

Macedonian Call

"Come Over into Macedonia and Help Us."—(Acts 16:9.)

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Why The Early Church Thrived

Why did the Church in the first two or three centuries prosper, have converts daily, and overturn the Roman Empire, while the so-called Church today lags and languishes and has so little influence in the world?

This is the distressing problem for which millions of religious people today are seeking an answer. Perhaps the earnest, old Christian shoe cobbler gave us good a solution as can be found. When some one asked him what his business was he replied: "My business is serving the Lord, but incidentally and to keep down expenses, I peg soles on shoes."

I think God was well pleased with such an answer. The reason the apostolic Christians made such great advancement was that Christ was EVERYTHING to them, and things of this world — even an occupation — was incidental. "Man shall not live by bread alone." They were taught that whatsoever they did was to be to the glory of God, and that Christ died for all that they should not henceforth live unto themselves but unto Him who for their sakes died and rose again. Christ was first, and temporal things second; today business is first, Christ is second. They advanced, we don't.

The early Christians were commanded to forsake not their assembling together, while many today do forsake it to "entertain company", to "buy a piece of land", to nurse a Sunday "head-ache".

The first Christians regarded themselves as stewards handling that which belonged to God, and believed that some day they must answer for their stewardship. Many would not say that the things they possessed were their own and so sold them and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet that in the emer-

gency then on, the hungry disciples might be fed. Today we think that if we give fifty cents a week to the Lord, and an hour Sunday morning, the rest of the day and the week, and the rest of all the money we make is ours and we can do as we please with them. Their charity then did much to convert the world and our neglect of the poor has done much to drive the world into the arms of Stalin, Mussolini and Hitler with their promises of help for the under-dog.

The early Church was commanded to keep itself unspotted from the world about them, and they did not join with the sinners in their ungodly sports and pleasures; today "Christians" go to the theaters with the sinners, gloat in the same nasty plays, dance with the world, and oftentimes drink a little with it. And the world spurns any invitation to come to Christ with the slur that the Church has nothing to offer them.

Today many professed Christians act as if they were doing God a favor by attending religious services, and before the last amen dies on their ears they are making for the door, giving no one a chance to shake their lifeless hand. But apostolic Christians considered it a high privilege to be a child of the King of Kings and daily they met and worshipped. Disciples then were pleased to assemble together but are bored now. They advanced and we don't.

The early Christians were so happy in their new-found joy that they talked it wherever they went. Each disciple considered himself a missionary for Christ. The soldier tried to convert his captain to the authority of King Jesus. The servant by his life and words tried to convert his master to the Master of the whole world. The slave girl was so happy that her

Why The Early Church Thrived

mistress wanted the same happiness and became obedient to the faith. Wives lived such lives that they won their unbelieving husbands by their virtues and by their pleadings to obey Christ that their love might continue forever. Their joy, even in persecutions, converted millions.

Their preachers then spake boldly against sin, and wrote that all that will live godly shall suffer persecution. Paul was not ashamed of the gospel of Christ like many today. The disciples took joyfully the spoiling of their goods, knowing they have more abiding things in heaven. They feared not him who kills the body but rather Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. For them to live to save souls was gain for Christ, but to die was gain for themselves. They obeyed God rather than man. How different the weak-kneed Christians today. Yes, and how different the results of labors.

By this faith, and love, and courage, and joy, the early Christians overturned the great world-wide Roman Empire, and we today in our lack of these apostolic virtues are not able to overturn a few of our worldly neighbors. The so-called Church of Christ today may hold the

apostolic doctrine, but we evidently have not had the apostolic zeal.

Some of us have faith, but not the degree which causes us to give up all for Christ. Some have love, but not the kind that embraces the world of mankind. We have a little idea of stewardship but not enough to bring the admiration of the people of the world. We refuse to do some things many in the world do, but we also do too many ungodly things they do. We have a little joy but not as the early Christians. We fear man too much—are afraid some one will say we are fanatics. But those early Christians moved the world, and we cannot budge a small part of it.

O God, help us to be like those Christians in the long ago when they won so many millions to their Lord. Help us to surrender all to Him. Help us to deny ourselves ungodliness and worldly lusts. May we have their joy, their faith, their zeal in converting others, and may we fear not man who can only kill the body.

Help us to revive the apostolic DEVOTION and ZEAL as well as the apostolic doctrine, that our shining light may guide many to Thee.—

D. A. Sommer.

Home Training

Perhaps there is not enough said about home training for the betterment of the Church. Training for the Lord and the Church of our children should begin at home. I often tell folk they too often tie up the dog at night and turn their children loose.

Eph. 6:4: "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." "Nurture" means "that which nourishes; diet; food; education." Give your children **Spiritual Food** as well as temporal food, that they may grow spiritually in the Family of Christ. Give them the "sincere milk of the word, that they may grow thereby" (1 Peter 2:2.) That is, give them the "unadulterated word of God", and by THAT they will grow in the knowledge of the Lord, but without it they cannot grow. **EDUCATE** them in the Gospel and thus educate them concerning the evils of card-playing, dancing, bywords, which border onto profanity, going to picture shows, bathing resorts where both sex bathe together with bathing suits that do not even cover all their hips, lest you sow the seed in their young hearts which will cause you to reap a crop of profanity, a crop of gamblers, a crop of fornicators, etc. Parents should **take** their children to Church and not **send** them to the picture show Sunday nights. If you wish your children to be **good**, train them to stay away from questionable places. The future

Church, remember, will be what YOU make it today, because your children and mine will have the care of the Church when you and I have "gone to our long home". Today, parents, is the time to build a future Church such as the Lord would have it to be, so begin training your children at home today, so that tomorrow when you and I have said our last "good-bye" your children and mine will be really and truly faithful Christians. Yes, parents, "bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord".

Often parents fail to use good judgment and "provoke their children to wrath" when they do not mean to do so. Kindness with firmness will not provoke them to wrath. Teach them that "yes" means yes, and that "no" means no with you. When they ask to go to some worldly and questionable place, tell them "no" and explain why you say no, then don't have them quarreling with you and begging you to change your mind. Children seldom have confidence in parents who do so much changing of their minds at the child's request. Then, too, threatening to whip a child so often and never doing it causes less confidence in the parent by the child. That is one of the best ways in the world to cause a child to be provoked unto wrath, the very thing the Lord says for parents not to do. Use firmness with kindness if you wish to have obedient children. Never quarrel with a child of yours. Read Col. 3:21 with Eph. 6:4.

1 Tim. 3:4: "One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity". The above is given as a qualification of an Elder, but is also for all parents and implied in the above cited Scriptures. To have a child in "subjection" is to teach it the real or essential being of that which supports qualities, attributes, or relations. In this case it is to teach the child what the relations are between the Church and the Christ, then the relationship between the child and the parent providing the parent is a real Christian in every respect. If you do this you may keep the child from falling in love with the world and cause it to love the parent and the Christ who died for it. It has to do with the training of the mind, which is so often neglected. You are to do this with "all gravity", which means quality of being grave or serious. So this is to be done with all seriousness, and what is more serious than having children brought up in Christian atmosphere and having them living "unspotted from the world"? To train, or even permit, your children to go to questionable places is to cause them to want to live a worldly life even if they are members of the Church and have much less interest in the Church. Worldliness is damaging the Church today worse than anything else. We must try to keep children from being worldly-minded if we wish them to be spiritually minded.

Read Gal. 6:8 and be very careful not to sow to the flesh, lest you reap corruption. We can't serve the world and the Lord both at the same time. We are either for the world or we are for the Christ; we can't be for the world and for the Lord both. We are either against the world and for Christ, or we are against the Christ and for the world. Can't serve two masters, so the good Book says.

I will not take space to quote all of Gal. 5:19-26, but insist that you turn right now to that chapter and read for yourself, then notice with care that word "revelling", which is a translation of the Gr. word "komos", and means "A revel, carouse, merrymaking, with music and dancing". Don't ask, "What are the young folk to do? what will we allow the young folk to do?" What did the young folk do before we had the picture shows and skating rinks with many other worldly things? These are of recent origin. That is, they have been introduced in the last 40 years, and millions upon millions of young folk lived and died long before they were even thought of. If we have our children SPIRITUALLY minded they will not care for those WORLDLY things. I haven't space to mention many things the young may do without bringing reproach upon the Church, but I think you know them anyway.

Of course the dance has always been with us and that is what you see and learn to love, with many other worldly and ungodly things at the picture shows. But God, in His word, has always condemned the dance. You can't get out on an old board and dance without doing what God said for you NOT TO DO. See 1 Cor. 10:7 compared with Ex. 32:19. This is not Roberts condemning those things, but the Lord. I have cited chapter and verse for and against all I have mentioned. The Lord is for the good and against the worldly things. So remember, it is not myself condemning those things, but just citing you to what the God of Heaven says about them and offering a few comments and definitions of words.—W. G. Roberts, Hammond, Illinois.

Biblical Quiz

Read over the questions, and in the box as you go, check the answer you believe to be right. Seven will be considered passing, eight will be considered excellent. After you have finished turn to Church News for correct answers.

