

Macedonian Call

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

Volume 15

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., AUGUST, 1941

Number 8

"How Much Owest Thou Unto My Lord?" Luke 16:5

By Mrs. J. O. Parker

DO we ever stop and consider the above scripture and realize what we actually owe the Lord? How much do we really owe Him? Are not we and all that we possess His? We are not our own, we are bought with a price. (1 Cor. 6:19, 20.) Also Psa. 24:1, "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein." Then what share are we giving to Him who actually owns all? Are we giving as we have been prospered, or are we giving what we have left over after getting all the things our carnal inclinations desire?

We see that God in His infinite wisdom has left man to be his own judge in giving as he has been prospered. (1 Cor. 16:2.) Again, "by their fruits ye shall know them." (Matt. 7:19, 20.) We must remember that God knows how much we are prospered the same as he knew the possessions of Ananias and Sapphira (his wife). They had agreed to give, and then afterward tried to hold back a (Acts 5) portion of it, hence lied to God. While God does not require us to sell what we have and give it all to Him, yet he does require and commands us to give as we are prospered. So we see if we just give a little as we want to, or feel like, we disobey a commandment of the Lord. And is not one command as important as another?

How many of us give until we feel it? A familiar expression is, "give until it hurts." But it shouldn't hurt any of us to give to the Lord. We read, "God loveth a cheerful giver." (2 Cor. 9:7.) And then, too, that really would not gain the Lord much in some instances, for it hurts some to give a dollar when they really ought to give many times that amount. Thus a man robs God! (Mal. 3:8.) Those that have plenty, even though they give liberally, are giving or doing no more than those who give a small amount and have barely a living left. Take, for instance, the men and women who have good homes, profitable business, bank accounts, or land with good crops, etc., and they contribute, say, five dollars (perhaps some more and a good many times less) on each Lord's day; and the poor man and woman (as I have known) who have to work hard every day to support a family, give one dollar each Lord's day. Whose gift would be the most satisfactory in the eyes of the Lord?

We read in Mark 12:41-44 how Jesus sat and beheld the people cast money into the treasury: how the rich cast in much, and the poor widow threw in two mites. And Jesus told his disciples that this poor widow had cast in more than they all, for they gave of their abundance and she gave all she had. This same Jesus sees the treasury today as he saw it then. We must not give grudgingly, or as some one else, but give as we are

prospered; that's the command. If all Christians would do this God's Church would prosper the more, too. God knew when he made this arrangement that if all did as he commanded them, and gave of their means, time and talent, there would be no reason why his Church should not prosper.

If we would take the same interest in His Church that we do in our own homes and business affairs what a great difference it would make! "For where your treasure is there will your heart be also." (Luke 12:34.) Then let us set our affections on things above, not on the earth. (Col. 3:2.) We travel this way but once, and let us improve the time while yet we may, realizing that the time soon will come when man's work is done. Then what will our answer be? If we have held back from the Lord that which we should have given him, what will it be worth to us then? For we brought nothing into the world neither can we take anything with us. We will have to leave it all. Maybe the Lord will get some of it and maybe not.

How many of our young preaching brethren (yes, and many of the older ones) are forced to quit preaching and go to secular work, that their families might be provided for! Do we ever stop and think what a sacrifice the majority of preachers are making (that is, the true Gospel preachers), also their wives as well? Even though they are reasonably well supported they are separated from their homes and loved ones maybe months at a time. That alone seems hard enough without worrying over financial affairs.

Look at the preachers who have given up good salaried positions where they could be making a good living and lay up considerable beside, and instead go out into the world to preach the Gospel! Dear reader, is it not our duty to do all we can to help support those who are proclaiming the Gospel to a lost and dying generation? Not alone to support those who are already out, but help send out many more, for "the harvest truly is great but the laborers are few." (Luke 10:2.) There are preachers in the brotherhood who have given up their positions where they were making \$100 and \$200 and more per month, and go out and preach and take what they get, which sometimes might be fair wages and many other times not even their expenses paid. **Why should they be expected to give so much more to the Lord than do others?** They don't owe the Lord any more than do the rest of us. So why expect them to do any more? If they are willing to give up all and go out and preach, should not every other Christian stand back of them and push? Would that be any more than fair. God will not be pleased with our serv-

MACEDONIAN CALL

Devoted to the work of establishing and developing New Testament churches.

Published Monthly by
D. A. SOMMER
918 Congress Avenue
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

Subscription Price, \$1.00 a Year
New names in any number, 50c each.
Old names in clubs of five or more, 75c each.

Entered as second class matter May 1, 1936, at the post office at Indianapolis, Indiana, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

ices if we neglect the giving of our means to the extent that preachers are forced out of the fields and are compelled to take up secular work to provide for their families while souls they might have helped save are going into eternity unprepared to meet their God.

Then there are many needy who perhaps are not blest with as much of this world's goods as are some of the rest of us. We might help some of them bear their burdens. We read in 1 John 3:17, "But whosoever hath this world's goods, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?" The 18th verse of the same chapter tells us not to love in word or tongue but in deed and truth.

How can we say we love God and withhold that which rightly belongs to him? "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, saith the Lord." Are we going to let our work and the cares of this world crowd out the Lord's time? (See parable of The Sower, Matt. 13:22.) What are we so busy about? Is it trying to make more for the Lord to help carry on the work at other places, etc., and lay up for ourselves treasures in Heaven, or is it for the pleasures of this world, where moth and rust doth corrupt? (Matt. 6:19, 20.) If God has prospered us with good crops, business trade, etc., what do we give in exchange?

A great many times we get busy—oh, so busy—we have no time for the study of God's word, no time to develop our talent, no time to encourage the younger generation (who soon will have the affairs of the Church to look after). We may be so busy and the summons come to us as it did to the man in Luke 12:20, "Thou fool! this night thy soul shall be required of thee." Then we will have time to leave all and go, and take nothing with us. Shall we then hear our Savior say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant"; or shall it be, "Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity!"

Dear reader, let us think on all these things, for we do not know when we shall be called to give an account of our stewardship; and let us give more of our means, time and talent to God who gave his only-begotten Son that we might have Eternal Life.—Mrs. J. O. Parker.

