

Macedonian Call

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

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Number 1

Your Child

My Child

God's Child



ABOUT thirty years ago a baby was born to a young married couple making a struggle to advance from their state of poverty. It was the second child. The mother had a girl upon whom she could lavish her affections, and now the father had a boy who would grow up to take his place and to be an honor to him.

The struggle to make a living was now more acute, but they both buckled themselves to their task. Little by little they succeeded. By hard work and long hours he was finally able to take over the little business where he was a clerk. The work now was still more draining on his nerves; every detail must be looked after; any mistakes now were his, not his employer's; he had little time left for anything but business, it seemed. Of course, he took his children to church with him, but he had little time with them in the evenings. He must pore over his books and plan the next day's work. The command of God through Moses that parents talk of His precepts when they arose in the morning, were sitting in their houses, were walking in the way, and were lying

down at night—was almost forgotten. And Paul's exhortation to fathers to bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, was far-away in this father's mind. He was ambitious to succeed. And so his boy grew up the son of an elder of a church of Christ, with little training by that parent.

The father had had a hard, very hard, fight to keep the wolf from the door, and he was determined that his boy should not have to make a similar fight. And so he did as many an indulgent father has done—he ruined him. He gave the boy money almost every time he asked for it. He consented for the boy to have a car of his own when he was in his teens. And a boy with plenty of cash always has a host of "friends" who are willing to help him spend it and assist him on his downward course, so long as the money lasts, at least.

When the boy went to college, he was treated in the same lavish way. He stayed at one of the best fraternity houses; he mixed freely in the college

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society life, so much so that he had to spend five years in a four-year course. His father seemed to think he was doing the boy a favor. Though the child had been baptized in earlier life, he cared nothing now for the Church. And when he left college, he did not settle down in the business of his father as he had hoped, but shifted over the land, first here, then there.

And then one day came a telegram to that father saying that his boy had suddenly died; and with the saddest heart he had ever possessed that indulgent father, with a friend as a guardian, boarded an airplane for a distant state for the body of his boy. Somewhat mysteriously had the young man died. It was a weary journey back home, many hundreds of miles, with his loved one in the baggage coach ahead. This father was a respected citizen, had many friends, and the bank of flowers around the bier was the greatest the writer ever saw.

Several weeks have passed since the funeral, yet the grief of this father is unassuaged. The mother took the tragedy in their lives far more calmly than the father. When it was all over and the father went back to his work, he would often leave his employment for a while and go to himself and cry. Often at

night he awakens in bed, and cries and cries. From the depth of my heart I pity this father in his sorrow.

And in the midst of this despondent father's tears, and I confess in moisture in my own eyes as I think of what it all means, I unconsciously ask myself the solemn question, Can it be that this father's grief is so great, simply because his son has left him? Millions of fathers have lost their sons but have had more restraint. Have his nerves been weakened by his long, hard work for material advancement? But I can not keep out of my mind the remorseful thought that this man's grief is so great because he realizes that his son's delinquency in religion was probably due to his own indulgent attitude toward him and his neglect in training him as God commands.

Of all the sad words of tongue
and pen,
The saddest are these, It might
have been.

I would not recite this saddening story were it not that his life is a picture in this respect of so many hundreds of thousands of neglectful men in our land. In fact, very few professed Christian fathers today gather their children around them and read to them out of the Holy Book, and try to guide their innocent feet to the solid way through the mire of sin on every hand. Many seem to think they are bringing up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, when they only take them with them to the house of God. That much is good, but not enough; at least, according to the Lord's command.

I am not writing these depressing things for the neglectful parents whose children are now grown. It is too late, and all they can do is their best, and warn others of mistakes they have made. But I am penning them for the benefit of readers whose children are yet young and willing to learn and who have not yet become steeped in worldliness. Their minds hunger for stories, and what is more interesting and enlightening than Bible stories, rightly learned and rightly told? If one is not a good story teller, remember that Foster's story of the Bible has helped millions of parents inform their children on God's word. The writer's mother read it to him, and in turn we have read from it to our children. Be sure to bring out the lesson of right and wrong.