If you are a Bible student, you will know that the Septuagint is: ☐ An engineering instrument; ☐ A vessel in the Jewish Temple; ☐ A Greek version of Hebrew Scriptures.

2. Disciples of Christ were first called Christians: ☐ At Jerusalem; ☐ At Antioch; ☐ At Rome; ☐ At Corinth.

3. You may never have witnessed one, but the "Transfiguration" was: ☐ Changing of water to wine; ☐ Change in personal appearance of Christ on the mount; ☐ Passing from country to country; ☐ Moses on Mt. Sinai.

4. What do you know about the Arks of the Bible? The ark of the bulrushes was constructed by: ☐ Moses; ☐ Noah; ☐ A daughter of Levi; ☐ Pharaoh's daughter.

5. If all of you know the shortest verse in the Bible, you can readily tell your friends it is in: ☐ Psalms; ☐ St. John; ☐ St. Luke; ☐ St. Mark.

6. If some one asked you to relate a famous shipwreck story of the Bible, would you tell them the story of: ☐ Noah and the Ark; ☐ the great draught of fishes; ☐ Paul's Voyage to Rome.

7. Twelve baskets of fragments were taken up after the feeding of the: ☐ 100; ☐ 4,000; ☐ 5,000; ☐ 3,000.

8. What woman of the Bible could be styled the "Worried Housekeeper"? ☐ Mary; ☐ Esther; ☐ Martha; ☐ Delilah.

9. True or false—that repentance and Remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations beginning at Nazareth: ☐ True; ☐ False.

Preaching and Teaching

I wish the reader to note carefully the details of this article; and to stir your interest to do so, I am putting forth what may seem a startling proposition which I hope to prove:

The PREACHING done in the New Testament was not intended for believers but for non-believers in Christ, while the TEACHING done there was for believers and also for non-believers.

In the Christian world generally, including the "Church of Christ", this distinction between Preaching and Teaching is almost entirely broken down, and we talk of sermons and discourses to the world and Church alike without any discrimination. This breaking down of a difference which God has made has done much to lay the foundation for "the Kingdom of the Clergy" with its present apostasy and stagnation in the Christian world.

Here are quotations which show there is a difference between these words:

"And Jesus went about all Galilee, **teaching** in their synagogues, and **preaching** the gospel of the kingdom." (Matt. 4:23; 9:34.) "He departed thence to **teach** and to **preach** in their cities." (Matt. 11:1.) "Being grieved that they **taught** the people, and **preached** through Jesus the resurrection from the dead." (Acts 4:2.) "And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to **teach** and **preach** Jesus Christ." (Acts 5:42.) "Paul

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and Barnabas continued at Antioch, **teaching** and **preaching** the word of the Lord, with many others also." (Acts 15:35.) "Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came unto him, **preaching** the kingdom of God, and **teaching** those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ." (Acts 28:30, 31.)

The word "preach" in the New Testament comes from five different Greek words with some differences in meaning, yet in no instance was this preaching done to believers. Some of these words emphasize the kind of message given, and some the manner in which it was delivered. The two chief words are "euangelidzo" which means "to announce glad tidings, good news, preach the gospel"; and the word "kerusso" which means "to cry aloud, proclaim as a herald." But if you will take your unabridged concordance and look up every one of the more than a hundred references where the word "preach" is used in the New Testament, you will find that the preaching is always to non-believers, to those in the world, and not to believers in Christ.

There are only two possible exceptions to this rule, which I now notice. In Acts 20:7 it is said that Paul "preached" to the disciples at Troas. The Greek word is "dialegomai" and is translated "speak" in Heb. 12:5; "reason" in Acts 17:4; 24:25; "reason with" in Acts 17:2; 18:19; "dispute" in Mark 9:34; Acts 17:17; 19:8, 9; 24:12; Jude 9. Thus you see that the word does not mean "preach" at all in the sense we use it today, nor in the hundred or more instances where the word "preach" is found elsewhere in the New Testament. The hundred learned men who made the Revised Version translated it "discoursed with"—Paul discoursed with the disciples at Troas. It seems there was a talking back and forth, a teaching of the disciples. So this was evidently not "preaching" in the sense in which we use that word today nor in the sense in which it is used in the New Testament elsewhere.

The other supposed exception to our statement that "preaching" was for the world, not the Church, and "teaching" for both the world and Church is found in Rom. 1:25: "So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also." The reasoning in that letter shows that Paul was addressing part of it to **unbelieving** Jews who might read it as well as believing Jews. The second chapter seems addressed entirely to the unbelievers, and in verse 24 he says, "The name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you", which could have referred only to unbelieving Jews.

The Greek word "didasko" is used many times in the New Testament and is almost the only word rendered "teach", whether to believers or unbelievers.

Again I say: Take an unabridged concordance and look up the word "preach", and **you will not find a single instance where the preachers "preached" to believers in the Christian religion; they preached to non-believers, and TAUGHT the believers.**

Today in the denominational world, this God-given distinction between Preach and Teach is largely broken down, and much of the "Church of Christ" has fallen in line with them. Many preachers in the "Church of Christ" spend almost all their time entertaining members with their sermonettes when they should be teaching and developing those disciples. Result: clergy, apostasy, stagnation.

In apostolic days, apostles and evangelists preached to the world but taught the infant groups of disciples the "all things" which Christ wished them to observe; and committed what they knew to "faithful men who shall be able to teach others." (2-Tim. 2:2.) To do that they surely must have shown them how to study, develop, etc. When they had set things in order in a church by appointing elders, they **went on to other fields** and did not settle down over the churches and do the work of elders by nice little flowery talks.

If today, "when the whole church is gathered together", (see 1 Cor. 14:23-26), it would have a stated chapter for consideration, and different brethren would talk on it, or on some other scripture, or a preacher in a weak church would expound with the members looking on the text of the chapter, or part of a chapter, would there not be a much better knowledge of the Word of God than there is? But so long as members go to meeting Sunday morning to be entertained by some fluent sermonizer, and so long as preachers foster such a system, just so long will the people call for a change in the sermonizer and refuse to attend when the sermonette is uninteresting, and just so long will the Church continue to be shorn of her power in the world and languish as she is doing today. Alexander Campbell used to take a whole book and analyze it to a group of disciples. Chapters can, and should, be handled in the same way. New Testament evangelists developed churches and worked their way OUT of their services, so that the churches could take care of themselves and then help them financially as they went to new and weak places.

True Churches of Christ are trying hard to get rid of the smoke of Babylon which has enveloped us through the past, and more and more are the preachers spending time **teaching** disciples and **developing** them, with a great awakening among us. We thank God for the New Era, the Era of Teaching and Development and Work, that is getting under headway among faithful disciples, as the Church News in this paper gloriously reveals.—D. A. Sommer.

The Sects Learn It By Experience—No. 2

Roland Allen is the next prominent preacher in the denominational world whom we consider as having learned by experience that the Bible plan is for preachers to "commit what they know to faithful men who shall be able to teach others." The Missionary Messenger says of him:

"The author writes 'as an Anglican to Anglicans.' That is, this ex-missionary to China is a member of the church of England which is but one step removed from the church of Rome, and it is marvelous that one who is accustomed to all the forms, ceremonies and ritualism

of this great denomination could see so clearly and express so well the New Testament teaching on the missionary methods of the primitive church. Because he is a practical missionary and because he has his enlightenment from the Book and testifies against the usual practice both of his denomination and of Christendom in general his instruction is doubly valuable. Mr. Allen is the author of a number of books including 'The Spontaneous Expansion of the Church' from which we have here quoted and 'Missionary Methods; St. Paul's or Ours?'

But here is what Mr. Allen says on:

Spontaneous Expansion of the Church

"Many years ago my experience in China taught me that if our object was to establish in that country a Church which might spread over the six provinces which then formed the diocese of North China, that object could only be attained if the first Christians who were converted by our labors, understood clearly that they **could by themselves, without any further assistance from us, not only convert their neighbors, but establish Churches.** That means that the very first group of converts must be so fully equipped with all spiritual authority that they could multiply themselves without any necessary reference to us; that, though, while we were there, they might regard us as helpful advisers, yet our removal should not at all mutilate the completeness of the Church, or deprive it of anything necessary for its unlimited expansion. Only in such a way did it seem to me to be possible for Churches to grow rapidly and securely over wide areas. . . . The restraint of ordination to a few natives specially trained by us, and dependent upon salaries provided either by us or by the small native Christian community, and the absolute denial, of any native Episcopate at the beginning, seemed to me to render any wide expansion of the Church impossible, and to suggest at the very beginning that there was something essentially foreign about the Church which demanded the direction of a foreign governor.

"The years that have passed since that early experience, and an examination of our missionary work in other lands have tended more and more to confirm that impression. I find that many of our missionaries are inclined to take the same view. . . . If the Church is to be indigenous it must spring up in the soil from the very first seeds planted. One or two little groups of Christians organized as Churches with their Bishops and priests, could spread all over an empire. They would be obviously and without question Native Churches. But if we establish Missions rather than Churches, two evil consequences which we now see in greater or less degree everywhere, sterility and antagonism, inevitably arise.