Put Christ in Your Will

Many of our wealthy people die every year, who bequeath thousands to their children or other heirs, without giving one cent to the cause of that Saviour who is their only helping friend and refuge in the trying hour of death, and their only hope beyond the grave. At a time when they can no longer need or use their money, when

they must give all away, they give nothing to Him who suffered and died for their redemption. When the Saviour bought us with the greatest "price" in his possession, ought we not to give to him at least part of what we can no longer use?

Doubtless many who read these lines have already made their wills. . . . Have you made any bequest to the Saviour's cause? If not, we entreat you to do it yet! You will not regret it in the dying hour. Remember the Saviour's cause in this most solemn declaration of your closing life! Make him one of your heirs, and your money will be put to good use.

Dear Reader, think and pray over this matter! On the Judgment Day you must render account of ALL your deeds; fill the account with benevolent acts and gifts, and forget not Christ and his holy cause, in the final deed of your life—YOUR Will.—Benjamin Franklin.

"Laughing Last"

There is an old saying that "he that laughs last laughs best." This may seem to be a strange expression to use in religious comparison yet it is a true one. In Luke 6:21 Jesus said, "Blessed are ye that weep now for ye shall laugh." This was spoken directly to the disciples who were destined to undergo severe persecutions at the hands of the enemies of the Gospel. But the consolation couched in the words is a principle taught throughout the teachings of Christ and the apostles.

There is a trait of human nature that calls for immediate enjoyment of things to be had. If one must look to the future for the realization then he is apt to become indifferent as to the conditions of receiving them. The salesman understands this when he tells his prospect that he need not wait long for the article under consideration but will receive it "in just a few days" or, better still, if he can carry his wares with him so that the would-be patron can see it and know that if he wishes to make the purchase he may have the article he is looking at without a moment's wait, then the sale is more apt to go through. Man does not want to wait for it.

This all holds good with reference to the rewards and punishments spoken of in the divine Volume. The awful doom of the unsaved usually falls short of arousing the sinner because it is not claimed to be immediate. He "puts far the evil day" and says he will be concerned with those matters when he sees them but that he will not allow himself to be troubled now. For this reason he will not adhere to the duties of the service to Christ faithfully if he is to suffer persecution or even inconvenience as a result of his faithfulness. He wants peace NOW. Also, since the life of sin offers him enjoyment NOW he is thereby led to take that course.

It must be admitted that if comparison is made at the present time between the true servant of Christ and the worldly minded man, the latter seems to have the advantage. He is free from the arduous tasks that belong to the holy service and is left to pass his time in the enjoyment of the pleasures at hand. The Christian is at the same time running a course that is narrow and full of self-denial and sacrifice. He is looked upon as an unfortunate creature who is missing many good things in life and is observed with an eye of pity. He is laughed at by the people of this sinful world.

But the Christian's laughing time is to come later. And not only is he to be consoled with the truth that he will "laugh last" but his laugh will be longer than will that of the worldly man. It will be endless and genuine.

While the enjoyments of the man of sin are of short duration and are disappointing in the end. And in spite of his claims of solid happiness he is continually tormented with the thought that his day of selfish gratification is fast passing away and that when gone it will never return. That he must ever be looking to the moment so near at hand when the sun is to go down on his day of unrighteousness never to rise again and that an endless span of existence awaits him in which to atone for his shortlived spasm of worldly living.

How different the lot of the man who was willing to "mourn now" if need be on account of devotion to Truth. The few years of service to Christ, although fraught with trials and the denying of many things desired by the flesh, will soon pass and leave instead the sweet prospect of an endless reign of bliss in company with saints and angels and the personal association with the Father and Son. Such unspeakable prospect is far weightier than all the alluring baubles of this sinful world.—E. M. Zerr.

Vacation Bible Study

The writer has recently conducted a vacation Bible study, and God willing, shall soon conduct another. The great value of these studies has been impressed upon him far above his expectation.

The accomplishments of such a study are these:

First, it gives the children an astonishing amount of knowledge, which they remember well. It helps prepare them for a good, clean Christian life.

Second, it is the best of advertising. The teaching of the **Bible** to children of non-members eloquently carries home to those parents the creed of the church of Christ—the Bible. One little boy at the above-mentioned Bible study said this to his father the first night as he compared with a denominational Bible study, "**They didn't do nothing but play games. We're studying the Bible.**"

Third, it opens the way to many effective personal contacts on friendly grounds. Parents are interested in their children, and enthusiasm is catching, even from a child. Opportunities never otherwise gained, to tell of Christ and His church, to tactfully point out the errors of the denomination world, are made.

Fourth, the member takes on new spirit because of the enthusiasm and splendid performance children will always give. Any teacher used gains invaluable experience, becoming a greater asset to the congregation.

In sum, a well arranged vacation Bible study, taught by competent teachers, should be held by every congregation of the church of Christ. You'll be surprised at the results.—Henry Boren.

On Church Government

M. C. for June on Church Government, received Saturday, and it looks so good, we are glad there are 12 pages, but have not had time to read more than half of it yet. When I came to article, "The Elders (Bishops) of God's Church," the entire two pages were read with extreme care. For many years I have realized that so much depends on a **more strict adherence to God's word in the appointing of men to the office of a bishop**, to look after the welfare, teach, train and guide a band of disciples. Many times a congregation has failed to prosper or exert a good influence in a community, as a result of ignoring inspired and explicit instructions on this subject found in 1st chapter of Titus and 3rd chapter of 1st Timothy. A man in order to fill the divine requirements must be

measured up from so many different viewpoints, all of which are important: He must be one who has good understanding of the plan of salvation: "**Holding fast the faithful word** as he hath been taught, **that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.**" (Tit. 1:9.) The Lord knows what is best for the church collectively, as well as each member of the body. He did not make a lot of mistakes in revealing his law for our guidance.

I am sure a sincere seeker after truth and righteousness would do well to **read the entire tract: "Untangling Ourselves, or Self Government and Church Government,"** making a careful and prayerful study of the inspired scriptures in connection therewith, "working out your own salvation with fear and trembling." (Phil. 2:12.)

