

Macedonian Call

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

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A New Leaf

He came to my desk with a quivering lip—

The lesson was done—

"Dear teacher, I want a new leaf," he said,
"I have spoiled this one."

In place of the leaf so stained and blotted,
I gave him a new one all unspotted,

And into his sad eyes smiled,

"Do better now, my child."

I went to the Throne with a quivering soul—

The old year was done—

"Dear Father, hast Thou a new leaf for me?
I have spoiled this one."

He took the old leaf, stained and blotted,
And gave me a new one all unspotted,

And into my sad heart smiled,

"Do better now, my child."

—Selected.

Is This Our "Besetting Sin"?

Paul warned the Hebrew brethren against "the sin which doth so easily beset us." I wonder what he would warn us against in our corrupt and messed-up age! If he rebuked us against general traits and characteristics, I think that one of those weaknesses would be ingratitude, Unthankfulness.

Parents bring children into the world, watch over them through infancy and adolescence, sacrifice for them that they may obtain an education, and even lay up something for them; and yet the children so often do not appreciate this, neglect the old folks at home, seldom visit them or write to them, and perhaps shift them over to someone else when they become helpless. "Honor thy father and mother" has become "old stuff" with them and they are not interested in it. But oftentimes parents themselves are to blame for pampering their children.

Sometimes, yet not so often, parents receive great benefits from their children, yet do not show the appreciation they should.

Brothers try to help brothers along in this world, and sisters, sisters, yet the recipient often forgets and is unthankful. How does the donor feel?

He is a poor neighbor who can borrow from another, yet can not loan to that same neighbor. "He that would have friends must show himself friendly." Some people

are always knocking the world because they have not been "treated right," yet they have done nothing for others in all their lives.

Thankfulness is the other end of Charity. Charity does the kind deed, and Thankfulness receives it and shows that it is appreciated. It takes the two to make a happy world. There is too little charity and too less gratitude.

Look at the hundreds of millions of people today and through centuries who are and have been, in heathen blindness and superstition. What was the cause that man so soon wandered away from God? Paul tells of the corruptions which led the people after the flood into heathenism, and one of the first charges against those people was, "Neither were thankful." They became conceited, self-reliant, vain in their imaginations, and did not think they needed God. Then God gave them over to a reprobate heart. How saddening!

All that we have and all that we are, we owe to God. If he withholds His sunshine or rain just a little, we languish in want. Yet the great mass of humanity is like the hog which eats the acorns yet never lifts its eyes to the tree whence they come. Oh yes, we stop, once a year, Thanksgiving Day, long enough to eat a big meal; yet millions of those who eat such meals do not sit still a few moments and give thanks to the Giver of all good.

But what does it amount to merely to say once a year that we are thankful, yet do not "give thanks in all things" as we go along through life? And what doth it profit to merely say every day that we are thankful, yet do not the things which are pleasing to the God of these bounties? "He that hath my commandments and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me." According to our own philosophy, "Actions speak louder than words."

"God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life." Here is Charity, and we are the recipients. Are we grateful? "We love Him because he first loved us." All day long God reaches out his arms to a rebellious people, but we turn away. We "are not interested." Is this war given to make "us interested"?

This world will not become much better till we appreciate what others have done for us and what God has done for us, and until we are willing to do our part in starting the ball of Love and Thankfulness to rolling on and on.

Read the following by William L. Stidger in Christian Advocate, and condensed in the Readers Digest, and see if it will not help the ball to rolling—in your life:

Must You Keep Your Heart in Cold Storage?

We were a group of friends in the midst of an after-dinner conversation ten years ago. Because Thanksgiving was just around the corner and prosperity wasn't, we were talking about what we had to be

thankful for. One member of the group, a minister, asked, "What can I say in a sermon that is affirmative?"

That started us. One of us said: "Well I, for one, am grateful to Mrs. Wendt, an old school teacher who 30 years ago went out of her way to introduce me to Tennyson." She had, it appeared, awakened his literary interests and developed his gifts for expression.

"Does this Mrs. Wendt know that she made such a contribution to your life?" someone asked.

"I'm afraid not. I've never taken the trouble to tell her."

"Then why don't you write her? It would certainly make her happy, if she is alive, and it might make you happier, too. Far too few of us have developed the habit of gratitude."

All this was very poignant to me, because Mrs. Wendt was my teacher, and I was the fellow who hadn't written. My friend's challenge made me see that I had accepted something precious and hadn't bothered to say thanks.

That evening, on the chance that Mrs. Wendt might still be living, I wrote her what I called a Thanksgiving letter.

My letter was forwarded from town to town. Finally it reached her, and this is the note I had in return, in the feeble scrawl of an old woman. It began:

"My dear Willie—"

That in itself was quite enough to warm my heart. Here was a man of 50, fat and bald, addressed as "Willie." I read on:

"I can't tell you how much your note meant to me. I am in my eighties, living alone in a small room, cooking my own meals, lonely and like the last leaf of fall lingering behind.

"You will be interested to know that I taught school for 50 years and yours is the first note of appreciation I ever received. It came on a blue, cold morning and it cheered me as nothing has in many years."

I confess I wept over that note.

My first Thanksgiving letter had proved so satisfying that I made a list of people who had contributed something deep and lasting to my life, and planned to write at least one every day in November. I sent out 50 letters. All but two brought answers immediately. Those two were returned by relatives, saying that the addressees were dead. And even those letters expressed thanks for the little bit of thoughtfulness.