". . . This then is what I mean by spontaneous expansion. **I mean the expansion which follows the unexhorted and unorganized activity of individual members of the Church explaining to others the Gospel which they have found for themselves.** I mean the expansion which follows the irresistible attraction of the Christian Church for men who see its ordered life, and are drawn to it by desire to discover the secret of a life which they instinctively desire to share; I mean also the expansion of the Church by the addition of new Churches.

"I know not how it may appear to others, but to me **this unexhorted, unorganized, spontaneous expansion has a charm far beyond that of our modern highly organized missions.** I delight to think that a Christian traveling on his business, or fleeing from persecutions, could preach Christ, and a Church spring up as the result of his preach-

ing, without his work being advertised through the streets of Antioch or Alexandria as the heading of an appeal to Christian men to subscribe funds to establish a school, or as the text of an exhortation to the Church of his native city to send a Mission, without which new converts deprived of guidance must inevitably lapse."

Now here is the point to this quotation: If development of all the faithful men on the foreign field so that they can teach still others, is the only effective way to convert China and India, **is not the same method necessary to convert ungodly America?** This does not harmonize with what J. N. Armstrong, president of a southern Bible college, said, years ago: "The quickest way back to Jerusalem is to establish Bible colleges," and he almost pronounced damnation on those who would not help when he said: "Our college may not depend on your donation, but your soul may depend on it." Brethren, I don't know how the experiences of these foreign missionaries affect you, but it encourages me very much. It shows that the great principle of development of "faithful men" to teach others, is the only plan which will accomplish big and scriptural things for God. I believe that the enthusiasm among true churches of Christ today has come as a result of such development. But we have only begun. Paul wrote to ALL the brethren among the Hebrews and said, "YE ought to be teachers." (Heb. 5:12.) How many of our readers are doing all they can to spread the everlasting, soul-saving gospel of Christ?

A Mind To Work

There are many good lessons to be learned by reading the Old Testament. In this time of indifference on the part of so many professed followers of Christ, there are two scriptures that I find myself thinking about a great deal. One is Ex. 35:5, 6, and the other is Neh. 4:6. Turn and read these passages and think on them seriously. Therein lie the two things needed to accomplish the Lord's work.

From the beginning God understood that the very nature of man required that he have something to do. So he gave Adam and Eve the job of dressing and keeping the garden of Eden. After the fall he placed other duties on them as punishment for their disobedience. But even those burdens proved to be blessings. It has been said that life's greatest joys are the outcome of life's greatest sorrows. How true that is, can be testified to by every normal woman who has brought a child into the world. What act is accomplished with any greater pain and sorrow than childbirth; and what greater joy than that experienced by the mother when she holds her new babe in her arms for the first time?

We often hear people lament about the tiresomeness of continual physical labor; but what a sense of satisfaction and well-being comes as the result of a day of honest labor and seeing our task well done! This all shows God's merciful goodness, that even in his punishments there is a blessing.

And just as God intended for man to have physical labor to do as long as he is capable of working, he also intended that he should keep busy in spiritual work. And oftentimes in order to do spiritual work we must of necessity do physical labor.

Noah's work of building the ark was both spiritual and physical. And all the time he was building the ark he also preached to the people. Now how do you suppose he ever found time to preach when he had to work all

the time? From the time of man's fall to this present day God has decreed that man shall earn his living by physical labor and shall eat his bread in the sweat of his face. It will be so until the end of time. Knowing that fact, God has also required that if man ever reinstates himself he must also work for Him. We are told in I Tim. 2:15 to "study" and in Philippians 2:12 to "work out your own salvation," etc. The New Testament is full of admonitions to work, study, press forward, fight a good fight, etc.

Israel's work of building the tabernacle was both spiritual and physical; and just as Noah followed God's instructions for the ark, so Israel did in building the tabernacle. Those who have read about the children of Israel know that as a whole they were not a faithful people. God referred to them as a rebellious and stiff-necked people. They frequently wandered from God, and just as often were brought back by God's severe rebukes. But in the building of the tabernacle they had a willing heart (Ex. 35:22), and they gave until they had to be restrained by Moses (Ex. 36:5-7). So the work was done just as God's work will always be done when His children have willing hearts and "a mind to work." (Neh. 4:6).

The children of Israel had become so desperately wicked that God allowed them to be taken captive by a heathen nation for a period of seventy years. Their country was inhabited by other people and their beloved city of Jerusalem, where God had recorded His name, was destroyed. This was done to cure them of idolatry. At the end of the seventy years God put it into the heart of the king to allow them to return and rebuild Jerusalem. Ezra and Nehemiah tell us how this was accomplished. Those people returned to Jerusalem a much chastened people and with a great desire to rebuild their city and re-establish their worship. There was only a small number compared to what their number had been and the task before them was very great. The foreigners of the land opposed the work and at one time caused it to stop, but not for long. Finally the work was finished and it was because the people "had a mind to work."

God's house (the Church) is in a bad condition today and the people are becoming very wicked. God may see fit to straighten us out by sending a severe rebuke in the form of war. If he sees fit to do so there is no way we can prevent it, except the people hasten back to Him with "a willing heart" and "a mind to work". Will we do it?—Mrs. Ralph Shearer.

The Spade Helps the Immersionists

Many people have borrowed the Roman Catholic's method of pouring for immersion, and try to justify themselves; but according to Newsreel, Jan. 22, 1940, Mussolini's excavators at the mouth of the Tiber River have come across a "basilica built some time in the second century" which shows that immersion was practised then. The Newsreel says:

"Inside the basilica was a wall between the church proper and the baptistery. And it was in the baptistery that Calza made his most interesting find—a marble tank with the water pipes still intact. **Evidently the Ostia parishioners were immersionists.** (Most modern sects permit immersion, but among large churches only the Baptists, Christians and Disciples require it. Others think it sufficient to pour or sprinkle a few drops on the neophyte's head.)"

Church News

Another Forgotten Scripture—"Be ye thankful." With bombs dropping on millions of people in Europe, we should from the heart thank God for our freedom from such, and show our thankfulness by trying to please Him.

Middletown, Ind.—We are in the midst of a good work in Anderson, and we believe that Bro. Huddleston will do us a lot of good. Send 25 copies of the May issue on the Kingdom of the Clergy if you have them.—Frank Summers.

Webster Groves, Mo.—I am pleased to say that the work in Webster, which is a mission point, is progressing nicely. Our attendance is very good and the interest is fine. I am sure that this point has a splendid future.—E. M. Smith, 516 Mason.

Glendale, Ariz.—The church here wants 200 of the Missionary Number of the M. C. We surely appreciate the recognition of faithful churches, and hence their support. We are holding our own and gaining ground all the time without compromise.—C. A. Sanderson.

If you would like a copy of Mosheim's Bible History, Fox's Book of Martyrs, and Josephus, write Mrs. H. N. Baker, Cameron, Mo., R. 4, concerning completeness, condition and price.

Carbondale, Ill.—Would like to see more reports from congregations telling how they conduct their regular Lord's Day morning services. I hardly think any one will think they are boasting. It will be an incentive to some of us.—Mrs. R. J. Hudson.

St. Louis, Mo.—We have again sustained a heavy loss from the church in Topeka in the passing of our beloved brother, G. W. Case, Jan. 4. He served as Elder in the church at Hartford, Kans., for years. We sorrow not as they who have no hope.—Wm. Ketcherside.

In their relations one with another, the question among disciples is not, Who is the best preacher? who is the best singer? who is the best Bible teacher? who is the best writer? who is the best personal worker? I don't think God is interested in this. But with Him I feel sure the question is, Who is doing the most in saving souls, helping the needy, strengthening and developing the disciples according to his ability.

St. Louis, Mo.—We started these "Girls' Meetings" in Sept., and hold them the second Tuesday in every month. We have 14 single girls at Lillian and usually about ten attend. We meet at 6:30 for dinner. One girl says grace, and after the meeting one of us says the benediction. After dinner we have an hour's discussion on "Fellowship," "Prayer," "Worldly Pleasures," etc. If anything comes up that we can't answer to our entire satisfaction, we write our questions in a letter to the ladies at Lillian, who meet every first and third Thursday from 11 to 2:30. They thresh them out and write the answers in a letter that we read at our next girls' meeting. Every girl participates. A verse or topic is assigned her by one of the girls almost a month ahead of time. It's working out very satisfactory so far. We sing hymns after the discussion.—* * *

Hammond, Ill.—Am again sending you a list of 16 subscriptions to Macedonian Call, for which you will find enclosed check. The Church at Hammond is now in good working condition. We had a fine meeting with Bro. Carl Ketcherside. The church was both built up in number and spirit. Our Bible reading is going on nicely with good attendance and interest, Bro. W. G. Roberts as you know conducting.—Dallis M. Artis and Wife.

Council Bluffs, Iowa—The Church at Council Bluffs sends greetings to all the faithful brethren in the Lord, asking your prayers for us here, that we might continue to build upon that foundation which Brother Paul has spoken of in 1st Cor. 3:10. May God help us all to stay in that straight and narrow way, for we know that although there be but a few, this is still the greatest way, because God in heaven is with us. May God bless and keep us all till that great day.—From the Church at Council Bluffs, Ia., by Vern Harris.