Keeping ourselves in God's fear and favor is no child's play or light matter. Our Saviour said, "Search the scriptures: for in them ye think ye have eternal life and they are they which testify of me." Let us not be of those who say they know God, but in works deny him. (Tit. 1:14, 16.) It is evident that many are imitating ancient Israel when it was said of them: "**My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee;** That thou shalt be no priest to me; seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children." (Hosea 4:6.) "Woe unto them that call evil good and good evil: that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight." (Isa. 5:20, 21.) That which was written aforetime was written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.—Emily Baker.

A Warning to Preachers

I have been in the church 55 years. During that time I have had many experiences. I have known many things that caused corruption in the church. I rejoice greatly to see and read of so many young men now starting out to proclaim the true gospel of Christ. But I realize the dangers that are before them. Some will depart from the truth as others have done. You must be on your guard—always use the sword of the spirit.

I want to mention a remark I heard Bro. Daniel Sommer make. It is still good advice. That remark was this, "A preacher should stay out of the kitchen unless he has to go to the kitchen to wash or eat his meals. He should never go to the kitchen and put on an apron to help the sister cook, wash and dry dishes." I believe that advice is just as good today as it was then. To my knowledge that has brought reproach on the church. Sometimes it has been the cause of the preacher stepping aside, sometimes the sister, and sometimes both. A preacher usually has his room and unless the man of the house is at home he should not spend too much time with the man's wife or daughter. The sister should be just as careful as the preacher.

I don't believe it best for the sister to ride around with preachers doing personal work. Usually a brother can go or the preacher can go alone or the sisters can go together.

Now very likely some will say, "Oh, she is an old foggy, or an old timer." I'll admit I am—that is why I know the devil has not stopped; he is still at work. I have a grandson just starting out to preach the gospel. I read a letter he had written to his mother where he said he had been helping the brother shock oats. I can say O. K. to that.

Wilbur. You can help the sisters, too, if they need you to dig some potatoes or pick beans for dinner; but don't hang around the kitchen. I never did hear a word against Bro. Daniel Sommer's character, nor Bro. Austen's. Yet they were both pleasant to have in your home.—Judith B. Stone.

"Receive My Instruction". Prov. 8:10

God at all times, through his infinite love toward man, has endeavored to make the road we tread in this world as enjoyable as possible. The man who knows the will of God and will keep his statutes "happy is he." (John 13:17.) The thing that is so vital and important in this chaotic time is to get people to realize the necessity of receiving instruction from the Most High.

The instruction of God is to the human family as a map and a compass is to the tourist. The God of heaven never intended for us to stumble blindly through this world of strife and turmoil without a guide. The Bible, our only guide, will be of no avail unless we are willing to receive its instructions. Wisdom and knowledge of the scriptures constitute all of the instruction of the Bible. Paul speaking to the young evangelist Timothy says, "From a child thou hast known the holy scriptures which are able to make thee wise unto salvation." If the instruction of God will make us wise unto salvation what more are we looking for?

Solomon asked God above all things to give him understanding, that he might discern between good and evil. (1 Kings 3:9.) May that be our prayer today, that we may hear and understand the way of the Lord more perfectly. "A wise man will hear, and will increase learning." (Prov. 1:5.) Scriptures like this only bring before us the realization of the numerous multitudes of people who are not wise in the sight of God. All too often people have had the false idea that instruction ended with baptism. If instruction ends with baptism why were the epistles written to the "baptized believers" to tell them how to live a Christian life? God's instruction to the human family instead of ending just merely begins with baptism.

According to the purpose of God in reference to the whole human race, things are so arranged and set in order that every man, in reference to spiritual and eternal blessings shall certainly and infallibly have his own choice. Therefore life and death, good and evil, happiness and misery are placed before man, and he is commanded to take his choice. He makes his choice by the instruction he has obtained. Then in order for him to remain within the bonds of God's love he must accept the instruction of the Creator. Therefore, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure.—Winford Lee.

Satan's Defeat

Job was a good business man; the greatest of all the east; he was also noted for his piety. He had 7 sons and 3 daughters, a horde of servants and 11,500 head of stock. Job and the Lord were partners. The Lord gave the increase; also the rain, air and sunshine. Job was business manager and they divided the profits. The Lord had plenty of raw material, Job had an abundance of faith, hope and zeal—no wonder they prospered.

Satan stole the property, killed the children, scattered the servants and covered Job with boils; moreover his wife and friends forsook him—through it all Job was faithful, patient and devoted to the Lord (his partner).

After this the Lord restored his fortune and added 100 per cent for good behavior. He was not only given 23,000 head of stock, 7 sons and 3 daughters but 51,000 days were added to his already extensive life. Job's life was a good investment. His piety made him useful to others—no prayer but that of Job could save his enemies. (Job 42:8.) Likewise no prayer but that of Christ will be accepted at a throne of grace for us. (Heb. 4:15, 16.)

Job's Experience

Whether we talk of **wealth** or of **want**; of **friends** or of **foes**; of **patience** or of **piety**; of **business** or of **boils**; we will find **Job conversant** with them all.—A. R. Moore.

Just a Word About the Young Folks

I think most young people have a tendency to "youthful lusts," because nature is their first teacher. They know nothing, "but what they know naturally, as brute beasts," Jude 10. I fear most parents fail to teach their children how to overcome those lusts. If they would teach their boys and girls to avoid all familiarity in conversation and actions, and teach them the evils of such, and to respect each other as gentlemen and ladies should, there would be less heartaches. The habit of necking and petting among the young people is the cause of divorces and broken homes. It makes the girls nervous and irritable and unfits them for the duties of wives and mothers. Paul wrote Timothy, "Flee also youthful lusts, but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the name of the Lord, out of a pure heart." (2 Timothy 2:28.)—A Follower.

Christian Growth

As new born babes desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby. (1 Peter 2:2.) When we are born into the kingdom of heaven (or the church of Christ), then some one must look after us, must feed us, and it must be some one that knows what food is best for us. We must have pure, wholesome food. We must have food that we can digest (understand.)

And as we grow older we should be able to take stronger food, such as would be fit for our age. Paul told the Corinthians, "I have fed you with milk and not with meat, for hitherto ye were not able to bear it. Neither yet now are ye able." These were yet babes. Paul had preached the pure word to them but they had not received it in full and put in practice what they had been taught, for Paul said ye are yet carnal; they had not fully given up the worldly things. (1 Cor. 3:2-3.) Paul to the Hebrews, "For when ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again the first principles," and he tells them they are yet babes. (Heb. 5:12-13.)