Perhaps the most touching answer came from Bishop William F. McDowell, whose wife had once cared for me with such motherly thoughtfulness that I never forgot it—but I had never written her a letter of thanks. Now I remembered and knowing that she was gone, wrote my Thanksgiving letter to the bishop, telling him of my memory. I received this in response:

My dear Will:

Your letter was so beautiful, so real, that as I sat reading it in my study tears fell from my eyes, tears of gratitude. Then, before I realized what I was doing, I arose from my chair, called her name and started to show it to her—forgetting that she was gone. You will never know how much your letter has warmed my spirit. I have been walking about in the glow of it all day long.

For ten years I have continued to write my Thanksgiving month letters and I now have more than 500 of the most beautiful answers anyone has ever received.

A Thanksgiving letter isn't much. Only a few lines are necessary. But the rewards are so great that eternity alone can estimate them. Even now, in moments of discouragement, I go over the responses and drive away darkness by reading a few selected at random. Thanks to the rebuke of a friend, I have learned a little about gratitude.

Numbering Our Days—Psalm 90:12

Each year of life brings us at least 365 days. Each day is filled with 24 hours, each hour with 60 minutes. Yet Jacob could say, after having lived 130 years on this terrestrial ball: "Few and evil have the days of the years of my life been." (Gen. 47:9.) Jacob could look back over a life of varied experiences. His childhood days at home with his parents, Isaac and Rebekah. His youth and associations with his brother Esau. Bethel. His dealings with Laban. Marriage and the rearing of a family. At last his journey into Egypt. Still it had passed as a watch in the night, as a tale that is told. Good or evil, pleasant or distasteful, all reach the inevitable end.

Not so long ago, 1942 was a new-born babe. Some no doubt approached the new year with high hopes and great expectations. Others, perhaps, looked ahead with fear and apprehension because of the conditions of the world. There may have been resolutions we made which we have broken. Possibly some things we fully intended doing but never quite got around to them. Other things to which we looked forward with dread, probably never came to pass; or, if they did, were not as bad as we had expected.

For one thing let us be thankful: regardless of the mistakes or failures of the chapter of our life labeled 1942, God opens to us another, filled with blank pages, we to wield the pen which records thereon the deeds of 1943. Anxiously and eagerly we scan the horizon for signs of the future. What will the next year be like? In the strictest sense, we do not know. Yet in a general sense, we do know. We know the year will be made up of days and nights, each day, with rare, if any, exceptions, bearing its quota of pleasure and joy, each with an opportunity for doing good.

To all the unfolding year may bring a portion of sadness and pain, to some, perhaps a grave. But let us remember, these can only come one day at a time and we trust that we will withal be given strength and courage to bear the same.

Some, while passing from the stage of life at an early age, have accomplished much for the good of mankind. There have been others who died at a ripe old age, yet who failed to contribute anything worthwhile to the world. The difference may not always have been in the intentions of the individuals so much as a different outlook on life. While looking ahead at the great things he planned to do tomorrow, one had overlooked the little things he might do today, thus had neglected to number his days.

Life is composed, in the main, not of big deeds but of small. Little deeds of kindness done today are better than great gifts we plan for tomorrow. Humble service rendered now is better than great sacrifices we plan to

offer next year. Whatever of good you plan to do, do it now! Waste no time in idle speculation upon the future, however sweet, nor in grieving over the past, however incomplete. Today is yours. Make it good. If you wish to remember today, tomorrow, without any sorrow, do nothing today you will regret tomorrow.

"So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts to wisdom."

Lord, teach us so to number our days
That wisdom direct us in all our ways.
Let our hearts to wisdom's voice be turned;
Applying the truths from thy Word we have learned.

We sigh not for greatness—as the world calls great;
We strive not for riches from early till late.
Of the mysterious future we need not be told,
Content with each day as to us they unfold.

Whether four-score years or three-score and ten,
Or only one score our allotment has been,
Not "how long," oh Lord, but "how well," we pray,
May have been our endeavor from day to day.

And when with us this world is through
If to wisdom's ways we have been true,
Grant us, oh Lord, an abiding place
In celestial mansions—"saved by grace."
—Roy Harris.

Spiritual Anti-Freeze

When signs of cold weather appear the driver knows he must prepare his automobile for the winter ahead. Various things are needed, among which is the precious anti-freeze. The owner knows it can keep his car from the disastrous freeze-up that will make it useless. He not only places the anti-freeze in the radiator of his auto, but keeps a diligent check on its strength at various times. The Christian also has an anti-freeze. In the Gospel he has a spiritual anti-freeze that will cause him to be alive regardless of conditions. It will keep him in working condition and will better fit him to face the trials, temptations, and hardships of this life. He must fill his heart daily with this truth so he will not freeze up and be useless in the Master's vineyard.

"Preach the word; be instant in season and out of season . . ." These were the words the great Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy, the young evangelist. To Timothy, this message meant everything but just expressing the Gospel when conditions were favorable. Paul conveyed the idea of expressing Christ under all conditions. How could we think of Paul, the man who suffered severe hardships such as stoning, imprisonment, and shipwreck, informing another preacher that the story of the cross should only be delivered under the most favorable conditions. Paul, you will remember, preached the truth of Christ regardless of his opposition. Thus this writing was to teach Timothy his heart must be set on teaching the Gospel not only in favorable conditions but in adverse as well. Likewise all preachers and individual Christians should and must follow Paul's instruction. We may not all be proclaimers of God's truth from the pulpit, but we certainly can speak to the world by our steadfastness and zeal to Christ.