Jennings, Mo.—After reading the December M. C. on the subject of duties of parents toward their children, I want to say that is the best I've ever read and would like to pass that on to others and would like to know the cost of about 75 or 100 copies of December issue if you have them. Also you can count on me for 100 copies of Missionary No. during 1941.—J. L. Baldwin.

Brookport, Ill.—The local congregation continues to move along nicely. The congregation at New Liberty is doing fine;

brethren continue to go out there every Lord's day morning and at night service to help them. The brethren here will continue to do this until they are able to carry on the work. We intend to hold them two more meetings, however, before we do this—one in the spring and one next fall, the Lord willing.—A. T. Kerr.

A few days ago the publisher picked up a Nazarene paper on the street car, read it through, and when he reached home sent some literature to the subscriber's name on the paper. Which reminds us that many of our brethren go to work on cars, buses, and wait in stations, etc., a good place to drop literature. If Christians who travel thus every day would get 100 of the January issue of the M. C. and would drop one on their seat a day for the three months till next Missionary issue, there is no telling how much good they would do. You surely are interested enough to hand out, send over or drop down 15 pieces of literature in three months. The name of the local church could be written, or printed, on each copy. Last night when waiting for a bus I searched around and read ANYTHING to occupy my mind, names of tires, advertising on calendars, signs, etc., etc., and other people are the same way. And don't you know, the little effort we put forth to drop or send or hand that neat little piece of literature where some way-worn traveler may be helped, will itself react on us and help us keep our minds "on things above?" "Preach the Word Through the Press."

"If any little word of ours can make one life the brighter;
If any little song of ours can make one heart the lighter;
God help us speak that little word, and take our bit of singing,
And drop it in some lonely vale, and set the echoes ringing."

Riverside, Calif.—The attendance at church in West Riverside is holding up as good as usual, having some outside attendance. We are anxiously looking forward to Bro. Riggins' work here.—Earl Fiscus.

A man writes: "I want to take the M. C. if it is still being published. I never knew this paper existed until a short while ago when I read two old copies (last Jan. and Feb.), which came to me through a relative." If the M. C. speaks the truth, you see one way of spreading the truth.

A preacher went to a dead church and worked and worked and prayed with it, but saw at last that he could do nothing with it. So he announced publicly that the church was dead and that the next Sunday night he was going to preach it's funeral. There was a big crowd there, and the preacher had a coffin up before the pulpit. When he had given them the truth regarding their condition, he opened the coffin and asked them all to pass around and view the corpse. The coffin was empty, but in the bottom of it was a large mirror!

If every Christian were just like me,
What kind of a Church would Christ's Church be?

Of course, monkeys don't care who wear their hats, and pottery workers don't care if milliners imitate their gravy bowls and women wear them, but Paul says, "Women adorn themselves in modest apparel." On January 22 Dorothy Dix said that with all her experience she finds that the things men most admire in a woman are Simplicity and Sincerity.

El Paso, Texas—You will please find \$6.00 postoffice order for which you will forward my subscription one year to M. C. and the \$5.00 is to help you in sending out religious literature, for it certainly is needed in these times of worldly-mindedness and apostasy of the Church. I love to help in the good work you are doing.—Mrs. T. D. P.

Bonne Terre, Mo., Dec. 9.—I am in my third meeting since the Nevada Mass Meeting. Was at Waukomis, Okla., last of October, then to Old Antioch, south of Fredericktown, then to this place. Weather has hindered some at the last two places, but the interest has been very good at all places. I believe we should all be interested in preaching the Word, not a part of it but all of it. I baptized Eugene Bush at Carbondale, Ill.; he is a nephew of J. R. Bush (deceased) and in his sixties. You remember J. R. at Salina, Kans., I am sure.—H. L. Carlton.

Indianapolis, Ind.—The publisher and part of his family spent New Year's eve at New Castle, Ind., listening to the Development program which the church had. I think that about every man and boy in the church took some part. The meeting lasted three and a half hours. That was surely better than being at a night club, or drinking or carousing somewhere else as the "world" does, and many professed Christians. After which we went to Bro. Forest Achors' home till the New Year came

in. 'We rejoice at the awakening almost everywhere among the brethren regarding putting the members to work. Witness the many good reports in this paper. Let us thank God and take courage. I spoke one Sunday night recently at Bridgeport, Ind., nine miles out of Indianapolis, for the small and new group there. About 65 people were present. I visited every house in the village and I think Bro. Springer has, too. We are hopeful. I also spent one Lord's day with the faithful little group at North Salem.—D. A. Sommer.

Pecks Mill, W. Va.—Am still on the firing line of the gospel of Christ. Was called on last Lord's Day to attend the funeral of Golden Gillenwater, 20 years old, of Leet, W. Va., killed in mines by a slate fall, a son of one of the gospel preachers, General Gillenwater. Very sad occasion indeed.—Melvin White.

That January issue makes a handy tract.—Bill Hensley. . . . Well pleased with the January Missionary Number. Send me 15 copies each quarter.—Wm. H. Thompson. . . . Just received my copy of the January issue. It is excellent. Send 15 each quarter.—L. C. Roberts. . . . Your last M. C. is very, very good. I am enclosing a dollar for a few.—(Indiana elder). . . . Send us twenty of the January issue. We think it awful good.—Mrs. J. A. Butler. . . . The Missionary issue of the M. C. was exceptionally good.—Ben Huddleston. . . . I like the change in size.—Mrs. J. W. Tygett. . . . Please send us 200 of the January issue. It seems to me it is getting better all the time. The January issue is good. I also like the size as it will be more convenient to carry and pass out.—J. B. Ruth, California. . . . I have read the January issue with care and it suits my taste.—J. M. Ephland. . . . The January issue of the M. C. is very good, and I think neat in appearance as well as convenient in size. Please send.—O. C. Tee. . . . Received the January M. C. They are good, just the right size to send in a letter. Do you happen to have about two dozen of the December issue on "Fathers and Mothers." It's a wonderful piece and true and timely and ought to arouse fathers and mothers.—Mrs. A. Douglass. (I had some extra copies printed. Why not put a copy into the hands of all young or middle-aged fathers and mothers in the church?—Pub.) Some of the people here think the January issue is the best yet to distribute around.—Emily Baker, Topeka, Kans.

In order to conserve space, the M. C. has not thought it advisable to print extended obituaries of people who are unknown to its readers, yet sometimes there are those who are known to many. Sister Eva Baker, of Topeka, Kans., was one of these. She did some writing for the M. C. which was commended, and financially she helped the Church much. She was in her seventieth year and had been a faithful Christian from early life. The publisher of the M. C. and his wife visited in the home of the three Baker sisters immediately after the Nevada Mass Meeting, and our conversation the two days was practically altogether on religious matters. Bro. Freed preached the funeral discourse, and says, "We all miss her very much in our services, but we believe our loss is her gain." With Bro. Wm. Ketcherside, who lived there, the publisher says, "Many a heart will be sad at this report, for 'she hath been a succourer of many, and of myself also'." Soon we all, if we are faithful, shall join the Church triumphant, where we can enjoy our Savior and our beloved dead throughout eternity.—D. A. Sommer.

Indianapolis, Ind.—When in Indianapolis, why not worship with us. We are striving to please the Lord by following "The Old Paths" wherein is the good way. Our meeting house is located at Bridgeport, Ind., nine miles west on the old National Road (Route 40). We expect to do much in this locality. Our efforts already have produced fruit. Much interest is being manifested by the young folks in the Bible drills. Brother D. A. Sommer is co-operating in this work. We plan a meeting in the very near future. I am doing much personal work in this field. Let's work, brethren.—Millard Springer, 2031 South High School Rd.

Sullivan, Ill.—Since my last report I have been at the following places: Greeley, Goodwater, Centerville, Mo., and Des Moines, Iowa. There is no congregation at Greeley, just a community building. Had one addition, who placed her membership at West Fork. Five baptisms at Goodwater and nine delinquents came back and confessed their sins. I was at West Fork one week, had one addition. Baptized one and one restored at Centerville. Several almost persuaded, but for some cause they would not give up their worldly life; sad! The meeting at Des Moines was hindered much by the cold weather and snow. Not so much outside attendance, but I feel that much

and lasting good was accomplished by the meeting. I believe that the Word of God, when preached in its purity will accomplish good and bear fruit in time to come, even though we don't see visible results at the time. I am home for a while now. My next meeting will be at Brookport, Ill., the last of February.—C. R. Turner, 824 Blackwood.

Cawker City, Kans.—Because of our wet weather and his crowded schedule, Bro. Lloyd Riggins was only with us one week end in December. We trust that both these causes (which shortened our meeting) will result in good growth. We rejoice that the church is taking Bro. Riggins' time, for he always puts us all to work, and gives us those strong practical lessons that make each of us check our lives more closely. In the January, 1940, issue of M. C. Bro. Sommer so beautifully gave expression to "The Love That Lasts Forever." We appreciated his expression, and certainly we appreciate having this love; but what do we do about it? We who have this love can in a united effort try to influence others to grasp it. Just what is it worth to us in effort, time, and money to preach (by word and deed) the gospel to our brother's companion who is out of Christ? What is it worth to us to see the power of God working salvation in a home where it was before unknown? The works of light make manifest the works of darkness. When we learn (most of us learn far too little about it) of the financial sacrifice which some evangelists are making in order to go on preaching the Word we realize how little we are doing. Our first emotion may be that of pity for the sacrificing evangelist, but a little thought will make us realize that he is more to be admired than pitied, for he is making this sacrifice for Christ. Our emotion need never be envy of him, for we too are privileged to make sacrifice for Christ, and if we don't make it, according to our ability, we shall need all our pity for ourselves.—Henry and Mildred Van de Riet.