The Lord has established his Church here in the world. He has placed in the Church bishops and deacons as officers in the church. These are the only officers authorized by the apostles. (1 Tim. 2:1-13 and Titus 1:5-9.) The bishop, or Elder as he is commonly known, should feed, or teach the babes in Christ, and also the older ones.

We are commanded by Paul to obey them that have the rule over us. (Heb. 13:1.) The Elders are the ones to rule in the church, but not as a lord over the Church, but as an example. (1 Pet. 5:1-3.) Paul calls the Elders to him and tells them, "Take heed to yourselves, and to all the flock over which the Holy Spirit hath made you overseers to feed the Church of God." (Acts 20:28.)

Feed the flock of God which is among you; taking the oversight thereof. (1 Pet. 5:2.) The Bishop or Elder is, according to the Apostle's teaching, to take the oversight, or the rule; he is the shepherd of the flock. The teacher, and he is the pastor; and the Church should honor him if he is serving the Church according to the Word of God. Then this being true, and it certainly is according to the New Testament, there is no place found in the word of God for the so-called pastor as hired preacher; he is imposing upon the people, trying to make them believe they can not get along without him. He tells them the Church will go down without a preacher. What are the elders of that church doing? Are they faithful? If they and the church are doing their duty according to the word, the Church will not go down but will prosper.

We as members of the one body should work together in harmony, all with the same mind (with the mind of Christ). We are old enough now to begin feeding ourselves, to come to the table of the Lord (the word of truth), spread with all the necessary food to cause us to grow. The Lord has given us all things that we need in his word. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, that the man of God may be thoroughly furnished unto all good works." (2 Tim. 3:16-17.) "According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and Godliness." (2 Pet. 1:3.) We have the inspired word of God—all things needed to make us grow and develop a true Christian character.

If the New Testament is the perfect law of liberty (James 1:25), then we do not need any man-made creeds, discipline, or confession of faith. All we need is to read and study and meditate earnestly continually day after day, week after week, until we have come to a knowledge and understanding and until we can give a reason of the hope that is in us. (1 Pet. 3:15.) The New Testament is the law of the Lord, to govern his people, the Church. Let us be subject to that law, and not surrender to opinions and doctrines of men, for Christ is our King. Let us be loyal to him at all times and under all circumstances; then we will grow in grace and knowledge and in usefulness; we will add to our faith virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and charity. If we do these things we will never fall. (2 Pet. 1:5-10.)

Now as we have sat at the feet of our teacher Jesus and have learned many things let us put these into practice. Paul said, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teaching and admonishing one another." (Col. 3:16.) "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, but exhorting one another." (Heb. 10:24-25.) We have been called out of the world by the Gospel, as the children of Israel were called out of Egypt by the Lord and passed through the Red Sea and were baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea. (1 Cor. 10:1-2); and passing through the sea, entered into the wilderness led by Moses. There they murmured and rebelled against Moses and against God; and thought God would let them perish, for food and water; and desired Aaron to make them a god that they might be led by it back into Egypt, where they had been in slavery but had plenty to eat to satisfy the desires of the flesh. God was displeased with them and allowed them to wander around in the wilderness until all the adults that passed through the sea had perished by the plagues except two, Caleb and Joshua, which two God found faithful. The rest, more than six hundred thousand, perished in the wilderness.

And Paul said these things were for examples for us, and were written for our admonition. (1 Cor. 10:1-11.)

The church has been called out of the world into the kingdom of Christ. So we as Christians will meet with all the trials and temptations and discouragements through our travel here from the Red Sea (baptism) to the River Jordan (death). So as Paul admonishes us let us be very careful that we do not lose faith and fall as they did, but let us work, for we will be judged according to our works.

We find some of these works in the following: What doth it profit, my brethren, if a brother be in need and we just say I'm sorry, what will that profit? We must have works along with faith. (James 2:14-26.) "That they do good, be rich in good works, ready to distribute willingly to communicate." (1 Tim. 6:17-19.) "But to do good and to communicate, forget not, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased." (Heb. 13:15-16.) "But if any one has this world's goods and refuses to give to a brother in need, how dwelleth the love of God in him?" (1 John 3:17-18.)—A. W. Sisoo.

Church News

Spokane, Washington.—We are encouraged by the willing attitude shown by those who are asked to use their talents in our group, and are happy to notice their improvement from time to time. We have visitors practically every Lord's Day, and the same ones return quite frequently. Another thing that will help the church here considerably is Philip's return from Carl's Bible reading. It has done him untold good, and he is passing that on to others.—Arnold Hints.

"Enclosed find check for which please enter my subscription one year to the Macedonian Call. I'm a rural mail carrier and have been glancing over your paper, one copy of which I regularly deliver to one of my patrons."

Bartlesville, Okla.—We finished an interesting work here July 2. We consolidated their forces and laid a foundation for a greater work in future. Ten placed membership, one was restored, and one baptized. I began at Neosho, Mo., July 6, where we hope to do some good. I am happy to be physically able to work in this field this year. Will arrange to conduct from six weeks to a three-months' reading after the holidays if brethren desire my service this winter.—Wm. Ketcherside., 2010 E. 11th St., Topeka, Kans.

New Liberty, Ill.—I am in an interesting meeting at this place with good attendance. This is near Brookport, Ill. Began the 20th, will continue until August 3d. Will go next to Polo, Mo., for two weeks, beginning Aug. 10th; then to Shelby, Mo., to sing with Bro. H. C. Carlton, beginning Sept. 8th. After that I shall begin development work among the churches in the northern part of the state of Missouri. —Oscar Paisley, 711 W. Hansen St., Brookfield, Mo.

Topeka, Kans.—We have been busy in the Lord's work and hope to continue so through to cold weather. In August we will hold a meeting and Bible study with one of the Kansas Mission points established near Marietta, Kans. These brethren need the help of the Church. Send your contributions to E. R. Noel, 2619 Ohio St., Topeka, Kans., who will pass it on to work where needed. There is more work to be done besides this work near Marietta, Kans. The Lord willing I will be in Illinois and Indiana in September and part of October. If any wish me to visit them let me know at once. In Christian hope, J. A. Freed, 370 Swygart St., Topeka, Kans.