The Guide Through Bible History has

hundreds of such lessons pointed out, which you can elaborate on and make vivid for the boys and girls. Encourage the children themselves to read that interesting book, "Foster's Story of the Bible" (of which nearly a million copies are in circulation), and see that they have other inspiring books. Guard their literature and radio programs as you would guard their food and drink. Sit by your children at the house of God, and see that each has a New Testament, or Bible, in his hands, looking on as the Word is read. It will occupy their minds so that they will not become restless and discontented, and they will learn more of it than you may think.

Don't wait till the children are in high school before you begin; they have too much studying then to do at nights. The most impressionable age in one's life, psychologists say, is between three and six, before they ever start to school—a time when most parents think it is not worth while to train children in moral things. "The way the twig is bent, the tree's inclined." Probably three-fourths of those who are professed Christians became such before they were twenty years of age. "Remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth." God commands fathers to guide their children when they are young. Hitler and Mussolini have well nigh destroyed the world by training their nations' children in their selfish, barbarous ideals; and professed Christian fathers have well nigh destroyed the moral world by neglecting to train their children in the Christian way of life. So which are the greatest sinners before God? To try to train them in man's way is wrong; to fail to train them in God's way is just as sinful. "To him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin." "The wages of sin is death."

Boy Scouts may multiply, school teachers may admonish, children's organization may increase, and Sunday-schools may thrive—but if fathers and mothers fail to discharge their duties daily in teaching and admonishing their offspring, all society is built on the sand.

Even the church is dying because of this sinful neglect.

And you fathers who are not professors of the holy religion of Christ—how can you guide aright those children you love, if you are not living right yourselves? True, it is better to be an out-and-out sinner than a hypocrite in the Church; but it will bring you no comfort

in the Judgment to know that you are better than some professed Christians who didn't live right. Don't say to your children, Go; but say, COME. Lead the way to a better life.

More than a successful business; more than a good job; more than Social Security; more than a college education; more than boys' clubs; more than missionary societies and Bible colleges; more than teaching of morals in our public schools—more than any of these human, imperfect, complicated arrangements of men for the betterment of the finances and morals of society, IS NEEDED THE CAREFUL AND PRAYERFUL TEACHING OF RELIGION AND MORALS TO OUR CHILDREN BY CHRISTIAN FATHERS AND MOTHERS.

(Note—There are millions of parents who should read these warnings. Get a bundle of these papers and send to as many as you know.—Publisher.)

Are the Planets and Stars Inhabited?

A few weeks ago I had the privilege of gazing through a 36-inch telescope at the planet Mars. This is the only planet which has any intimation that there is vegetable life there, and there is no indication of animal life. If there is life there, it must be different from what it is on this earth. It is farther from the sun, and the temperature must be much colder.

Of course the reader knows that the sun is the center of our solar system, that Mercury is the closest planet to the sun, Venus is next, then comes our earth, then Mars, Jupiter, etc. It is too hot on Mercury and Venus for life as we know it, and too cold on Mars and the other planets farther away from the sun than we. The fixed stars are suns as great, or greater, than ours, yet so far away that they are only stars to us, just as our sun would appear as a star to us if we were on them. And even with our greatest telescopes, we can not discern whether the fixed stars have planets revolving around them as we revolve around our sun.

One infers from the Bible that the sun, moon and stars were arranged for the benefit of this earth. When the telescope was first discovered, and men found that the earth was not the center of the universe, and not even the center of the solar system, it caused some to be shaken in their faith. The pope denounced the astronomers because they taught things different from man's ex-

roneous ideas regarding the universe. The writer has read and studied a number of books on Astronomy and he has not yet found anything that has been proven in that science which has shaken his faith in the Bible as the Word of God.

I have often wondered if God had not ordained that other heavenly bodies be inhabited, at times at least; that worlds live out their allotted span, and become novas—burning stars, etc.; and that God bring to pass events somewhat similar to those in our earth. But we do not know and never shall know.

Mrs. Dr. Cecilia Payne-Gaposchkin, is one of the leading astronomers of the world, and is a member of the observatory staff of Harvard University. A reporter in a daily paper quotes her thus:

"Our planet is the best and perhaps the only place to live in the entire cosmos (universe). It's an Elysian field, when compared with the surface of a star, and it's not beset with the coldness of Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune, nor the waterless heat of Mercury."