Walnut Bottom, Pa.—Bro. Harold Shasteen came and held his second meeting as was planned for November. There were no additions but much good was done in the way of preaching the gospel to the people of Shippensburg. Attendance was exceptionally good, anywhere from 25 to 40 non-members came each night and heard the pleas of the Church of Christ ably presented, and quite a number attended regular and were almost persuaded. The church meeting at 412 E. King St. feels very much encouraged and is looking forward to a number taking their stand with the body of Christ in the future. We are anxious to continue this work by having Bro. Shasteen return next May for another meeting, and ask that all brethren continue their interest in the work at Shippensburg by praying, visiting and sending what they can to aid in these efforts. Shippensburg is at present a wonderful mission point, and needs all the assistance that can be given while this interest is prevailing.—C. J. Beidel.

St. Louis, Mo.—As we meditate upon the events of the year 1940 we recall occasions for joy and occasions for sorrow. Almighty God, in his infinite wisdom, saw fit on January 17th to call to his long home our Brother R. L. Gaither. He has been sadly missed, but we realize it is God's plan and an event to be expected in the lives of all of us, "Flesh and Blood cannot enter the kingdom of God." We were made to rejoice by the additions of TWENTY-SEVEN names to our roll, SIXTEEN of these by baptism and ELEVEN membership transfers. We consider this a substantial gain. It required much study and upwards of one hundred sermons plus a show of friendship, interest and love on the part of all members to accomplish this. Whether you preached a sermon from the pulpit or not, you were partly responsible for this gain. In fairness to God, Christ and Christians everywhere it has been our duty (2nd Thes. 3:6, 1st Cor. 5:4, 6) etc., to exercise discipline in four cases. This is not only fair to those named above, but also to sinners. By way of explanation: a sinner, seeing one professing Christianity doing the same things that he on the outside does, will not be able to see the advantages of living a Christian life. Four families of the congregation have received small bundles of happiness to "bring up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" during the year. As has been stated in an issue of recent date, but is worthy of again mentioning, the Church was set in order by ordaining Elders and Deacons during 1940. And now a bit of prophecy, the year 1941 will bring us occasions for joy and occasions for sorrow, but we hope and pray that, as in 1940, our joys will over-balance our sorrows.—Jesse Parks, Congregation at 5344 Lillian Ave.

The issues of the M. C. in January, April, July and October are our missionary numbers. I state this again for the benefit of some new readers. The publisher is well pleased with the

response to the proposition to send 15 of each Missionary No. to one address for each quarter for a year for one dollar. It shows a rising sense of responsibility in individuals to do more to save others. We have bought nice envelopes the size of the paper which we shall now use to send these to you. We can get 30 copies into the envelope. Why not double your effort and hand to younger disciples to pass on to their friends who might be interested? It will help get the younger ones to doing something. Some one said the Church is like a bank—the more we put into it the more we think of it. Many professed Christians don't put enough into the Church, don't do enough for Christ to think much of it.

Almost every mail brings us cheerful words like this: "We read the Macedonian Call and think you are doing a great work for Christ." . . . It improves as you go along with it. May the Lord bless your work is our prayer.—J. A. Freed. . . . Am sending stamps for October issue. It's wonderful. . . . Mrs. C. C. Clark. (We still have a couple hundred left, and they are free for postage.—Pub.) . . . I think much good can be done by putting the M. C. into homes.—Mrs. Ben Price. . . . I sure enjoy reading the M. C. I wish all the brotherhood would read it. We sure are living in perilous times. We need a closer walk with God, and may you be encouraged to send out the warnings all along the way.—Mrs. W. S. Crank. . . . I enjoy the paper a lot and it makes the heart rejoice to get such encouraging news from the great battlefield of the Lord.—John W. Rhodes. . . . The M. C. is just what is needed and is doing a great work.—J. R. Cummings. . . . I read with care and consideration each article and they are all edifying, if we only HEED the warnings our faithful brothers give us.—Mrs. H. R. Mallady. . . . Enclosed find \$2.35 for Simplified New Testament and Guide through Bible History. God bless the M. C. It's a wonderful paper.—Mrs. Samuel Osborne.

Almartha, Mo.—Bro. R. O. Webb is conducting a Bible reading here three hours in the morning and two and one-half hours at night, having good interest and showing improvement. A number of speeches are made on Friday night. And we are sure the congregation here will be built up by the study of God's Word. The congregation at Ava is getting along fine by the help of someone there each Lord's day. At the close of Bro. Webb's meeting there were 18 members and 2 more came forward to unite with the congregation there. Bro. Carl Isham of Almartha and I have been there to help them along until first Sunday Bro. Webb preached there. Glad to have Bro. Arthur Freeman and wife with us. May we all fight the good fight of faith.—Hubert M. James.

Grafton, Ill.—Just a few lines from Jerseyville, Ill. The church here is progressing nicely with a new church building under way. Hope to occupy the building in a few months. Our attendance has greatly increased. This morning our meeting house was full. There are more young folk attending our services, which indeed makes us very happy. The M. C. is very good each month. This month the writing of Bro. Zerr impressed me very much on "Home Training." I think this command is neglected more than any other command in the Bible by Christian parents. We look out over the world of sectarianism and see how they have turned their young people loose to partake of anything Satan has to offer in the world, and we see how a lot of the sects have brought the works of Satan into the church to hold their people. You ask some of these young boys and girls why they go to church and they will tell you for the social life of the church. Every Christian knows Christ didn't die in order to build the church to be used for a play house. I pray God that every Christian parent will wake up to the fact that how we train and bring up our children today is how strong the future Church is going to be tomorrow.—Mrs. J. D. Pivoda.

Hammond, Ill.—Bro. Carl Ketcherside held us one of the best, if not the best, meetings ever held here with 24 additions. Soon after he left there were 5 placed membership and one baptized, making 30 added to this congregation. On Wednesday night after the meeting closed we secured Bro. W. G. Roberts to teach us a six weeks Bible reading. The interest has been so good and the crowds holding up surprisingly good we have decided to continue the Bible reading two more weeks. The Church is in good working order and at peace. Not a jar or discord in this congregation. We are exchanging talents with the Sullivan congregation, by one or two of them speaking here one Lord's day night and then one or two of us going to Sullivan and speaking. This is creating interest, too. Sullivan has a good working congregation also. Decatur brethren have

decided they want a Bible reading, so they have secured Bro. Roberts to go there and teach a reading, beginning on Tuesday night after he comes back from Missouri, which will be a three weeks' reading. Decatur, Sullivan and Shelbyville have been attending our reading here quite well and we appreciate having them.—Leader Charles M. Fleener.

Answers to Biblical quiz found elsewhere in this paper. 1. Greek version of Hebrew Scriptures. 2. Antioch. 3. Change in personal appearance in Christ. 4. Daughter of Levi. 5. John. 6. Paul's voyage. 7. 5,000. 8. Martha. 9. False.

Brethren often say that they had a "two weeks' meeting", when they had it over three Lord's days. And they remunerate the preacher for a "two weeks' meeting". But say, brethren, how do you figure? It took the preacher a day to come, and a day to return home, and the meeting lasted fifteen days (that extra day being a Sunday which is the most important day for a preacher who is devoting all his time to the work). And the preacher is entitled to two or three days at home out of that time as a traveling man is. So when it is all "figured out", has he not devoted about three weeks of his time trying to save your children and your neighbors? Consider this seriously and act accordingly.

Kentucky.—I think your little paper is a GREAT paper, and can sincerely recommend it as such. The May issue of this year was the first I had ever seen of the Macedonian Call, although I had heard of it before. I think you did a great work in your criticism of the one man pastor system. I think it is sapping the very heart of the church. Churches in this region don't seem to know that the elder's duty is to feed the flock, and the elders are not trained to do it. The "One Man Pastor System" is practiced a lot, but not perhaps in the same way as in the cities. The churches in this part very seldom keep the pastor laying around all week. Instead they have him drop in over the week-end and preach for them. As far as the principle is concerned, there isn't any difference. In my work as an evangelist I have done all I could to encourage the elders to feed the flock, and use the money that they are paying to the pastor to support the evangelist who is laboring in the field.—Homer Hunt.

The publisher was in the home of some disciples several years ago in a town of probably a thousand people. They said, "The Russellites are strong here from the literature they scatter." And yet we afterwards learned that there was ONE FAMILY of them. They were surely letting their light shine. I don't suppose that the Christian Scientists and Russellites ever heard the expression "protracted meeting" in the sense we use it, and yet those sects are growing. How come? They believe in scattering literature. If true believers will "Preach the Word Through the Press" more, they will get into thousands of homes they can not reach with the voice.