Brookport, Ill.—Enclosed find \$2.00 as fellowship in the last issue of the M. C. on Church Government. I believe this was about the best issue ever put out. I know it will do much good. Our work for the Master continues to move along nicely. The new congregation that was established over a year ago at New Liberty is growing in grace and knowledge. The meeting begins there on the 20th of this month. Bro. J. O. Paisley will do the preaching and I believe he will do good there. You will remember that he came from the new digressives and I think he should be given some work.—A. T. Kerr.

"Enclosed find . . . for which send the M. C. to . . . the balance to be used in the fine work you are doing. I have been reading the M. C. for some time because my father takes it. I wish my roommate here to read it."

Mill Creek, Mo.—We have moved from Bonne Terre, Mo., to Vienna, Ill. I began a meeting here at Antioch last night, south of Fredricktown. I also held a short meeting at Reeds Station, near Carbondale, Ill., in April and baptized two.—H. L. Carlton.

Brookfield, Mo.—I left Sedalia, Mo., Wednesday, June 25, and settled in Brookfield, Mo., to enter into development work among the churches in this section of the northern part of the state. Brookfield is awake to the sense of duty along that line. So we are much interested in other congregations in the vicinity of Brookfield that they join with us and cooperate with us in the work. We are hereby urgently inviting and requesting that such be done. I had the pleasure of baptizing one man, head of a family in Sedalia, about a week before leaving there. Please take note of the change of my address from Sedalia to 711 W. Hansen St., Brookfield, Mo.—J. Oscar Paisley.

Fairbury, Nebr.—Bill Hensley and Roy Harris just finished a two weeks' meeting and also our third annual Daily Vacation Bible study on June 15th. We advertised it quite extensively and considering the fact that many children could not attend because of measles, etc., it was still a success. This combination of a vacation study for the children in the morning and a meeting for all in the evening is good and I can recommend it to any who are wondering what they can do to encourage the Gospel. We think so highly of the plan that we are planning on a similar program again for next year with these same two fellows doing the teaching.—Truman Sterner.

Sullivan, Ill.—Since last report I have held meetings at La Junta, Colo., Gadsden, Ind., and Carrollton, Mo. I am now in a meeting at Rock Hill near Carrollton, began last night, July 21. I was in La Junta two and one-half weeks, had very good meeting considering the school activities. Nine additions, six by immersion, three restored. Wife and oldest daughter went with me and enjoyed it very much. We stayed in home of C. C. Dudley, a fine place to stay. At Gadsden we had 10 additions, four by immersion, four restored and two from Christian church. Wife was with me there and enjoyed our stay in the home of A. L. Wakefield. Bro. Wakefield is very zealous in the Lord's work. Carrollton brethren say we had the best meeting they have had for years, almost full house every night the last week. Thirteen additions, two by immersion and 11 restored to fellowship, some of them from other congregations who now live in Carrollton. I enjoyed my work at all these places and feel that I have a lot of good Christian friends at each place. I am to return to Gadsden and Carrollton next year. I go from here to Brookfield, Mo., August 4th, then to Chillicothe August 25th for two weeks. Congregations wanting my service in '42 should write me at once.—C. B. Turner, 824 Blackwood.

We must center our hopes on the unchangeable God and not changeable man. It is saddening to see how men slip into an easier way. Twenty-five years ago, many preachers stood against permitting Bible college preachers to enter our churches where they could teach their heresies, and against endorsing them, according to 2 John 10, 11, yet now have joined hands with them. Among these are Jas. Scott, Verna M. Gilbert, A. E. Wickham, Jesse Bunn, Chesley Frits, John S. Johns, J. M. Horney, J. C. Roady, A. R. Kepple, Vernie Love, et al. Who would have thought these men would have made such a complete flop, most of them now willing to settle down and be "pastors" (feeders) instead of the elders—a system they once denounced. The Open Door Policy of the Review is largely responsible in making it easy for them thus to slip away from God's Word. And some of the preachers and elders, possibly, and others, who now seem to be against these evils will in time drift, too. It is nothing new. But Christ is "the same yesterday, today and forever," and to him alone should we tie ourselves.

Jerseyville, Ill.—W. Carl Ketcherside conducted a two weeks' meeting in Jerseyville, closing June 15th. It was a very successful meeting—had six additions, and look forward to a favorable future for the Church. During the last week Bro. Carl held a Vacation Bible Study. This, too, was a success. Are planning on one again next year.—Norman Campbell.

Nevada, Mo.—The Church here just closed a two weeks' meeting with Bro. Wm. Ketcherside doing the preaching. He gave us some wonderful lessons. Bro. Wilbur Storm filled the pulpit two nights, Bro. Ketcherside having been called away by the passing of his mother. Four were added to our number, three were immersed and one restored, causing our hearts to rejoice. Our prayers go out for these brethren as they go forward into new fields of labor.—Mary C. Journey.

"From my first glance at the June issue, the conviction came to me that one man can follow a basic thought and develop it more clearly with additional space than can two men by a di-

vision of that same space. I am sure that my writing part of the September issue would only interfere with your development of the theme and serve no good purpose. . . . But I now believe the tract could best be written by you.—W. Carl Ketcherside.

Indianapolis, Ind.—Enclosed are a few stamps to send out the April issue. Please accept what I send in as given to the Lord's work. When I cannot attend meeting but seldom, it is my duty to give as I can and I believe the paper is doing a good work.—M. A. C. (This is from a sister who stays home to take care of her aged mother, who is a widow.—Pub.)

* Children and all the rest of us are impressed more with what we see than what we hear. That is the reason that charts and maps help a preacher much. Pictures for children regarding Bible stories aid them materially. For that reason we have obtained Foster's Bible Story in Pictures (the same one who wrote the Story of the Bible which we advertise), which contains several hundred pictures with the story told in a few words. We think a most excellent work for children, especially those too young to read. Price \$1.50. Remember, also, that if you need "Great Songs" for your fall meeting, we can furnish them in round or shape notes, fifty cents each, postpaid. Also we can furnish the enlarged edition of this for 65c each. Don't wait till a few days before your meeting before you send.