And so, with all their knowledge of the heavenly bodies, astronomers must confess that our earth is the only place man has found where human beings, such as we, can live. With all their "theories" (for they are only theories), concerning evolution, they have to admit that life started with a miracle—at least, that spontaneous generation has never been demonstrated. The skeptic may ridicule the Christian for believing the Bible, but one must show more credulity to believe all the theories presented (without convincing proof), than it does to believe the simple story of the Bible. And I can not believe that the God who made this wonderful world, including man, would then forsake him to his fate, and not reveal himself to him. It is easier to believe that the Bible is God's revelation to man concerning his origin, duty and destiny, than to believe the unproven theories of man on such things.

Maybe God Will Shoot the Hollywood Spirit Out of Americans

The only thing that gives a nation divine protection is righteousness. Solomon says, "Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." (Prov. 14:34).

In Old Testament times God often used wicked men to punish the sins of his own people. We Americans detest Adolf Hit-

ler, and I am sure he will ultimately go down in defeat. But at the same time the Lord may use him to shoot the Hollywood spirit and jazz life out of us Americans. God was going to overthrow Nineveh for its sins, but it repented and God spared it. Ten righteous persons would have saved Sodom. The great need of America is to cut out foolishness and give attention to justice and righteousness. We need to be sober. Will God bless America when its greatest aspiration is to dine, dance and get rich? Americans need to put emphasis on Christianity. The whole world is in danger. America is in danger. The only thing that will save us is righteousness. It is commendable to love liberty, but liberty without righteousness is detestable to God.—W. M. Davis in Firm Foundation.

A Good Question

Not very long ago a good sister handed me a list of questions she had received from a denominational friend. This friend appeared eager to learn the position the Church of Christ took regarding her list of questions. Looking over the list I found all could be answered by the word of God. The wording of one question especially attracted my eye. It read, "Does the Church of Christ fight other churches or denominations?" Evidently this friend was expecting a yes or no answer. To answer either, without first mentioning what the Church is duty-bound to oppose, would be misleading. We know that each Christian in the Church is to fight against all evil. "Abstain from all appearance of evil" (1 Thess. 5:17). "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them"—(Eph. 5:19). All evidence in God's word plainly says, Oppose any and all evil.

Before answering this question we might first ask one. Is the denomination, or church, you have in mind following God's word faithfully in all of its worship? By this we simply mean, Does it have NEW TESTAMENT authority for every article of its worship? Think now! Does it? Or has it instituted here or there an article or two that the word of God fails to mention? Is it teaching for doctrine the commands of man? The key to the whole question is, authority or no authority. If it is heading to the unauthorized commands of man, it is vain worship. (Mt. 15:9.) Vain worship means nothing to Christ, because it is

not of faith. "Whatsoever is not of faith is sin." (Rom. 14:23.) Will God endorse sin? NO, NEVER! Then our conclusion and answer must be: If a denomination, church, or whatever it might be, practices anything in its worship, without NEW TESTAMENT authority to back it, we as CHRISTIANS are duty-bound to oppose it or any source aiding it. It is a case of choosing to obey God rather than men.—Bill Hensley.

"Sweet Temper Is Woman's Greatest Charm"

What is woman's greatest charm? A group of Girl Scouts are debating that important subject and they ask me for my opinion of it. Well, my vote goes first, last and all the time for amiability. A sweet temper. Being easy to get along with. Of course, there are other attractions more spectacular and alluring at first sight, but for a good, reliable conjure that never fails to work on all sorts and conditions of people, and whose potency never wears out, there is nothing that equals good nature. It beats even beauty, for good looks depend upon a sweet disposition. It avails a woman nothing to have a willowy figure, a peaches-and-cream complexion, violet eyes and a classical profile, if her expression is cross and sulky or if her eyes are as cold as ice and her mouth is distorted by a sneer. No woman looks pretty to us if she doesn't also look pleasant.

Intelligence is another great charm in a woman. We are attracted to the woman with a keen and alert mind who has studied and read and who is a witty and entertaining conversationalist. We admire the woman who has understanding and who catches everything we say at the half word and whose wisecracks keep a dinner table in a roar.