V. M. GILBERT AND "BIBLE COLLEGES"—In an announcement entitled "Two Workers Ready", by V. M. Gilbert, appearing in the Apostolic Review of April 19th, 1921, at page 11, he, V. M. Gilbert, highly recommends both Eugene Suddeth and Ben Huddleston and, in part, says of them that "they are all right on matters of discipline, and stand opposed to 'Bible colleges'." Gilbert further says of them: "These brethren are worthy", and he urges the churches to use them. It is to be noticed that in that announcement written by Gilbert in 1921 he considered brethren as "worthy" who were "opposed to 'Bible colleges'", while in 1936 Gilbert merely states that he is "opposed to the church supporting Bible colleges." There is a vast difference between the two positions. To be opposed to Bible Colleges is to disapprove such a college, the institution, the thing itself, by whatever means it is supported or financed; while to be opposed to the church supporting a Bible College indicates no disapproval of the institution itself, the college, but only disapproval of it being supported by contributions from a certain source, the church. The following example will tend to make clearer the difference in the two positions here pointed out: One may be opposed to grocery stores keeping open on Sundays without being opposed to grocery stores. In such a case it is not the institutions, grocery stores, that are opposed, but only the practice of operating them on Sunday.—O. C. Tee.

St. Louis, Mo.—The Bible reading at Almartha, Missouri, closed the night of Dec. 20th with between 150 to 175 persons present—several congregations were represented that night also. Everyone who attended seemed well pleased with the study and the elders affirmed the development of talent was appreciated and filled a need in being the most needed and best con-

ducted affair in the history of that church; and, no doubt, the the strength for the cause of Christ there is hard to be estimated. First public prayers and speeches were made by several young men and co-operation of all was a noticeable fact and was appreciated by the teacher. I was asked to return for more Bible Reading and meeting at Almartha this fall and to that end I am here at St. Louis preparing for them. I never enjoyed any work more and hope I may have the privilege to conduct more readings in the future. May we all be "stirred" to our duty more is my prayer.—R. O. Webb, Secor, Ill.

Snow Shoe, Pa.—Meeting here at Snow Shoe closed last evening. I came here from Shippensburg, Pa., where I again worked with the faithful little band of disciples meeting at that place. We had good interest from the beginning. It has thus far been a hard struggle for the truth there, but I believe the door of opportunity is now opening. I am to go back next May for my third meeting there. Bro. Mackey assisted much in the meeting here at Snow Shoe by his song leading, light and fire fixing ability, etc. Thirteen were added to the church while we were here. Some very capable young timber here for a growing congregation. Next June, the Lord willing, we will conduct a month's Bible reading for this congregation in view of establishing them on a more solid basis. We outlined a program for them to follow and sincerely believe a foundation is being laid for a working church of the New Testament. Much work to be done in the east, and God giving me strength I am trying to do my bit.—Harold Shasteen.

St. Louis, Mo.—After being with Bro. Carl in the work at Hammond, Ill., I conducted a two weeks' singing class for the church in Peoria. Not a large group there but they show much interest in the work and, I believe, have a good opportunity to grow. Back in the Ozarks in time for the closing night of the Bible Reading at Almartha, Mo., conducted by Bro. Webb. Enjoyed the speeches very much. With my home congregation at Brixey, Mo., for a few nights' song instruction. Preached there two Lord's days; also one Lord's day at Ava, Mo. Am now attending the reading conducted by Bro. Carl Ketcherside.—Ray Harris, Brixey, Mo.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa—Finished work at Unionville, Missouri, and feel that a bright future is in sight for congregations in that sector. There are seven congregations alone in Putnam County that appear eager to move forward in the work of the Lord. While in the work with the brethren at Unionville a business meeting was called with about nine or ten congregations represented, with elders and leaders present. A program of work was outlined for the specified purpose of developing each congregation in such a way so that it would be better fitted to carry on its own work. About three or four months will be set aside to begin this work. The length of course being determined by the number of congregations cooperating in this great effort. All brethren were interested, and I understand that Brother Wilbur Storm of West Riverside, California, congregation, has been selected to conduct the work. He will begin in this district about April and without a doubt we will soon hear of success among the brethren. May many other brethren see the value of the great job of developing all available talent in their congregations. Remember our greatest argument against the college and pastor systems is a living example of a congregation that cannot only do the Lord's work, but one that can do it efficiently. My cry as well as the cry of many others is: Build the Church upon the inside and it will aid a hundred-fold by converting sinners to Christ. My December work with the brethren at Sweet Hill (near Mankato, Kansas) had to be canceled, as bad weather conditions made meeting practically impossible. I plan to spend most of April with those brethren, who only number eleven, but are a group that let the world know that they are Christians. At present I am home and am conducting development of talent classes in my home congregation. We have a fine group of young people here who are gaining zeal. Again it is the same old key used: Putting everyone to work opens the great door to vast opportunities. Will begin my work in February with the brethren at Council Bluffs, Iowa. Expect to devote from February to June in a systematic program of work with Red Cloud and Fairbury in Nebraska and Sweet Hill in Kansas.—Bill Hensley.

Edwardsport, Ind.—We held our annual watch service New Year's night and we had a fine meeting with speakers as follows: Bro. Hugh Hedrie and Bro. C. F. Williams from Vincennes; Bro. Leroy Inman from Williams; Bro. Clarence Owen, Bro. Criss, Bro. Crumb from Lyons; Bro. Colman, Oakland City; Bro. Brewer, Bro. Homer Harvey, from Bloomington; Bro. C. O.

Riley, A. E. McClaffin, here. We also had visitors from Baile. A very fine meeting and a good way to welcome the New Year. Our crowd wasn't quite as large as in former years, because of so much sickness, but it's wonderful to be at these meetings; and one of my resolutions was to send the M. C. to as many as I can this year. So I'll enclose a dollar to send to . . .—Ann Mundy.

Sedalia, Mo.—I do believe the M. C. gets better every month; combats the errors that hurt the cause of pure Christianity in an untold degree today in such strong convincing way. The November issue is a real power. "The Octopus of the Church" is a masterpiece. Yes, and I would love to clasp Bro. Zerr's hand on his "home training" article, with a great big "amen." That has been dealt with too lightly too long, both in the home, pulpit and press. It seems to me we should wake up to the fact that what we let be developed in the minds and lives of the young today will not only likely shape their eternal destiny but will also shape the church of tomorrow. Why parents are so loose and careless toward their children's good is beyond my conception. Such parents want to claim Prov. 22:6 to be untrue these days, but I believe with all my heart the truth of it, and preach it with all the earnestness in me. Still I see parents go to worship on Lord's day, and let the denominations and the world with all their charms and fancies teach and develop their children. Oh what a sin to face in judgment. I have just returned home from a visit with the brethren at 1115 N. National Blvd., Springfield, Mo. I spoke for them Lord's day, Dec. 22, at both morning and evening service. . . . I found no better hospitable, true disciples of Christ anywhere than in Springfield, Mo. Bro. Kenneth Morgan of Davenport, Okla., stopped with the church here the same day I was in Springfield and spoke both morning and evening on his way home from the Chillicothe Bible Reading and his lessons were appreciated.—J. Oscar Paisley, 501 N. Prospect.

"We never did that way before." This is the expression some utter when wide-awake preachers or others try to stir brethren, get them to use the card system in membership, so that they will keep track of delinquent members better, or develop their talent more. Yes, and when we look back 25 years we remember a great lethargy among disciples so far as missionary work is concerned, and activity in general. Don't be too hasty in condemning some of the efforts of some of the preachers to arouse us to greater activity. Ask yourself if there is anything unscriptural in it, not whether you "never did it that way before." Send a stamp for tract on Christian Liberty which after years of experience and thought was prepared to help show us how far we can go. It may help keep us out of innovationism on the one hand and undue restriction on the other.

Washington, D. C.—We of the Brentwood Church of Christ (Brentwood, Md.) desire to make it known, through the medium of the Macedonian Call that we stand squarely upon the Word of God; that we DO endorse His word and none other; that we do not endorse, tacitly or otherwise, any teachings of any man; that we do not endorse nor encourage ANY MAN-MADE INSTITUTION to do the work of the Lord; that we invite any person, regardless of his religious affiliation, to attend our services for the purpose of hearing the truth and for that purpose only. It is our fervent prayer that the Grace of God be upon all who hear and obey only His Word. Yours in His name.—E. L. Keenling, 1400 Decatur St., N. W.

Anderson, Ind., Jan. 15th, 1941—We arrived in New Castle Jan. 2nd to assist the churches in this section of Indiana. At present we are comfortably located in apartments at 925 South 14th St., New Castle. The work assigned us by churches here consists of Bible instruction, Personal Development work, House-to-house calls and Preaching. Will labor with the congregations at New Castle, Middletown, Rigdon and Anderson, also a few other nearby churches throughout the entire year with the exception of six months which we have reserved for promised meetings. Last week we were at Middletown; had services every night. Had business meeting Monday night and 10-minute speeches by three brethren on Wednesday night; the other nights we spent studying Old Testament Bible characters mentioned in Genesis dealing especially with their characteristics and lessons learned by us in the study of their lives.