I am sorry that Carl entered the debate without a moderator. I have dealt with the New Digressives so much that I am sorry to say that thus far I have found not one even honest, say nothing about being a gentleman or a Christian. I have much dealings with both Old and New Digressives and I find the Old to have more honor than New. It seems to me that these two articles should not go unnoticed. The truth should be told in forceful language so that all could understand. (He refers to untruthful articles in the Gospel Advocate regarding the debate.—Pub.)

Hammond, Ill.—Last Lord's day we had a real good meeting at Decatur, Ill., with Bro. L. C. Roberts as speaker forenoon and at night. In the afternoon we had a business meeting for the purpose of stimulating the mission spirit more and making arrangements for Bro. L. C. Roberts to locate in Decatur, to do some mission work, which he expects to do later. Several congregations represented and took part. At Hammond, Ill., that same day one more was added to our congregation by statement. Hammond congregation is moving along nicely and developing much public talent. Charley Fleener is an efficient leader and is getting much good work done by the members. Brother Noah Smith, an elder at Sullivan, preached here Lord's day night to a fine, attentive audience, but on his way home he had an auto wreck and got pretty badly hurt. However, he is up now, but not well by no means. We all love Bro. Noah.—W. G. Roberts.

Mayfield, Kans.—Bro. R. O. Webb and wife of Secor, Ill., was with us two weeks during May, at Caldwell, Kans. Every sermon was good and instructive as well as his drill work. No converts, but we believe good was done. On June the 1st, Bro. Wilbur Storm visited us and preached three good sermons. He is surely a power for one so young. This impressed those who heard him. We think hearing these two brethren should be convincing one doesn't need to go to Bible college to be a good preacher. We ourselves would like to have them both back at some future date. This was the first efforts at Caldwell with a loyal preacher.—Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Barnard.

Gallatin, Mo.—Bro. Harold J. Hays of St. Joseph, Mo., spoke at 11 o'clock on Lord's Day morning, June 15th, at this place to an audience which numbered 105, the largest that has assembled here for some time, it being necessary for more extra chairs to be placed than at previous times. Bro. Hays speaks in an interesting, edifying manner that holds the attention of his hearers to the last word. During his work here he has been of much help to the church and two have been added by primary obedience. We predict a great future for this young speaker. He expects to be with us again the third Lord's day in July. Should any loyal brethren be considering a change of location we feel that Gallatin (a county seat town) and surrounding country offers splendid business opportunities and we would be glad to reply to any inquiries.—D. Patterson, Box 383.

Because there will be no Reports in the Special September issue, and would also be none in the Missionary Number in October, we have decided to run the October Missionary Number over till November, and make the October issue the usual issue with Reports, etc. If you need any Missionary numbers for your work, remember we have plenty of back numbers, July, April, January. Any of these missionary numbers will be good ten years from now, just the same as now.

Ethel, Mo.—The Vacation Bible Study that has been conducted at 59th and Kenwood closed yesterday. The churches in Kansas City believe it to be one of the most beneficial types of work they have engaged in. The congregation at 26th and Spruce cooperated 100 per cent with the brethren at 59th Kenwood. I firmly believe the churches need more Vacation Bible Study. I go to Paola, Kans., June 29 to hold an all-day meeting. Churches desiring any services this fall and next year can contact me at the above address.—Winford Lee.

We think that the September issue of the M. C. on the College-Clergy issues will be the most important for home missionary work that we have ever put out. I say "home Missionary", because it will be addressed to our erring brethren who have departed from the Scriptures through their Bible colleges and one-man preacher-pastors. We think it will be the hardest blow yet they have received—from their own writings and from history and the Word of God. The Pepperdine College will receive its share of attention. Don't you know MANY good brethren tinctured with these evils to whom you can send copies. How many copies will you take at two cents a copy to pay expenses? I find many people whose minds have been turned in the right direction by reading one piece of applicable literature. We can send this bomb shell out only through your aid. There are about 3,500 preachers of "churches of Christ", and 7,500 correspondents of "churches of Christ". We can go ONLY as far as YOUR contributions show how much you are interested in leading these brethren back. But let us know SOON that we may know how many copies to print.

Martinsville, Ind.—After reading the June issue of M. C. on "Church Government," I believe it to be the best article, and as much needed as any that could be written to the members of the body of Christ. Bro. and Sister W. G. Roberts paid a short visit recently. It was a privilege to have them with us. Bro. Roberts gave us two very forceful lessons on June 15th. The church here is working. The men are divided into four groups, each group is in charge for one week. This includes Wednesday night meeting. Bro. Arthur Freeman is scheduled to begin work with us on July 6 and continue throughout July 25. Also Bro. E. M. Zerr will conduct a three weeks' Bible Reading beginning Oct. 13.—Chas. H. Powell.

Waynesville, Ill.—Just closed a two weeks' meeting with two additions. One placed membership with us from another congregation and one by baptism. Brother Everett LeMar of Decatur did the preaching. Bro. LeMar is not an ordained preacher—he came to us just as a member of the church. "I am not a preacher," he said. Nevertheless he can and does preach the word. Bro. LeMar has helped us a great deal in the last two years, driving over from Decatur, Ill., and preaching for us. Also Bro. Charles Phillips of Wapella, Ill., has helped us very much. He led the singing for this meeting. Also Bro. Rolla Smith of Normal, Ill. This young congregation was started August, 1939. There are at present eleven members. One old brother, W. R. Fullenwider, passed to his reward on May 27, 1941. Bro. LeMar preached the funeral sermon, and was also called upon during his meeting here on June 26th to officiate at the funeral of Sister Spray of near Wapella, Ill.—A. W. Cisco.

Say, brethren, don't you think it wise to be as interested in letting God talk to you as you are in talking to God in song? You will spend fifty cents or more each for a song book for use in the meeting house, yet pay ten or fifteen cents for a finely printed testament which is no inducement for anyone to read—testaments you have at the meeting house. We have searched a good while before we found a real suitable testament for the racks on your seats. It is bold-face, self-pronouncing, and has maps of Paul's Journeys and of Palestine. I thought it could be sold for 35c each, but find that I must charge 38c each. Shouldn't you be as concerned in spending twenty dollars or more in GOOD testaments to let God talk to all present, as in talking to God in song? EVERY one present should look on a testament while brethren expound the Word of God. Make it easy for them to do this by bold-face testaments.