But intelligence is also dependent upon good nature for its drawing power. * * *

We admire women for their devotion, for their unselfishness, for the sacrifices they make for others, but even goodness has to be coupled with good nature before it sells itself to us, and, alas, there are so many peevish and fretful saints.

There are so many women who would die for their families who nag at them until they make their husbands and children wish that they were dead themselves. And it is so hard to be properly grateful to those who rub you the wrong way, who are tactless, or faultfinding, or

bossy and interfering, who possess all the virtues, but are lacking in all the amenities of life.

So in the end we come back to good nature as woman's greatest charm and one that endures to the last. Beauty at its best is fleeting. Often we feel like turning our eyes away when we behold the ravages that time has made in a living picture, but the woman who is sweet and amiable looks good to us, no matter how old she grows or how her complexion fades or her eyes dull.

—Dorothy Dix in Indianapolis Star.
(The highest paid woman writer in the world.)

What Is in a Name?

You take out an accident insurance policy in one Insurance Co., and suppose you have an accident and try to get another Insurance Company to pay your claim. They will soon tell you that you have no insurance with their company. Then would you say there is nothing in a name? They are all insurance companies and all pay claims and you have kept up your dues, and expect a company to pay the claim that you didn't have a policy with. You would say anyone would know more than that. Yes, they would in business affairs, but when it comes to religious affairs, they will say there is nothing in a name. We are all working for the same place. But Christ has told us how we may get to that place called Heaven. Through His body is the only way we can get there.

Then why will we risk trying to get there through some man-made institution because it seems good or our parents or friends think it is all right? Why don't we investigate and see what Christ has told us to do? Christ tells us in Matt. 16:18. "I will build my church." The Church of Christ came into existence on the first Pentecost after the Resurrection of our Lord. (Read Acts the 2nd chapter.) Christ is the head of the body, the Church (Eph. 1:22-23; 5:23; Col. 1:18.) Christians are to meet on the first day of the week, Acts 20:7; I Cor. 16:2; Heb. 10:25-26; Rev. 1:10. Our worship consists of vocal hymns of praise to God, Col. 3:16; Eph. 5:19, of prayers and exhortations. The observance of the Lord's Supper, I Cor. 11:23, 29 and the cheerful giving of our means II Cor. 9:7 to support all legitimate Gospel work.

The New Testament Church is not a denomination. It includes and consists of Christians speaking the same thing.

Whereas denominationalism divides the professed followers of Christ into warring sects and because of these things they are a variance with the very spirit of pure Christianity. Is Christ divided? (I Cor. 1:18.) "Can two walk together except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3.)

Friends, with all these scriptures before us, can we say there is nothing in a name? Can we serve the Lord through a man-made institution, with a man-given name, and expect Christ to reward us for our labor? Man's reward will be to spend eternity with the devil and his angels. There is something in a name! If we are in Christ's Church and live as he has told us, we are Christians (not the name of a church but the name of a disciple). (Acts 11:26.)

A Christian life is a life of activity, development and service. (Matt. 25:14-30, 35-40; Rom. 7:4.) We are Christians with no creed but Christ, no discipline but the New Testament. Friends, we plead with you to leave your man-made creeds, come into Christ's body that wears His name, and wear the name Christian and receive the reward of eternal life.—Minnie M. Price.

Is "Music the Voice of God"?

Dr. George Arthur Frantz, pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis, recently said, "Man has the power to make music, and music is in a sense the voice of God speaking to the souls of men."

Is that so? In the taverns, the pool-rooms, the houses of ill-repute, etc., often comes the most exquisite music made. If it is God speaking to the souls of men, what does it say? Does it make those people better? If it does, then the proprietors would soon stop it. It merely appeals to the feelings of men.

I deny that mere sound has anything in it to make men better. When certain music is accompanied with edifying words, it may help impress the words, but it is the words after all which does the work.

God ordained music for his Church, but it was vocal, not instrumental music; and then it was the words which were to be emphasized not the mere sound. Paul said, "Teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." (Col. 3:16.)