We are now at Anderson, a city of over 41,000 population. Have a present membership in the church here of nearly 30. They have had lots of trials in the past, but are a zealous bunch of willing workers. From their card files we have secured a list of delinquents which are the next to visit after visiting the sick. Have announced for services here each evening.

Last night here we had a Personal Development class of six brethren for 5-minute talks on subjects of their own selection. The speakers showed willingness to use the talents they possess, and it is very encouraging when brethren have a mind to work. The only preaching I will do here is Lord's Day morning and evening. We plan to labor all next week at Rigdon not far from Elwood. We appreciate efforts of brethren in trying to make us welcome and at home among them. Their kindness, hospitality and gifts have been very encouraging to us. The New Castle brothers and sisters gave us a shower of groceries the first week with them. We assure them that this consideration will always remain green spots in our garden of memories.—Ben F. Huddleston.

Topeka, Kans.—Since my last report on California work I spent three weeks at each of the following points: 11th and Lemon Sts., church in Riverside; Glendale, Arizona; Redondo Beach, Calif., and Home Gardens, near Corona. I preached six nights to some colored brethren in Phoenix during my work at Glendale. I spent a few days at Cottonwood, Ariz., Spokane, Wash., and Lamar, Colo., and arrived home just six months from the day I left for the West. I had fair health during this time, and was made to rejoice at seeing some baptized into Christ, and some take their stand with the faithful by relation at different places. A man from the Christian church and his wife from the Baptists placed membership at Lamar. This church was betrayed into the hands of a bunch of fanatical extremists some time ago, and was finally shut out of their building they had sacrificed so much to own, but they are courageous, and faithful, and will soon have another building completed in which to worship unmolested. They are in the dust-bowl area, and really need help of others but are too courageous to ask for it. Spokane has suffered a like fate. Such trials really test out the spiritual strength of the brethren, and bring out all that there is in us that is worth while. At Home Gardens I was assisted by Bro. James Storm, a high school student, who gave vocal instruction, and led songs through most of the meeting. The churches in California are seeing "the dawn of a better day." Brothers James Storm, Earl Fiscus, Wilbur Storm, Phillip Robinson, Jewel Gastineau and Stanley Barron are rapidly developing into faithful and forceful preachers of the gospel. Some are now able to take up protracted work, and should be encouraged to do so. I will answer any query I can to those wishing to know about their ability. Bro. Phillip Hintz, of Spokane, will also be ready for the field in the near future. I cannot express in words the amount of pleasure it afforded me to work with the brethren in the West. They are developing strong preaching talent among the older brethren also, who will do local work, and look after mission points, etc. They are dead set against the salaried "minister" system that has prostituted the churches throughout the country. May God help us all to be faithful.—Wm. Ketcherside, 2010 E. 11th St.

Spokane, Wash.—Since my last report, I was with the brethren of the Eureka congregation through a two weeks' meeting. Bad weather greatly hindered the meeting, so we confined our efforts mostly to getting the brethren to work. We left a program on the board, as suggestions for them and explained some good ways to put members to work. Word from Brother W. R. Sallee says it is going good. Brother Harvey, of the Chillicothe congregation, led the singing and did his part well. Brother Harvey is held in high esteem by brethren who know him. From Eureka congregation I went to be with the Green Mound congregation near Beloit, Kans. I am glad to report that congregation on the upward trend. Four people were buried with their Lord in baptism. One thing that is very commendable for the Green Mound congregation is they are willing to learn. So long as a people manifest a willing disposition, there is hope for that congregation. From Green Mound I went to Dentonia, where a little band of disciples is holding forth. This congregation has been established about two years and is really an example of faithfulness. Brother and Sister Henry Van de Reit are surely set for the defense of the gospel. Just before leaving Dentonia I received a call to come to Green Mound for the funeral of Sister Hazel Gentry, one of the faithful members of that congregation. She left a husband and two little boys, also a great number of friends. A funeral train one mile in length followed her remains to the cemetery. This good woman will be missed in the home, church and community. I returned home and spent the third Lord's day with the congregation at Anderson, Ind. This congregation, like many others, has had its trials. But those trials have strengthened the church there and it is growing in numbers and faith. My

work there has been to the end that they might be developed and established. They have had additions through the year at their regular meetings. We regret very much to have had to bid them good bye, but as our work calls us to other parts, there was nothing else to do. The fourth Lord's day, together with my family, we spent with the church at New Castle, Ind. We have enjoyed the work very much with these congregations in Indiana. They seem to be awakened to a greater sense of duty and are planning for greater things by putting Brother Ben Huddleston to work in that part of the country. Bidding my family farewell Dec. 30th, I turned my face toward the "far West." I stopped two nights with the church in Braymer, Mo. They have taken on new life and are putting their members to work under the leadership of Brethren Omer and George Phillips and Isom, as elders of the congregation. I am now with the brethren in Spokane, Washington. They are meeting in an "upper room" after they have been locked out of the church building by disgracing brethren. Another example of the "sweet spirit" advocated by the sponsors of the R. D. Truly the leopard never changes its spots. Expect to be here another week and then through Oregon into California to be with the brethren at Reedley. A busy year is ahead of me if life and health permits and we ask prayers of faithful brethren everywhere in our behalf.—Lloyd Riggins, 303 Cooper St., Charleston, Ill.

Is there any one who has carefully read this Church News that has not been stirred with a desire to do more for Christ? Well, if it thus affects us, will it not help affect ALL disciples? Would it not help the Church then if such Church News went into EVERY home of the Church of Christ? How many weaker brethren have you helped by taking their subscription or donating to them? Only 50c a year to new subscribers. "Preach the Word Through the Press."

Miscellaneous.—If you are holding a protracted meeting, and the weather interferes, why not turn the bad night into a Bible drill or development meeting? . . . One of the children of Bro. Lloyd Riggins, 303 Cooper St., Charleston, Ill., broke its arm which means an added expense to him with his large family. He starts out on a trip of six months to build the churches, and his wife who has had much sickness, must take entire charge. Why not, sisters, send her a donation to help hire some one to help her? . . . Robert Morrow, elder in St. Louis, fell from a scaffold and battered himself pretty badly, but from last reports he was getting along very well. . . . I know a man who recently made several of his children a present each of Smith Bible Dictionary. We can furnish this valuable book at \$2. . . . State your needs to us of FREE literature in a new or weak field and we shall see what we can do. Many thousands of pieces are sent out FREE each year, and any one can help do that that will. . . . In your study of Acts, do you know that the Simplified New Testament has an analysis of Acts on which we worked many days? Also it has a helpful analysis of every book in the New Testament which would help in the study of books as books. . . . There are many things which boys and men should know which are found in a reverential way in the book, "The Way of a Man With a Maid." Price \$1 at the M. C. office. . . . God says his Word will not return to Him void, so it is up to us to spread it among the people. . . . The encouraging thing about this Development work is that it goes on and on and on after the preacher has left the community, whereas often an exciting protracted meeting dies down and is lost. . . . A brother says that the May issue on the Clergy should be put in permanent tract form and that he will pay half of the expense. However, we had an extra number printed and we still have several hundred. They are FREE for the postage. Send for them and keep them going. More than fourteen thousand copies are already in circulation.

Sullivan, Ill.—Just closed a two weeks mission meeting at Bruce, Ill., Jan. 24th. This was the first time the "Pure Gospel" was ever preached there. Had good attendance and interest throughout in spite of the rain, snow and foggy weather. Eight precious souls were added to the body, five by primary obedience and two from the Christian church and one from the Baptist. Six were married people. They will meet with the Sullivan congregation. I have some time open for protracted work this year, from the middle of April to June 15th, also from about October 15th to end of the year. Those desiring my services should write me at once.—C. R. Turner.

Indianapolis, Ind.—The publisher spent Jan. 20th with the church at Hartford, Ill. They have many good speakers there, and some preachers who are going out and doing much good elsewhere, and who purpose to do more of it this year. They

have helped Jerseyville much, at which place I spoke that Sunday afternoon. They will soon be in their new house at Jerseyville and are very hopeful. I spoke several times to the students in Carl's Bible Reading in St. Louis, and three nights to the three assembled churches there, who seemed to appreciate the teaching and admonition we presented. He has thirty-two students; quite a number of fine young men who will become useful to the Church we believe, as preachers and teachers. The teacher is not only teaching them the Bible but developing them in practically every phase of church work. This is good. Knowledge without the desire and ability to impart, and act of imparting to others, will give very little impetus to the great Era of Teaching and Development and Advancement which is now getting into swing in the true Church of Christ. Read closely the quotations in the article in this issue on "The Sects Learn it by Experience". "Commit thou to FAITHFUL men who shall be able to teach others."—D. A. Sommer.

SOMETHING DIFFERENT—A BIBLE READING IN SUMMER MONTHS

The Church of Christ, 304 North 14th Street, New Castle, Indiana, is sponsoring a Bible Reading of the entire Bible, of which a schedule is enclosed. The reading conducted by E. M. Zerr will start June 2, 1941, and close August 22, 1941. This is a vacation Bible course, and those who are of school age, or teachers of public schools, may attend and get through in plenty of time for the fall term. Also those of all walks of life, who have one week or more vacation, can consult the enclosed schedule and arrange their vacation so as to study any part of the Bible that they desire or need most.