Many so-called Christians are willing to do their part when conditions are favorable. When the weather is favorable and conditions are just right they will come out to service. It doesn't take much effort then. Just let conditions change and then the effort is too great. The easier thought then is to think that Brother "So and So" will be there. He has carried the burden of the work before, so can do it now. I've often shuddered to think of what would happen to the congregation if Brother "So and So" would fail to keep his appointment with the Lord.

The present world conflict has already presented problems to all Americans in every walk of life. It will continue to do so as long as war rages, and even after peace is gained it will still menace our nation. The Church has been affected as well as other institutions. Are we as Christians meeting the problems or are we content to suspend operations for the Lord and his cause until more favorable conditions present themselves? Many brethren may be tempted because of present day rationing of tires, gasoline, etc., to cease whole hearted effort for Christ and his Church. Brethren, this must not be the case. It is certainly true that during the coming year all will find possible problems in assembling and carrying out the Lord's work. No doubt the hardest hit will be the two- or three-week protracted efforts. Need we throw up our hands and say, "No use"? I think not. Conditions present an excellent time to emphasize, **personal work, development, and Bible study.** Certainly two or three nights a week could be spent at the church house or in homes of the congregation in this type of work. Personal work could dominate the daylight hours, and **family circle studies on other evenings.** Instead of shortening the work of the evangelist, it could be lengthened. Above all, let us keep in mind that others have endured hardship and inconveniences to spread the Gospel. Why can't we? Secure some Spiritual Anti-freeze and remain alive and useful. (I Cor. 15:58.)—Bill Hensley.

Comes Hibernation Period

I wrote an article bearing the same title in the last issue. In it I illustrated how many congregations of the churches of Christ every winter season, like many animals of our country, pass the time in morbid drowsiness by "hibernating." Now comes another threatened "hibernation period" which could bring far more devastating results—the war season, or the gasolineless season.

Bro. Longdrive and family live so far from the meeting house that now they will be able to attend only once or twice a month. Bro. Shortdrive and family feel that they won't be able to come more than on Lord's day mornings. Bro. Near and family live close enough that they can walk to church and might thus be able to attend most of the time. For lack of interest in religion, friends of these members may not come as often as they used to come. Now the church feels that the only thing left to do is to stop having mid-week and Sunday night services and reduce the number of classes on Lord's day morning. Of course, for the duration, there will be no need to have a preacher come to assist. He couldn't conduct a series of meetings because the people wouldn't have enough gas to attend. He couldn't conduct a Bible study or development class for the church because the members won't have enough gas to attend. Well, we'll just have to take it easy

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until the war is over. That is just what the devil wants you to do. Friends, that is nothing but spiritual "hibernation" in its laziest and most death-dealing stage. There is absolutely not one single reason for such action. Congregations which do such a thing surely shall have God spue them out of His mouth. Let's face the situation fairly to determine what might be done to overcome the difficulties.

If you live in a city large enough to have public transportation facilities and the church meets in the city, you haven't a reason in the world for not getting out to services as often as the church meets. If you live and meet in a city too small to demand public transportation service, then you live close enough to use but a small amount of gas to drive or else walk (it's good for you health). If you are a farmer and do not live too great distance from the church house, if you cannot drive your car to every service, I know that you have a horse or a team that you can hitch to a buggy or wagon. It might take a little longer to get there and back, but it won't hurt you. If it hurts your pride, think how much it hurts the Lord to know you are so proud. Most people who were able to get to the church house for all the services before gasoline rationing will still find a way. If you want greatly to attend, you will wear your mind out trying to find a way before you will give up the search.

Now, Bro. Longdrive, I want to talk to you and your family. You have an excellent opportunity to do a vast amount of good. First, **provide regular worship for your family by starting services in your home.** You can have the communion and all that God has commanded just the same as the whole church. Even if only two of you are members, you have this right, for Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Matt. 18:20.) **Now plan to start a Bible study of the book of Acts in your own home either Sunday night or a week-night.** Get a few announcements printed and some good literature. Start a little campaign right in your own neighborhood. Go from door to door telling your neighbors your circumstance and your new endeavors and give them a very kind neighborly invitation to come to your home for services and Bible study with you and your family. Repeat this action frequently. Go ahead with your plan whether no outsiders, one, or a dozen appear at the first. You might reach people that would not be reached were it not for the situation. Don't fail to try this method, Bro. Longdrive, and work at it as you have never labored before.

Bro. Shortdrive, the good Lord knows how much of your gasoline ration you use for him and how much you use for non-essential driving. If, after very careful consideration of the matter and sincere effort to drive to church services as often as it meets, you find that you cannot attend more than once each week, and your conscience does not therefore condemn you, I think you should endeavor to do the same on Sunday night or a mid-week night as I have urged Bro. Longdrive. You also might be able to take the simple truths of the Gospel to hearts that would not otherwise have the opportunity to hear them. Try it! Do it!

Bro. Near, if you and your family have even considered dispensing with the Sunday night and mid-week services, you should be grossly ashamed of yourselves and ask God tonight in your prayers to forgive you. What if there won't be as many out as there used to be? The Shortdrives and the Longdrives are going to be working for the Lord with Bible studies in their own homes. Will your conscience permit you to remain home to listen to the radio? Shame. Get over to the church house. Why not you and your family go from door to door in the community of the church house and tell the people of your services and invite them out? Get some announcements made and some literature for them. Don't advertise to those five miles from the church house, but suggest to those in walking distance that they are near enough that they won't have to use gas. Get busy! There are souls to be saved—even in war time!