The music of early Christians was very simple. All manifestation of art was discarded. The purpose in the music

was to teach and warn and not to entertain. Christians did not use instrumental music for hundreds of years, and when it was introduced it caused division being considered worldly. Paul says, "I fear, lest as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty (craftiness) so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity in Christ." (2 Cor. 11:3.) Should not the true Church of Christ today, have the same simple music of the first century?

Gambling for God!

The Monitor says—

"Those who play the ponies may get the big publicity, but the average United States citizen is more apt to buy a ticket for a church raffle, play cards or dice with his friends, or drop a few coins in a slot machine than to bet on a horse race, a recent Gallup Poll reveals.

"Some 54 per cent of the adult Americans gambled in some form during the past year, and of that number, 24 per cent participated in some type of church lottery. The same number played cards or dice for money or used slot machines. Only 9 per cent bet on horse races.

"This means that church lotteries gained almost 20,000,000 participants last year—double the number that bought Irish sweepstake tickets before the war largely discontinued their sale.

"Significantly, a large number of those questioned did not consider church lotteries as gambling. They took the position that, since the money went to a worthy cause, no harm was done.

"Church lotteries have become more and more popular in recent years. Bingo, in particular, has proved profitable to charitable and church organizations trying to raise money. Apparently the only way to get contributions is to appeal to the well-known American gambling instinct."

Remarks.—In Indianapolis the police have tried to stop the church gambling, but the Catholic Church has taken it into court to make it a test case. Some of the Protestant churches have been into this disgraceful business, too. Yes, I say, "disgraceful," for the practice takes away the grace, or favor, which the Church should have with right-thinking men and women of the world. When the state has to reform the "church," then it is about time for such "churches" to get out of business. "Ye are the salt of the earth. But if the salt has lost

its savor, it is thenceforth good for nothing but to be cast out and trodden under foot of men."—Jesus.

Paul commands Christians to give on the first day of the week, as they have been prospered. If the disciples of Jesus have not sufficient faith to sacrifice of their money, time and talent for the Lord, they have not sufficient faith to be saved; and there is no use of their kidding themselves by keeping up outward appearances. Too many churches and Christians have a name to live but are dead.

—Editor M. C.

Wouldn't It Be Nice—

If we had the Church of Christ in the world today, as we have it portrayed in the New Testament? We speak of that period as The Golden Age of the Church.

And yet, dear reader, do you know that disciples then had many troubles among themselves? Sometimes we cry out that we are sick and tired of all the discussion and wrangling among professed Christians, and long for the Church as Christ gave it. And yet, when we read the New Testament we find the church at Corinth was divided because some thought more of men that they ought to have thought; that they were tolerating a fornicator among themselves; that they were going to law with each other; that they were eating meat offered unto idols when it caused weak brethren to be offended; that they had turned the Lord's Supper into a sort of heathen feast; that some had denied the resurrection of the dead. What a mess! And yet it was the Church of Christ in the Apostolic Age. But Paul wrote to correct those evils, and the evidence is that they changed their ways. He even said that there must needs be heresies among Christians that they who are approved may be made manifest.

So today we have much confusion in the Christian world, but we must search the Scriptures that we may know what is right. Much of the division in Protestantism is because some have more of the traditions of Rome than the others.

When people wish to know how to get into Christ, read: John 3:5—Rom. 6:3, 4—Gal. 3:27—Acts 2:38—Acts 8:38.

If you wish to know how the apostolic Christians were governed, read: 1 Tim. 3:17—Titus 1:5-9—Acts 20:28—Acts 6—1 Tim. 8:8-10.

If you ask how they did their work,

read: Acts 9:36-42—Gal. 6:10—Acts 11:27-30—Acts 8:4—Eph. 3:21.

If you care to know of their worship, read: Acts 2:42—Col. 3:17—1 Cor. 16:1-3—1 Cor. 11:23-29.

How did they raise their money? Read: 1 Cor. 16:1-3—2 Cor. 8 and 9 chapters.

Divisions are mostly caused among professed Christians because they have added a great many things to God's Plan which are not endorsed by his Book. "If any man shall add unto these things, God will add unto him the plagues which are written in this book." (Rev. 22:18, 19.)

