a good attendance, more than the house would accommodate, debating two evenings, and then having one two hour session in the forenoon, and a three hour session each night, for four days, the discussion closing with a good feeling left and many friends made. The report has previously been given in the Bible Advocate and need not be repeated, but we will state that the Sabbath keepers are all confirmed in the faith and rejoicing that they have seen the light, and we are sure that more will be added to the little flock there. There are surely some fine people at Dale, and especially those who have walked out on the Sabbath truth with other kindred themes.

Editor.

—\$—\$—

#### PAYING OUT THE LORD'S TITHE

The Lord's tithe is paid out to evangelists and Bible workers, who are laboring in new fields breaking the bread of life to those in darkness, calling them out of Babylon into the narrow way with Jesus. They are paid out to these workers according to their needs, for instance a minister having a family wholly dependent on him for support, receives more than a minister not so situated. The minister's experience in the work is also considered, and his ability to reach the people, with the saving message. The Lord has given certain men talents to go out and preach the word to the people, and such men soon make a showing in their fields of labor with results.

When the Lord has really called a minister to proclaim the gospel message, and endowed him with power and ability, it will soon be made manifest. There are men, however, who actually feel that the Lord has called them to the ministry, and are honest in their convictions, but who cannot speak in public, and their words are as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal. They have no power in the message, or no influence

or bearing upon their hearers. Such men have in some way been deceived by a false hope, and aspiration, and were not talented or called by the Lord to be a light bearer for Him. His place is in some other profession, where with the tenth of his earnings, he can support those whom God has really called, and talented to proclaim the gospel truth. All such persons should be given a trial and their ability actually proven, in field work; largely at their own expense. This is the only way we have of guarding against paying out the Lord's money wastefully and to no avail. We cannot be slothful in the Lord's business and if we are it will be brought against us in the great judgment day.

The tithes and offerings for the ministerial fund are not paid out by one man, according to his judgment in the matter; but through the direction of a committee of brethren. They apportion to each worker and minister according to his needs. The experience he has had, and his ability as a workman in the Lord's vineyard is carefully considered. The committee relying upon the Lord for guidance and direction, direct the expenditure of the Lord's tenth, which is a solemn and very responsible duty. The widow's mite is included in the funds paid out. It is as it were blood money, and in fear of God it is carefully and judiciously handled, and always brings forth fruit to his glory.

—\$—\$—

#### TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR THE MINISTERIAL FUND RECEIVED SINCE DEC. 7, 1921

##### TITHES

Louis Harris .....	253.12
C. H. Wilkinson .....	20.00
Abram D. Leonard .....	17.23
M. A. Haney .....	13.80
C. H. M. ....	11.35
A brother .....	16.50
Alice Meisenheimer .....	10.90
W. C. Rodgers .....	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Carl W. Carver .....	10.00
R. E. Hosteter .....	10.00
A. A. Manning .....	10.00
C. M. ....	\$ 5.94
E. W. Sheffield .....	35.80
Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Blood .....	4.46
Mrs. M. B. Adams and Florence Landrum .....	7.10
Mrs. B. B. Holcomb .....	\$2.00
Mrs. R. G. Sweet .....	9.00
Mrs. W. W. Roberts .....	1.70
Mrs. W. L. Childs .....	4.00
E. F. Thorp .....	1.00
Anna McElvain and daughters..	2.96
John and Ossie Bagwell .....	5.00

M. K. Turner .....	3.00
Mrs. J. J. Pratt .....	1.00
Marinda Harrod .....	1.00
Michigan Conference .....	3.72
D. B. and C. A. Farnham .....	5.00
Mrs. A. G. Ellis .....	4.00
Mrs. Addie L. Wait .....	4.05
Mrs. Ida Snider .....	4.50
Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Blenis.....	3.00
Mrs. S. Richards .....	.50
Levina Shoemaker .....	9.85
Mrs. Laura L. Munro .....	5.40
Mrs. S. E. Price .....	2.00
Parlee Casey and R. C. Stokes .....	2.00
S. A. and Manda Osborn .....	1.50
B. F. Hamilton .....	5.00
Mrs. S. E. Williams .....	3.20
L. M. and A. M. Schulz .....	8.40
Sarah Wharton .....	1.00
Mrs. Elizabeth Joseph .....	1.00
Lucy A. Bunn .....	8.00
John P. Long .....	4.40
Mrs. M. Haskell .....	2.00
A friend .....	1.00
J. W. Crouse .....	8.00
Theodore S. Thomasson .....	5.00
Nellie Newlon .....	.50
Eva Workman .....	1.05
Sarah Corbett .....	5.00
Ollie Woods .....	.60
H. Miles .....	7.25
J. O. Manning .....	3.00
Mrs. Ellen Leard .....	2.50
Chas. and Leona Merrill .....	5.25
A friend .....	3.80
A. A. Stewart .....	3.00
Mrs. Agnes Hogarth .....	1.00
E. F. Thorp .....	3.10
Mrs. Maggie Marrs .....	2.50
Mrs. A. G. Ellis .....	1.00
Belle Moore .....	5.00
Cleora Close .....	2.50
Hattie Caviness .....	3.50
George H. Bennett .....	7.08

##### OFFERINGS

Mrs. A. D. Rodgers \$5; Mrs. W. W. Roberts \$1.20; I. N. Kramer and daughter \$2; Amy Cronk \$7.15; Mrs. Hy. Steinebach 50cts; Mrs. Otto Pritchard 70cts; a friend \$1.05; H. D. Stone \$10; Church at Anderson, Mo. \$1.45; Mary A. Smelser \$1; Virginia Johnson 85cts; Mrs. H. T. Whitehall \$9; Mrs. Otto Pritchard \$1.45; Edw J. Davis \$20; C. A. Smith \$4.50; Peter Nelson \$10; A. J. Hayes \$5.

##### TITHES FROM MICHIGAN FOR NOVEMBER

Sarah A. Stillson .....	\$5.00
Alpheus Leach .....	2.00
Ova Leach .....	1.00
Viola Newman .....	1.00
A friend, N. B. ....	1.00
Freeland Church .....	14.74
Edson Merriam .....	5.00
L. A. Munger .....	7.12
Phebe and Leonard Wilkinson .....	36