Preachers who have a few idle weeks may be able to arrange their work to study parts of the Bible most desired, by consulting this schedule when planning their work. Work toward New Castle, preachers, and drop in some time in this twelve weeks and receive help from Bro. Zerr.

We, the home congregation of Bro. Zerr, wish to recommend him to the brotherhood as a teacher of all time. He has been preaching for forty-three years, has conducted twenty-two Bible readings, has read forty thousand pages of Ancient History in connection with Bible subject matter. Composed twenty-five thousand questions for Bible students as well as making a study of the original Greek. Through those scores of years Bro. Zerr has been tested and tried, persecuted, and even falsely accused, but has always stood firm on the Bible and the Bible alone at any cost. With his lifetime spent in the study of God's word, with the experience that has come to him in the fight for the right in many trying times in the past years, we wish to impress on the minds of the brotherhood the importance of studying under the leadership of such a valuable man. The things he has learned he is committing to others who love God and wish to advance the Gospel to the world, that they in turn may teach others also. As Paul told Timothy to do. II Tim. 2:2.

Now brethren of faithful congregation of The Church of Christ, we cry out against Bible Colleges, and contend to speak where the Bible speaks and to be silent where it is silent. And preach and teach to give God the glory in the Church, Eph. 3:21. But what are we doing to develop teachers and preachers of the True Gospel of Christ?

It is because this is a scriptural way to carry out this work that the Church at New Castle is sponsoring this reading. This is free to every one who wishes to come, except room and board; that will be arranged at a minimum cost. There is no tuition charged any one. This is our part at the New Castle congregation but Brothers, Sisters or congregation what are YOU going to do? Are you going to send or help send some worthy young man or woman to this reading? Brethren, think this over. Will we let the Lord's plan fail?

If there is any one who reads this letter and wishes to help, or if you are a worthy person and want to come and are not financially able, what ever your desires may be, we appeal to you to write us at once. We will put the two parties in touch with each other so you may work directly, or you may work through us. We will be glad to co-operate with both parties in any way we can. But Write at Once.

This Bible Reading will be of great benefit to the New Castle Church, but we do not have ourselves alone in mind. It is for YOU and YOU and YOU. We are advertising this course of study all over the United States and Canada.

In addition to the regular reading at night, it is planned to have a Vacation Bible School for children of this community during the day. Bro. Zerr states he is willing to give instruc-

tions in public speaking or anything else provided we have interest shown. These day classes will not interfere in any way with the regular night sessions.

Bro. Zerr will do his part, will WE do ours? So sacrifice a little for the Lord and come. We are counting on YOU, Brother and Sister. We know You will be greatly benefited by studying under Bro. Zerr. Address any correspondence to Tilden Lawson, 1914 South 14th St., New Castle, Indiana. The Church of Christ, 304 North 14th Street, New Castle, Indiana. Elders: Nathan Ridgway, Isaac Koons and Walter Huse. Deacons: Harry Flinn, Orval Vaughn, Tilden Lawson and Dallas Huddle. P. S. Please read this before your congregation and put it on your bulletin board or where it can always be before the brethren.

SCHEDULE FOR TWELVE WEEKS BIBLE READING

Conducted by E. M. Zerr, New Castle, Indiana

This course consists of sixty night sessions, two and a half hours per session. No sessions Saturday nor Sunday.

OLD TESTAMENT		NEW TESTAMENT	
Weeks	Days	Weeks	Days
1	1 Genesis 1-11.	1	1 Matthew 1-9.
	2 Genesis 12-24.		2 Matthew 10-17.
	3 Genesis 25-36.		3 Matthew 18-25.
	4 Genesis 37-50.		4 Matt. 26-Luke 8.
	5 Exodus 1-12.		5 Luke 9-24.
2	1 Exodus 13-27.	2	1 John 1-9.
	2 Ex. 28-Lev. 16.		2 John 10-19.
	3 Lev. 17-Num. 12.		3 John 20-Acts 7.
	4 Num. 13-Deut. 12.		4 Acts 8-18.
	5 Deut. 13-34.		5 Acts 19-28.
3	1 Joshua.	3	1 Romans 1-8.
	2 Judges-Ruth.		2 Romans 9-16.
	3 1 Samuel.		3 1 Cor. 1-9.
	4 2 Samuel.		4 1 Cor. 10-16.
	5 1 Kings.		5 2 Cor. 1-13.
4	1 2 Kings.	4	1 Galatians.
	2 Ezra-Neh.-Est.		2 Eph.-Philippians.
	3 Isaiah 1-27.		3 Col. 2-Thess.
	4 Isaiah 28-53.		4 1 Timothy.
	5 Isaiah 54-66.		5 2 Tim.-Philemon.
5	1 Jeremiah 1-20.	5	1 Hebrews 1-6.
	2 Jeremiah 21-52.		2 Hebrews 7-13.
	3 Lam.-Ezekiel 21.		3 James-1 Peter 3.
	4 Ezekiel 22-48.		4 1 Peter 4-1 John 3.
	5 Daniel 1-5.		5 1 John 4-Jude.
6	1 Daniel 6-9.	6	1 Revelation 1-10.
	2 Daniel 10-12.		2 Revelation 11-15.
	3 Hosea-Joel-Amos.		3 Revelation 16-19.
	4 Obadiah-Zephaniah.		4 Revelation 20-22.
	5 Haggai-Malachi.		5 Recitations-Questions.

While above shows body of the work, there will be also many other features such as questions, map and chart work, and markings on various passages not otherwise covered. Also each Friday evening short recitations on subjects previously assigned. This will be for practice and developing of talent.

Let it be noted that while this schedule is for complete course, yet very satisfactory subdivisions come. First, two equal divisions of time for the two Testaments. Likewise, the two-week periods stop at appropriate places. For instance, the first two weeks cover the Pentateuch. Next get the history and Isaiah, while the next get all the following O. T. prophecies. And in the New Testament, first two weeks get the Gospels and Acts, next the epistles to Philemon, last get from Hebrews to end.

And so while it is always advisable to take the entire course, congregations that cannot do so may choose that part of the course, from one week up, that is considered most needed or most desirable at the time.

What One Tract Accomplished

A man by the name of Richard Gibbs wrote a tract entitled "The Bruised Reed."

A tin peddler gave a copy to a boy named Richard Baxter, whom God used in a mighty way. Richard Bax-

ter wrote a tract entitled, "A Call to the Unconverted." Among the thousands led to Christ through reading "A Call to the Unconverted" was Philip Doddridge, who later wrote "The Rise and Progress of Christianity." This book fell into the hands of William Wilberforce, and was the means of leading him to Christ. As a result he freed all the slaves of the British Colonies. Wilberforce wrote "The Perfect View of Christianity," which fired the heart of Elijah Richmond, who wrote "The Dairyman's Daughter," which was printed in more than fifty languages. Millions of copies of this little booklet have been circulated, and God is still using it.

All this record of results came from one tract given to a boy by a tin peddler. And that old tin peddler will share in the rewards of Baxter, Doddridge, Wilberforce, Richmond, and all the others who will be led to Christ as a result of their lives and ministry.—Moody Monthly.

Science and Supposition

Too many people have the idea that everything that goes under the name of science is science indeed, when quite a good deal of it is pure supposition. Men have speculated much as to the origin of our solar system. Laplace developed the "Nebular Hypothesis," which assumed that our sun was a great whirling mass, and threw off large gobs of hot sun-stuff, and that these whirling gobs finally developed into our earth and the other planets. For decades this theory was told as if it were gospel truth, and it made millions of disbelievers in the Bible account of the origin of our system.

Later astronomers abandoned this theory and developed another called the "Encounter Theory," which assumed that there must have been some outside influence such as another star which came near our sun and drew off the planets. There was much disagreement on this theory, but it seemed generally accepted. But in Time magazine, March 11, 1940, we have this:

"In spite of this lack of agreement on forms of the encounter theory, modern astronomers have favored the theory in general. **But last week it looked as though the encounter theory was about ready for the scrap heap, along with the nebular hypothesis of LaPlace.** . . .

"Lately Dr. Lyman Spitzer, Jr., a National Research Fellow at Harvard, mathematically analyzed the conditions which would exist in the gob of hot sun-stuff. **He showed that, even under the most favorable conditions, expansion would take place more than 100 times as fast as cooling—therefore that a planet would never have a chance to form.** In the Scientific American last week his work was explained by Princeton's grey, gentle Henry Norris Russell, a great authority on the solar system, under the gloomy title, 'A Famous Theory Weakens.'

"A few astronomers now favor the notion that the planets were born of explosion—that the sun once flared up as a nova or 'new star,' scores of which have been spotted in the far sky. Novae throw off shells of gas, potential planetary material. **But Dr. Russell declared that even this idea offered no escape from the Spitzer mathematics.** The shells of gas would still be hot, they would still expand too fast to permit planetary formation.

"Last week, in short, science might have been glad to write off the solar system as an optical illusion."

It is really easier to believe what the Bible says about this than what these speculators say. So we shall wait five or six hundred years to see whether their guesses come out all right before we shall accept them.