Some Whales COULD Swallow Jonah

PHILADELPHIA.—A scientist came up with an affirmative answer today to the question of whether the whale could have swallowed Jonah. Just to make certain, Dr. Eugene Maxmillian Karl Geiling, professor of pharmacology at the University of Chicago, said he crawled through the gullet of one of the big creatures. This whale, of course, was dead.

"It was a pretty slimy trip," Dr. Geiling remarked, "but there was plenty of room. "And a number of the whalers up along the west coast of Canada, whose families have been whaling for generations back, say their fathers told them of unquestioned cases in which men thrown overboard were "swallowed. They were never seen again, though."

Dr. Geiling took up the study of whales years ago as a sideline to his interest in the pituitary and because these glands in the whale are of such whopper size.

Since then, as scientific supercargo on many whaling ships, he has assembled these whale facts: The sperm whale is the only one large enough to have swallowed Jonah. The largest animal now on the earth, some sperms reach a length of eighty-eight feet.—Indianapolis News.

Breeding Girls for Germany's Glory

A few weeks ago Mrs. Roosevelt was booked to make a radio speech for the National Broadcasting Company. At the last moment it was found that the speech was two minutes two long, and she had to cut out part of her script. The New York Times cites the following concern-

ing duties of German girls, as the part she cut out:

"A girl evading her duty is a traitor just like a soldier deserting his flag. . . . For pure-blooded German girls there exists a war duty outside marriage and which has nothing to do with marriage."

Can one conceive that a professed Christian nation which has digressed so far from the principles of morality taught in Christian ethics as to advocate such practice, will be permitted by the God of heaven to dominate the world?

Both Mussolini and Hitler have cried for babies and more babies, yet their purpose has not been to fill the world with righteous men and women but with German and Italian soldiers as conquerors.

Paul says, "Let the younger men marry, bear children, guide the house," etc. And then Christian parents were to bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. If Christian men and women would sacrifice for the Church as these dictators have taught their people to sacrifice for the state, what a different world we would have. "The children of this world are wiser in their generation than the children of light."

What "I" Propose to Do

I will start anew this morning with a higher, fairer creed;
 I will cease to stand complaining of my ruthless neighbor's greed
 I will cease to sit repining while my duty's call is clear;
 I will waste no moment whining, and my heart shall know no fear.
 I will look sometimes about me for the things that merit praise;
 I will search for hidden beauties that elude the grumbler's gaze;
 I will try to find contentment in the paths that I must tread;
 I will cease to have resentment when another moves ahead.
 I will not be swayed by envy when my rival's strength is shown;
 I will not deny his merit, but will strive to prove my own;
 I will try to see the beauty spread before me, rain or shine—
 I will cease to preach your duty and be more concerned with mine.

—S. E. Kiser

Einstein Makes a Confession

Einstein, the world-famous Jewish (and skeptical) philosopher, who was driven out of Germany because he would not knuckle under to Hitler, said this:

"Being a lover of freedom, when the revolution came in Germany, I looked to the universities to defend it, knowing that they had always boasted of their devotion to the cause of truth; but, no, the universities immediately were silenced. Then I looked to the great editors of the newspapers whose flaming editorials in days gone by had proclaimed their love of freedom; but they, like the universities, were silenced in a few short weeks. . . .

"Only the Church stood squarely across the path of Hitler's campaign for suppressing truth. I never had any special interest in the Church before, but now I feel a great affection and admiration because the Church alone has had the courage and persistence to stand for intellectual truth and moral freedom. I am forced thus to confess that what I once despised I now praise unreservedly."

Too Late. Too Late

Don't let it be said, too late, too late,
 To enter the kingdom fair,
 That thou all in vain, by the jewelled gate,
 Must wait in darkness there.

Don't let it be said, too late, too late,
 Or vain will thy pleadings be;
 Be ready to enter the golden gate
 While open it stands for thee.

Don't let it be said, too late, O friend,
 That thou must forever stand
 Outside of the bright jasper walls for aye,
 Shut out from the golden land.

Don't let it be said, too late; but come,
 There's naught to win by delay;
 Prepare, then, thy soul for its heavenly home,
 And enter the fold today.

—Ida L. Reed.