But what about meetings? We have engaged Bro. So-and-So to hold us a meeting next spring. It looks like we'll just have to cancel his coming. Shame again! You let the devil put evil ideas in your head. If you don't feel it advisable to have a series of meetings, at least have the preacher conduct some **special work for the church.** He could have a **Bible study or instruct the entire membership how to advance the Cause of Christ publicly and privately under present war conditions.** And shame on the members who don't try their very best to get to all of the services. However, if your congregation meets in a city or town, it might be very possible to have a meeting for the outsider. Of course, your attendance would be largely from the people who live within walking distance of the church house. Is there anything wrong about that? Are there not several people of the near community who need the Gospel? Perhaps some people who in normal times would be out car-riding or in a nearby city being entertained might attend your services now instead. The Lord's people must learn to do the best they can under the circumstance and take advantage of the opportunities which arise.

We dare not sleep for the duration. If we do not labor more than ever before, we will awake to find that the devil has tricked us by his cunning craftiness while we have slept. As Bro. Winford Lee stated in the last issue, "There is no doubt that the Church will stand (Dan. 2:44), but how strong will it be when the crisis is over?" You know exactly how strong the Church will be if, in its ungodly, unholy, filthy laziness, it "hibernates" like a grizzly, too drowsy to turn over in its own den. God forbid that we should thus do! Again I copy Eph. 5:14-16. "Wherefore he said, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil."—Arthur Freeman.

Meditatin'

Rocky Comfort. Does this phrase seem to suggest something to you? It is the name of a little town in southwest Missouri. An Ozarker might tell you why people living in that land of flint-hills would name their little community Rocky Comfort. But the phrase carries with it a deeper significance, a significance that has, from the first time I heard the phrase, fanned a spark of thought in my mind until it has produced a flame. We have often thought of Christ as the "Rock of Ages." Some writer of the past has shaped the theme into a beautiful song. With the solidity of bed-rock the promises of Christ form a foundation for Christian faith and hope, which has proved sound in every storm and flood since man was first admonished with these words: Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. With the unlimited tenderness and mercy of divinity he soothes the aching heart of mankind in every hour of trial. Christianity is a solution to our problems, an antidote to the poisons that threaten to destroy us. Are you hungry? Remember the forty days of fasting which Christ experienced. Has someone mistreated you? Read again of his trial before the high priest, and of his mistreatment at the hands of the soldiers in the Praetorium. Has fate robbed you of your home? The Son of Man had not place to lay his head. A loved one gone? Lazarus was a beloved friend of Jesus. "For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted." "Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure . . ." Thus we have in Christ "Rocky Comfort."

Artists have turned eagerly to their work to give to the world their conception of the theme "Rock of Ages." One of these portrayals pictures a rugged rock jutting out of stormy seas, the ages and salt spray has carved its top into the form of a cross, and someone has reached the safety of the Rock; he is reaching back **UNSELFISHLY HELPING ANOTHER TO CLIMB FROM THE STORMY SEAS TO SECURITY.** He is not worthy of Christianity who is not willing to lend a hand to help someone else become a Christian.

"Peace, be still!" Jesus spoke and there was a great calm on the sea.

How many are the stories of praying soldiers, doctors and nurses on Bataan and Corregidor! They learned the hard way that God alone is able to calm the stormy seas of life. Shall we wait for bitter experience to teach us? Neglect of spiritual interests at a time like this is inexcusable. Greed, hate, evil, fear, famine, pestilence, insecurity and death: with these the world is well acquainted today; it needs the comfort, strength, courage, and security that God can and will give to him that asketh.—Kenneth Morgan.

Christians

It is a fact that there could be no Christians without Christ who came to earth as the Son of God; no angel of glory received the honor of being recognized as the Son of God. "For unto which of the angels said he (God) at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee?" Neither did he say to any of the angels, "Sit on my right hand, until I (God) make thine enemies thy footstool" (Heb. 1:5-13).

Christ was the one upon whose shoulder should rest the government relative to the guiding of the people who

would become his followers, and of its increase there shall be no end. This God promised he would perform, (Isa. 9:6-7). So Christ became God's appointed heir by whom he hath in these last days spoken unto us, (Heb. 1:2). Never will he give to us another will to lead us from earth to glory.

Now just before Christ entered into this work of setting up this government we see him coming to John the Baptist to be baptised, and as soon as he was baptised, God, his Father in heaven spoke from his throne and acknowledged Christ to be his Son, (Matt. 3:17). This acknowledging was not enough, for a little later on we learn that God the second time spoke from heaven and said, "This is my beloved Son, Hear him." (Matt. 17:5).

Here we see that God made it to be known that his Son was the one who was to call the people together, who heard him, in a body, and give them a name above every other known name, "Christian," (Acts 11:26).

And so we are sure that without Christ there would be no Christians, and without Christians there would be no Christianity; and NOW, if there was no Christianity, no Christians, and no Christ, pray tell me what kind of a world would this be to live in. STOP, LOOK and LISTEN, if you please, what kind of a world it is with Christ, Christians, and Christianity. Why Christianity is almost dead because Christians are not obeying him who became the author of Christianity. Just ask yourself this question, (never mind looking over at your Brother or Sister in Christ), **WHAT AM I DOING TO HELP KEEP CHRISTIANITY ALIVE?** Surely we realize that we must do our part so that the Christianity of Christ will in us accomplish its great triumphs. We can not justly censure Christ and the system of Christianity that came down to us through his teaching, for they are both as true today as they ever were. But one thing is absolutely true, that is, that there are those who have accepted Christ and Christianity, and have since become displeased with both of them and have messed things all up so that there are many that know not which way to go. You all know that there is one class of church folks that is looked up to as teaching the truth, and that is the preacher, I for one say that he can be one of the best, and can be one of the WORST classes of Christians there is. It is through the preacher that we have the present day corruptions in Christianity. Let us all be the kind of Christians that can see nothing else but the promotion of the Christianity that Christ gave to us through the apostles and the apostles gave to faithful men. Then and then only will we see the work advance in its proper manner.—C. J. Beidel, Walnut Bottom, Pa.