Glendale, Arizona—This is our first report since Bro. Lloyd Riggins assisted us in our meeting in March. We have for several months conducted our services so everyone has an opportunity to participate in each meeting. Our intentions are that every one should do all he is able to do and that each should develop himself for greater service. There have been two air-bases established here in the valley: Thunderbird Field and Luke Field. There will be a third air-base located at Higley, or Mesa, Ariz. Any faithful disciples who have boys in training in any of these air-bases please write them to attend our services and make our acquaintance. We will be glad to have them in our

homes and assist them in every way possible. Write C. H. Cassell, Rte. 3, Box 415, Phoenix, Ariz. Our meeting place is American Legion Building, Glendale.

Two Kinds of Clubs—The publisher of the M. C. has the past few months received several clubs, some written in tracts, some in letters, some spoken. Some say we are too loose, some say we are too narrow. Some that we are too strong; some not strong enough (for their hobby.) A brother wrote yesterday that certain ones were after my "hide". A college man in Indianapolis recently denounced our paper over the radio. But we are determined to fight for the truth as we see it. We try to console ourselves by remembering the old saying that "The best apple tree has the most clubs under it." Now our friends can help us much by throwing a different kind of club at us—a club of subscribers to the Macedonian Call. Sometimes men fight fire with fire; this time you can nullify these harmful clubs with your good "clubs." I shall be waiting to catch them as you throw them. Who will be the first to throw one? I shall announce in the M. C. New subs., 50c each; old, in "clubs" of five or more, 75c.

Riverside, Cal.—Concluded a three-weeks' meeting with the West Riverside congregation. It was really a pleasure to labor with them. Our attendance was good; as good or better than has ever been, brethren said, in spite of the fact that a highly advertised Unity meeting was in progress in town and too where people could go and get most anything excepting the gospel of Christ. We are spending the present week with the congregation which meets at 11th and Lemon; doing some development work which is badly needed. The Lord willing, am to begin with the little band which meets at Redondo Beach. Visible results in the West Riverside meeting were three reclaimed and one baptized. Thus we press on, rejoicing that the gospel is being preached and the church being strengthened and souls being saved.—Lloyd Riggins.

Bonne Terre, Mo.—The second week of the vacation Bible study here reached a peak attendance of 46. Interest has been very good, the attendance having been nearly doubled since the study began. This work is being done by Henry Boren of St. Louis and in addition to the Bible study for the younger folks during the day has conducted development classes, song practice, teachers' training and a Bible study for the ladies. Also preached one night each week at Mine La Motte, Mo. Mr. Boren has been preaching each Lord's day morning and night here and has delivered some very excellent discourses, being soundly grounded in the faith. He has proven a very capable worker and is a most welcome addition to those who are going about to spread the truth of the gospel. The second Sunday in June the annual all-day meeting was held with an attendance of 180. Brothers Boren, Carlton and Anderson each delivered 25-minute talks in the morning, all three of which were excellent. Brother Carlton has moved his family back to Illinois and they are very badly missed. At the present time he is engaged in a meeting at the Antioch Church which he established a short time ago. This congregation is moving along nicely under the leadership of the churches at Bonne Terre and Flat River.

Neosho, Mo.—Our congregation is at work with the instruction of Bro. Wm. Ketcherside. He has been with us twice this year instructing in music (vocal) and other good work. We are looking forward to July, on or about the second week, for more of his able instruction. We want the Brotherhood to know there is a loyal congregation located at Grant and Young St., Neosho, Mo. Brethren will be going on their vacations. We will welcome them to worship with us. If any one knows of any members close to Neosho please write Bro. Bert Skinner, Baxter St. Road, Neosho, Mo. Macedonian Call is doing a great work. May we all appreciate your work more in the future than we are doing to help you now. May God bless you in your good work.—Mary C. Cook.

What Some Think of the Self-Government and Church Government Issue—I think the June issue on Self-Government and Church Government is quite the finest to members that I've seen yet. We are so anxious to convert the world and to see that the other fellow comes up to a certain standard that we are apt to forget to take care of ourselves. There were so many good things in it that I marked certain parts for future reference.—Mrs. Ralph Shearer. . . . Every soul should read that issue—wonderful lessons.—Blanche Dodd. . . . The June issue was a dandy number. In fact, Rose and I read each issue as it comes, and almost invariably the first remark we make is that it seemed the best of any we have had yet.—Truman Sterner. . . . I believe this about the best issue ever put out. I know it will do much good.—A. T. Kerr (Elder). . . . The issue of Church

Government meets a present-day need. I also approve your plan for September College-Clergy issue. You can count on \$5 from the Roberts.—L. C. Roberts. (And that from a poor preacher, while many with their thousands will give nothing to help enlighten our college brethren! They ought to revise their song book to read, "Here am I, O Lord, send YOU."—Pub.)

Bartlesville, Okla.—Closed at Nevada, Mo., June 15. Many things hindered us there. I was called out of that work in the death of my dear mother. Also I conducted the funeral of Bro. Roy Norris at Nevada, and during my first week there I went to Neosho and conducted funeral of Sister Fern Cooper. She and her sweet little eleven months-old baby boy were burned to death when her home was destroyed by fire recently. She and Bro. Cooper were united in marriage by the writer in 1937. Inclement weather and other obstacles cut our attendance at Nevada, yet we succeeded in baptising a lady and her daughter. Also Bro. Roy Norris' daughter obeyed the gospel during this effort. Our vacation Bible study involved three days per week. This, I think, was their first experience in such work. I expect a much greater work in that line next year. Began a three weeks' effort at Bartlesville June 15. I take over the work there tonight, June 16th. Pray for our success here.—Wm. Ketcherside.