Books Which Will Help You to Strengthen the "Watch-Tower"

The Simplified New Testament is a combination of the testament and Bible dictionary, concordance, simplified translations, analyses, etc. The helps will assist you in using the machine gun of God's Word on the enemy. The book is entering the last lap of the fourth edition. Price \$2, but six for only ten dollars.

The Guide Through Bible History is somewhat like the compass and chart and maps, etc., which soldiers and sailors and flyers use. It will help the Christian soldier find his way through the Greatest Book in the World. It has twelve pages of nothing but scripture quotations on

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Christian Liberty, a booklet by D. A. Sommer, which helps show the path between innovationism on the one hand and hobbyism on the other hand. Brethren have said this is the most important thing we ever wrote. 3 copies, 25 cents. You will do good by putting these where they are needed.

By the time this paper reaches you, we hope to be able to fill all of your book orders the same day. But send your order at once.

If anyone has not received books he ordered, notify us at once.

Send to D. A. Sommer, 918 Congress Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.

Church News

Hammond, Illinois—I am now at Hammond in the beginning of a two weeks' meeting which we hope will accomplish much and lasting good. Closed November 29 at Mattoon with two additions and I believe the Church was strengthened much. I have three renewals for the Macedonian Call, for which I enclose a money order.—John W. Rhodes, Le Grand, Iowa.

(Bro. Freed has been studying the Bible many years, and many of you know the excellent discourse he gave at the Kansas City meeting. We believe churches in eastern Kansas and western Missouri would be benefitted by using Bro. Freed. Bro. R. H. Brumback, in Kansas City, is also engaged in Bible study and development work, as well as preaching to the world. If all churches would study the Bible this winter as they should, most of the preachers would be utilized to the glory of God.—Publisher Macedonian Call.)

Inasmuch as gas rationing is bound to keep many people at home much this winter, and through the duration, could you make a better New Year gift than seeing that every family in the Church has the teaching and exhortation of our many writers in the Macedonian Call, to read these long winter

nights? Will it not help keep up the spirits of the brethren, by keeping them in touch with the thousands of like precious faith who are making the same fight for the right?

Kansas City, Mo.—Meeting at Lewis, Kansas, closed November 22 with fine interest and attendance. Visible results of the meeting was the obedience of two young men and three young women. Church seemed to be otherwise strengthened. Bible Studies and Drills conducted with the whole church proved interesting and profitable. I made my home with Bro. and Sister Thornbrugh and could not have been treated better; also visited with many of the members. Church supported me well and I hope to return at a future date for additional work there. I go to Barnard, Mo., the 29th of November to begin meeting to continue over 3 L. D.—Robert H. Brumback, 3931 Harrison St.

Brookport, Ill.—Just finished reading the last issue of Macedonian Call. I think it is fine and glad to see so many of our preachers writing in it. Since I last wrote you we have had a two weeks' meeting by Bro. Kenneth Morgan and while no visible results, there was a good interest to the end and the attendance was good throughout. He will hold us another meeting next October, 1943.—A. T. Kerr.

Bro. A. W. Harvey, 828 University Ave., Bloomington, Ind., has written a good "Treatise on the Bible College." It contains much valuable information and sound reasoning. The booklet has twenty pages and is free. Send to him for as many as you can wisely use.

Street by Street, and House by House.—That is the way the Russians have been defending Stalingrad against the Germans. And is not that the way we should defend the Church against the apostates of our day religiously? If they turn us out of the meeting house, let us go to halls; if we can not afford a hall, let us fight the devil in our homes. Where two or three are gathered together in Christ's name, he promises to be with them. Let EVERY Christian be a soldier on guard.

Hartford, Ill.—I think the Macedonian Call is doing much good over the brotherhood, and now since the gas rationing is here at hand it will do much to keep people's minds turned toward the Bible and enlightened on what other congregations are doing, since one can not travel over the country as before the gas rationing came in.—Arthur Ottwell.

Shippensburg, Pa.—Wife and I visited the few brethren who are struggling along near Newport, Pa. So far they have been meeting in their homes and are very eager to see the work take on new life, and we have every reason to believe that it will. If there are any brethren living near there, write to William Lenker, Newport, Pa., R. F. D. I can visit congregations close here and do what I can in my weak way to help strengthen them.—C. J. Beidel, Walnut Bottom, Pa.

Pecks Mills, W. Va.—Preached a few nights in October on Mud River, with two confessions, and condition of members greatly improved; then on Dawdy Creek, no interest; then to Blooming Rose, one week with fine interest and much enthusiasm created among the members and outsiders as well. Am trying to devote nearly all my time to preaching the Gospel, but have to work some to take care of other obligations. Hard to try to stay in the field all the time.—Melvin White.

Illinois—I received the Macedonian Call today, and think the article, "As Broad as Denominationalism," (the way you have exposed the evil in it and let every one know who stands with this R. D. Unity Movement)—is plain enough for every one who reads it to get his eyes open, if he has not already. And I think the article, "Churches of Christ in St. Louis Show How to Watch," should be studied by every Christian and not just read and forgotten. . . . The more we know of the fruits of "mere monthly preaching," the more we are opposed to it. It tends to make the members lazy.—Minnie Price.

Lewis, Kansas—My work with the church in Bridgeport, Conn., came to a close October 25th. In the three months I was there, I conducted 16 Home Bible Readings, taught a class of young people weekly, preached 19 sermons, gave 6 Bible Drills at evening service, using the entire time, visited in a number of homes, prepared the copy for the weekly Church Bulletin and otherwise tried to strengthen the church. As a result of our Bible Reading, I baptized a young lady and a young man; both are fine young people and will prove of value to the church. I enjoyed my work among these brethren and hope to return to that field for additional work there. I am at present at Lewis, Kansas, in a meeting with good interest and attendance. No visible results yet but I hope to accomplish good. Pending a return to Connecticut I have some time open for meetings, Bible

Readings or development work. Will you who have urged me to give up secular work and devote my talents to the work of the Lord use me in the above work.—Robert H. Brumbock, 3031 Harrison, Kansas City, Mo.

Though prices of farm products are high, and wages are the highest in the history of America, and possibly the world, the Macedonian Call remains the same in price. And the publisher receives little more for his work, though every thing he buys has sky-rocketed in price. No religious paper pays for itself, especially one which fearlessly speaks the truth against all forms of error. In fact, the paper is running behind financially. Is it not your fight as well as the fight of the rest of us?

University City, Mo., Nov. 20—We are in the first week of a series of lectures on the Book of Revelation with the church at Hartford, Ill. Last fall, we studied the first eleven chapters, and are concluding this year. A properly directed advertising campaign has brought out excellent audiences each night, for which we are thankful. The church at Hartford is giving a letter of endorsement to Brother Hershel Ottwell who is arranging to spend his entire time in the evangelistic field. He has great promise, is an excellent student of the Bible, knows how to develop talent, and is unexcelled as a personal worker. The home congregation is going to back him in work through this immediate territory, and his entire time for months will be devoted to development and personal labors. It is expected that he will co-operate with us in the furtherance of the Cause at mission points in the adjacent territory, and we predict a growth of Mississippi Valley churches by reason of the labors of this my good friend and brother. He will attend the entire Bible Reading at Saint Louis this coming season. It is pleasing to report that the Saint Louis work goes forward without abatement and this year will show some of the most astonishing increases ever recorded by the brethren. I live there but only get to see them occasionally as I have been out in the field almost constantly.—W. Carl Ketcherside.

ALL PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS for the 1943 Bible Reading which starts at 9:00 a. m., January 4, at 7121 Manchester Avenue, Saint Louis, Missouri, are requested to correspond immediately with Bro. Robert Morrow, 7117 Manchester Avenue, and inform him of your expectations to come, and make arrangements for reservations desired. Write **AT ONCE!**

On New Year's Eve, the Churches of Christ in the Saint Louis area, will meet together from 7:45 o'clock until midnight. The service will be directed by W. Carl Ketcherside. While the rest of the world is acting the fool, and engaging in revelry and drunkenness, these brethren in Christ will be pouring out their hearts to God in song, praise and prayer. One hour will be devoted to the boys in the armed services. Names and addresses of all boys who are members of the church will be read off, and the said names and addresses printed in the Missouri Mission Messenger, January edition. This will be sent free to all of the boys, who will thus have a list of other brethren in the services of our country. If you know of any brethren in the forces write immediately and give us their name, correct address, and information. If you have interesting letters from those across the waters, send them and they'll be read publicly to the assembled church. Those desirous of obtaining a copy of this issue of the paper may have one free by writing in. Send all names for this special armed force edition to W. Carl Ketcherside, 7505 Trenton Ave., University City, Mo.

A Bible-Study Library.—A subscriber sends for Jamieson, Fausset and Brown's Commentary, \$5.00. This is especially good on Old Testament history, giving many scripture references which will help the student much if he will look them up. . . . He sent also for Simplified New Testament, \$2.00, whose Headings make the reading of the New Testament very interesting. . . . The Church of Christ, \$2.00 (price raised now), which takes up most of the erroneous doctrines of the denominational world, shows where they are unscriptural, then shows what the N. T. teaches. . . . Our subscriber could also have added, Guide Through Bible History, 35 cents, which gives the general swing of the whole Bible, leaving you to fill in the details, and giving many lessons of warning and hope in the Old Testament. If you have all four of these books, \$9.35 for the four, you are pretty well set for the most enjoyable winter you ever spent, gas rationing or not. Why waste your long winter evenings on cheap, uneducating radio programs or literature, when the greatest book in the world—the Bible—can be made such a pleasure to you?

Gallatin, Mo.—Attendance is good. The development efforts that are being made continually adds interest and improves the work each week. * * * Brother Hays was called here to speak

in the afternoon at the funeral service of the 17-year-old son of Brother and Sister Smith. Brother Truitt also assisted in the service, which was conducted in an impressive manner. The song numbers, ably led by Bro. Hubert Long, were rendered by members of the church. May we ever be abounding in the work of the Lord "While the Days are Going By."—D. Patterson.

Charles M. Fleener, Hammond, Ill., wishes us to announce that regardless of gas rationing, they intend to try to have a Bible Reading beginning January 4, 1943, with Bro. E. M. Zerr. He says, "I feel sure that we can take care of all that come without charge."