A brother who has been in the South says of the place he was: "The rest of the check is to send the September issue to the preachers in the South. I am sure untold good has been done there by your May, 1940, issue on "A Forgotten Scripture." It is in many home libraries down there yet, and is a well remembered article. I became well acquainted with church affairs there. The zeal of the evangelist there is unequalled. He is young in the fight although very strong. He speaks out against human institutions. . . . He is kept busy by his home congregation both at home and in the field. He has pretty well worked his way out of the home congregation." Brethren, that is what YOUR donation did for that "Forgotten Scripture" issue, and it seems that the good of that issue goes on and on. But now look to the future. I believe that the proposed September issue on "The Bible College and 'the pastor' Questions" will be better yet. It is taking weeks to boil down the matter and select the most important out of the mass we have. We wish to send to ALL preachers of Churches of Christ and as many more members as YOUR contributions will permit. Remember, we should know what you will do as soon as possible, so that we shall know how many to print for YOUR missionary effort to enlighten the college brethren.

Indianapolis, Ind.—In July we held a fifteen-days' meeting and Bible study with the church at Central Station, W. Va. We spent more than half of each evening, asking questions on the two chapters in Acts assigned for each evening, and then reading and commenting on them. Every man, woman and child had a testament in his hands, and even the small children seemed interested. We went through the entire book of Acts. Last year we took Old Testament stories, and from that meeting on till bad roads they met one night in the week, and took the main stories from Adam to Samuel. They intend now to begin with Samuel and go on with these lessons on Wednesday night, carrying the stories of hope and warning for us. Though half the congregation was young people, I never saw a single one whispering in time of services. Two young men were baptized, and one old brother made acknowledgments. The church is at peace and looking forward to greater activity. A few weeks ago I visited New Castle, Ind., and was told that the local brethren are attending the protracted Bible reading well, but that there are only a few from a distance. The burning problem before the brotherhood, so far as practice is concerned at least, is: How can the Bible studies and development work reach ALL the leaders and prospective leaders of ALL the weak churches? The development work, such as you read in this issue, by ALL preachers is bound to accomplish much to that end.—D. A. Sommer.

Stilwell, Oklahoma—During the month of June I enjoyed a very profitable work with the congregation located at Shelbyville, Illinois. We consider the most important item of that work to be the four weeks' vacation Bible study we conducted while there, with the assistance of some of the members. I think that all were made to realize the value of this work as a means of advancing the borders of the kingdom of Christ. Children take a great interest in the study of the Bible, and Solomon said: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." We believe that Solomon knew what he was talking about. Two weeks of the study was in the Old Testament and two weeks in the New Testament. 105 children were enrolled and by far the greater

number were of parents who were not members of the Lord's church. These children learned some things about the church of Christ and the doctrine of Christ that will be as seed sown in soil, and it will now depend on the proper cultivation and the type of soil as to the harvest. I was gratified when asked by the congregation to return in June, 1942, to assist in the cultivation of the crop which we planted. I also preached every night while I was there, and believe that all who attended received instruction that will aid them as they study to show themselves approved unto God. The visible results of the meeting was the addition of two by membership. They were fine young men and we believe will be of assistance to the congregation. I am now engaged in a meeting near Stilwell, Okla.; attendance is good with fine interest. Two additions thus far. We pray for the growth of the church of God.—Kenneth Morgan.

Hartford, Ill.—We just closed a three weeks' work with Bro. John Rhodes preaching of nights and supervising a vacation Bible study in the daytime the last two weeks. We had an enrollment of 195 children from 5 years to 17, with an average daily attendance of 139. The highest was 157 one day and 113 the first day. We used 6 teachers the same as last year. One class had 40 pupils one day, which is about twice the amount there should be. The classes were made up of children from all religious beliefs but we feel that the law of averages will give us our share of them when they get old enough to obey the Gospel. We expect to follow up the contacts we have made and keep them coming each Lord's Day if possible, and in many cases their parents, too. In the course of the meeting 6 were baptized and 2 more placed memberships. The church is growing gradually as we have some coming in every once in a while. About two months ago the Church bought some property in Granite City with the plans to start the cause in that city. We have about 4 or 5 families living there. We were able to get possession just a few days ago and due to our own work have been unable to start there yet but will in the very near future. We expect to take a religious census of the community around the building for several blocks and call on everyone personally, each district being assigned to certain workers. Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter we sent to about 32 congregations in the state of Illinois regarding mission work in the state. The response has been very good so far. We felt that we should be doing more for the cause than we were and along with our other plans we were unable to carry it ourselves but with the help of other congregations maybe something could be done in the way of mission work. The faithful Churches in the Mississippi valley are on the march and my prayer is that they may always be united in purpose and work together in peace for the things that are right in the sight of God. Enclosed find some subscriptions to the M. C.—Otto Schlieper.

Estacada, Oreg.—I'm enclosing \$2. Please send 25 of each: March and May issues of M. C. Also several of Back to Bible Helper if you have them. Same as samples you sent us, entitled Religious Dope and How the Thief was Saved Without Baptism. Think they are excellent tracts to hand to anyone. May issue of M. C. is certainly good. Your article, "We Need Scriptural Elders," the great problem you present that has troubled your mind so long, has also been thought of and talked much about by the few who meet regularly, and are trying to be faithful here at Estacada, though adverse circumstances have prevailed. Bro. Riggins' piece on "Faithfulness, Faith at Work," is worth many times the price of the paper. Such teaching is greatly needed here and may God hasten the day when the weak congregations may have more strong scriptural teaching and preaching that all may develop and become strong in the Lord. In the early age of the church spiritual gifts were given to certain ones to the profit of all. Please read 1 Cor., 12 chap. Notice how Paul has instructed them to honor weak members. In this age we have the written word and it seems if it was studied for the purpose Paul told Timothy to study, and committed to others (see 2 Tim. 2:15, also 2:2), the whole Church should profit by such teaching instead of so much Bible reading and teaching being done where there are already elders and others able to teach and preach. Paul also gives instructions to the Roman brethren how the strong should bear with the weak (Rom. 15:1), and concerning one overtaken in a fault, he says, "Ye which are spiritual restore such a one in the spirit of meekness, considering thyself lest thou also be tempted." (Gal. 6:1.) If this scriptural is ignored by those claiming to be spiritually-minded and not a single effort is made by them to restore the weak brother or member, which is the greatest sinner the one overtaken in the fault or the "ye which are spiritual"? Written in love of the truth.—Mrs. A. Douglass.