I do not think that you need apologize at all for the fact that so much of the latest edition [on "Watch"] was on the same subject. I consider it one of the most impressive, timely, direct and appropriate issues you have ever put out.—Carl Ketcherside.

Cawker City, Kan.—The music training and two weeks each of Bible study and preaching, by Roy Harris, did good at Dentonia. If the accommodating capacity for audience had been as well filled as was the pulpit, we would not have had standing room on our acre of real estate. We have reason to believe that work was done and contacts made which will result in additions to the church in the future. Two people (who before the meeting had not thought of doing so) are now planning to attend the Bible Reading in St. Louis.—H. B. Van de Riet.

Neosho, Missouri—Since my last report I have conducted a meeting at Brookport, Illinois, and a meeting at Ridgely, Missouri. The former closed with no additions to the church. War conditions seemed to hinder the work there to some extent. Nevertheless, it was an enjoyable and profitable work. I am very grateful for the opportunity to make the acquaintance of the brethren at that place and to assist them in the Lord's work. The latter meeting closed after three weeks with good attendance and genuine interest. There was one baptism and two additions by restoration. The congregation is ready to move forward with renewed energy. I am beginning a meeting at Neosho, Mo., which will continue through at least two weeks. This is my first acquaintance with the brethren here.—Kenneth Morgan, Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

Peoria, Ill.—Since the three-day meeting at Kansas City I have spent six weeks of work in Missouri and Illinois. I spent two weeks in the work at St. Joseph, Mo. This work had originally been planned for three weeks, but as the brethren saw the possibility of aiding the work at Galatin, Mo., they decided to send me there for a week. This, I feel, was a good move as the brethren at Galatin needed the development work that we attempted to do. We went between 30 and 45 minutes nightly in development in teaching and talking, followed by our regular evening service. All the brethren seemed interested in the work and did their part willingly. Their advancement has been made possible by the work of Bros. Harold Hays and James Truitt, as well as the cooperation of the congregation. Three placed membership and one was baptized during the week I spent with them. Following the above work I spent three weeks at Sullivan, Ill. Our attendance was hindered to some extent during the first part of the meeting as one of the city's outstanding denominations was conducting a revival. I enjoyed the work at Sullivan and the fine cooperation of Bro. Harmon Thompson of St. Louis, Mo., as a capable song leader. Brother Thompson spent 30 minutes each evening (following service) in singing instruction. Three were baptized and one came from the Christian Church during the meeting. At present my wife and I are making our home with Brother and Sister L. E. Ketcherside at Peoria, Ill., during our work here.—Bill Hensley.

"INASMUCH." We hear much good advice these days in regard to our duties on the home front. Here is a suggestion along that line for Christians. I believe it is the desire of all of us to help our Christian boys, not only our sons in the flesh, but those too who may not be so fortunate as to have parents who are interested in their spiritual welfare. I know there are some in this predicament. They may be new converts, without the good advice and encouragement that come from Christian parents. We can advise the nearest faithful church of the fact that a certain young brother is stationed at a certain camp. We can also inform the one in the armed forces that there is a faithful church near his station, furnishing him the address. Then if the young man does not attend their services soon, some one from the church could be delegated to call on him. In doing this we will confer a great favor upon him. It may mean much to him who is young in years, and new in the faith; one who may not be sufficiently rooted and grounded to withstand every wind of doctrine, and every kind of temptation and sin devised by Satan. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of

these, my brethren, ye have done it unto Me."—Arnold Hints, 2411 Normandie Street, Spokane, Wash.

(Let every church which has a military camp near it, write our paper, giving street and number and how to get to it.—Pub. M. C.)

Salem, Mo.—This is the month of Thanksgiving, and I am writing some Thanksgiving letters. In making up my list I, of course, thought of you and the good work that you have done and are doing for the church. I read your paper religiously and derive a great amount of good from it. Recently I concluded some work with Bro. Carl Ketcherside, in which I acted as song leader. We conducted meetings at Salem, Ozark and Nixa. These were all successful meetings and I derived a great amount of good from the association this afforded with Brother Carl. He certainly did a wonderful job of preaching the gospel and I feel that I was fortunate to be able to hear him in these meetings. Brethren of Nixa all remember and speak well of your work with their congregation. I believe they said you had conducted seven meetings there. The congregation at Ozark is small with most of the public work being left up to Bro. Charles Boyd, who is a fine leader and teacher. The meeting at Salem, though a short one, was certainly a good one. Largest crowds we have ever had. Church was awakened to a renewed sense of duty. * * * I might mention that until Uncle Sam calls me, I am available to assist the church in the capacity of song leader or as instructor in vocal music. Have had plenty of experience and feel that I can do much good in this line of work.—Otis Crandell.

That Gas Rationing Again.—Preachers, if you are kept at home, why not map out a course of study and go through it with regularity? One hour or more for the Bible, 30 minutes for grammar, 30 minutes for English composition, time for church history, etc. Every preacher, or anyone else who wishes to educate himself, should have a good collegiate dictionary handy and look up words in his readings which he does not understand, for the dictionary is the greatest educator there is. I think the most enjoyable winter I ever spent was in the time of World War I, when, because of quarantine of flu, we were kept at home. I spent much of the winter in writing out an analysis of the Prophecies of the Old Testament, getting the ideas of the greatest scholars of the world from my books, when I could not discern the meaning myself. There is no greater literature in all the world than the Bible. I think I spent many hours a day on it. . . . I know an elder who reads his Old Testament history lesson in the Bible, then reads it in Foster's Story of the Bible, to get it well connected in his mind. If parents will read it through to their children this winter, they will be teaching themselves while they are discharging their duty of teaching them. "Every Home and Every Church, a Bible Training School"—this should be the slogan for every member of the Church of Christ this winter. Write us if you are doing it—you may stimulate others. If every Christian were just like me, what kind of a church would Christ's Church be?

This item is not on religion or morals, and yet it might be, too. It is a helpful suggestion which may mean much in after years. When you take pictures of persons or places or things, always write on them the name, or names, and dates, etc., etc. This will mean much to you in after years. Be sure to do it with the religious groups. Time slips away, and many associations you now have will sometime be only in memory. Such pictures will be a sort of diary, which will make happy reading on rainy days in the future. A teacher in school mentioned that more than forty years ago, and it has been a great satisfaction to me, and I pass it on to you with the hope that you will help make life a little more pleasant by passing it on to still others.

And say—while talking about making life more pleasant: Did you notice in the M. C. that Sister Adams suggested that we tack up the Bookmark in some handy place where we can check up through the day whether we have Grumbled, or Grouched, or Insinuated, or Naggged, or Accused, or Gloated, or Neglected? Good suggestion! We have one at the head of every bed in our house, and in the dining room, too! Also, in our Bibles is a good place, as well as other books.

I have been places where churches would have an inexperienced brother "preach" Lord's day morning, or occupy all the time "reviewing the lesson". Many a brother can make a very good five or ten minutes' talk; but will bore the congregation if he talks half an hour. Paul says, "Let all things be unto edifying." The divine system in the New Testament was that "every one hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue," etc., several taking part. We then get the best thoughts from different brethren on the lesson. We can not improve on God's plan.

Chillicothe, Mo.—Have just closed our work at Decatur, which was supported by the Illinois mission fund. This week the congregation made a complete change in its local government. The four local leaders resigned and the whole church selected Bro. John L. Fleener, of the Hammond congregation, to take the oversight here. Bro. Fleener has accepted this responsibility. The last three weeks here I have taught a nightly Bible Study. We completed the Book of Acts which we had been having on Sunday and Wednesday nights and then studied through Philipians of the letters.—Arthur Freeman.

Many fathers and mothers who have sons or other relatives in the army do not think they know how to address a few lines to them, for our January issue of the Macedonian Call. One sister has just sent a stanza of an appropriate hymn with a few words of introduction, addressed to her nephews by their first names. She also sent a stanza to another, in different spiritual circumstances. That is fine. Or, you might send three or four short scriptures which you wish them to remember. Just a few words, and then the scriptures or the poetry. "THINGS TO REMEMBER" might make a good heading to put them all under. Let EVERYONE send something you think all should Remember. It will make a good tract for non-members as well as soldiers.

Topeka, Kans.—The church here in Topeka is moving along with good courage and steady advances. They are working in unison. A break in our number was made by one young brother being called into the army and we look for others to follow before long, but these are excellent young men and we feel that they will honor the name of the Lord wherever they are called and will influence others to do so. We conducted a two week Bible study in Neosho, Mo., in October, which they seemed to enjoy. I am now at home for the winter months. If any congregations wish my assistance in the spring in Bible Study or short meetings, I will be glad to hear from them. Our address is now 2014 East 6th Street, Topeka, Kans.—J. A. Freed.

Lost—A Boy

Not kidnapped by bandits and hidden in a cave to weep and starve and raise a nation to frenzied searching. Were that the case 100,000 men would rise to the rescue if need be. Unfortunately, the losing of the lad is without any dramatic excitement, though very sad and very real.

The fact is, his father lost him. Being too busy to sit with him at the fireside and answer his trivial questions during the years when fathers are the only great heroes of the boys, he let go his hold on him.

Yes, his mother lost him. Being much engrossed in her tea, dinners, and club programs, she let her maid hear the boy say his prayers, and thus her grip slipped, and the boy was lost to his home.

Aye, the church lost him. Being so much occupied with sermons for the wise and elderly who pay the bills, and having good care for dignity, the minister and elders were unmindful of the human feelings of the boy in the pew, and made no provision in sermon or song or association in a private way. And so the church and many sadhearted parents are now looking earnestly for the lost boy.—Covenant Weekly.

(Our Bookmark was printed to help overcome this sinful neglect in parents. Why not send them out to many friends and acquaintances. 20 with envelopes, \$1.00; 50 for \$2.00.

Do it right now. What? Write that short article to your boy, or neighbor's boy, or boy friend, in the armed service, giving something which will be for his encouragement and moral uplift. And send it to us for the January Missionary Number of the M. C. We will leave off his last name, and your name, too, if desired. Let us insert several of these letters. We shall also insert part of a speech on the Divinity of Christ by one whom many call the greatest carnal soldier that ever lived—Napoleon Bonaparte. It is a masterpiece. The paper will have other interesting features, and will be a good tract for others NOT in the service. How many will you take at two cents a copy to cover our expense. Please send your article by Dec. 25. And why not also send a copy of "The Fight of Faith" tract along with this January issue, if you have not already done so? We had a second edition printed, and have several hundred left. Do you have them at your church house to pass to non-members when they attend? I still say that I do not think we shall ever print a neater and cheaper and more effective tract. It is nearly all scripture. 25 for \$1.00, which is about cost. Let us not only try to build morale among soldiers, but among many who may become indifferent in these trying times.