

Advocate

APRIL 30, 1959

The Stewardship of All



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The Bishops Meet the President

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Fifty-one members of the Methodist Church's Council of Bishops called on President Eisenhower at the White House during their semi-annual meeting in the nation's capital. The President is standing between Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam (left), of Washington, president of the council and host at the meeting, and Bishop Edgar A. Love of Baltimore, Md. Bishop Marshall R. Reed of the Michigan Area stands just behind and between Bishop Oxnam and the President and Bishop Raymond J. Wade, former Bishop of the Area, is at the right end of the second row. It was the President's first meeting with the Bishops.

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The Youthful Accent

By Hoover Rupert



CRIME IS COSTLY AND SERIOUS

THE problem of crime is probably as thoroughly discussed a social problem as there is. One does not imagine he can add anything but green fuel to the fire, yet with the continuing rise in the rate of crime and the tremendous cost of criminal delinquency in dollars as well as character, there is serious doubt if one can raise his smoke signals of distress!

Some months ago, news reporter, Roscoe Drummond, interviewed the Attorney General of the United States about the costliness and seriousness of the nation's growing crime wave. There are probably fresher figures and statistics but these are worth mulling over. Attorney General William P. Rogers said that the FBI reports 2,796,400 major crimes committed in 1957. In 1958, the figure of major crimes reached almost to the 3,000,000 mark. That meant one crime for every sixty persons in these United States.

The leader of the nation's Department of Justice, reporting on the cost in dollars of this social delinquency, estimated that it cost the nation 20 billion dollars for last year's departures from law and order. That's one-half the cost of national defense for the year, and many

times what is spent on education and religious institutions.

And, if you dismiss the fact that the number of crimes has doubled in the past 25 years, as simply keeping pace with the rapid growth in population, simmer down long enough to note that since 1950, crime has increased four times as fast as the population.

Just who are these criminal delinquents? Well, the FBI report for 1957 says that of the 194,825 arrests made for the serious offenses of robbery, burglary, motor car theft and other larcenies, a total of 103,535 or some 53% were of young people under the age of 18. Of the 31,291 arrests made on charges of murder, manslaughter, rape, and aggravated assault, 3,230, or more than 10% were in the youth age group.

Then the attorney general commented to the reporter, "The increase in crime by our youth represents the serious aspect of this problem. There has been a failure to inculcate many of our young people with a proper sense of moral values and their responsibility to society. Primarily this is not a job for law enforcement agencies but rather for parents, schools and churches."

Say now, Mr. Attorney-General, you don't mince your words any, do you? But you are so right, and not a reader of this periodical would disagree as to the obligation and responsibility of the church and the home. Few who read these words will be among this year's three-million criminal delinquents. But all who read these words share responsibility for the younger generation — either by being part of it, or having obligations toward it.

Cartoon of the Week



By Bishop
Marshall R. Reed



As Our Custom Is

IN HIS Gospel Dr. Luke records that on one occasion when Jesus returned to his home town of Nazareth he went into the synagogue, as his custom was, on the Sabbath Day. A few weeks ago we were in Los Angeles over Sunday and as our custom is, we went to church. We walked from our hotel to our First Methodist Church.

The First Methodist Church of Los Angeles has been one of the great churches on the west coast. It is a large building, the sanctuary of which will seat 3,400 people. It has had some of our best and best-known preachers in its pulpit. Like many of our large city churches, its membership largely has moved out with the shifting population. It is now one of our downtown churches that are so often considered problems. We believe what we saw and heard there is worth reporting.

We were met at the entrance by several persons who genuinely made us feel that we were wanted there. A pleasant usher took us to our seats and he appeared happy to be doing it. A few weeks before we had worshiped in another large city church where evidently a less experienced usher had seated us in the place where another family had been accustomed to sitting. When the family arrived, they revealed their displeasure at finding strangers in their pew. Not so here. Although we were unknown, we sensed a welcome from those who sat nearby.

We were handed a six-page bulletin filled with helpful material for those who are interested in the good life. The service of worship was orderly and contained those conventional items we consider essential to Christian worship. A page was given to a devotional message and prayer for each day dealing with personal destiny and the divine purpose. Another page was given to Africa as a field of missionary service to which the attention of the congregation was being directed. A section of the bulletin carried an urge to read St. Mark's Gospel during Lent with a suggested schedule. There was the calendar of the week, filled with services to minister to the people of the parish ranging from the Golden Age Choral Group to various programs for Young Adults.

The worship service was a well-ordered conventional service plus three features worthy of note. The first was a good sermon by Dr. J. Richard Sneed on "New Design for the New World." It was based on a section of the Sermon on the Mount and although it was true to the teaching of Jesus a long time ago, it was so clothed in the language of the modern scientific era that we felt the message was for the citizens of the twentieth century. The sermon did what every message from a Christian pulpit should do, that is, exalt Christ as our hope and the church as his representative in the world.

The second plus was unusual

for Sunday morning. Immediately following the sermon for ten minutes, pictures of one of our Christian missions in Africa taken within the preceding six weeks were shown, with a running commentary by the minister. In a very effective way those who worshiped that hour felt they were related to Christ's plan and program for the redemption of the whole world. Many of our ministers show such pictures on Sunday nights or during the week as a kind of fill-in when few people are present. This presentation related the whole congregation to God's program of redemption.

The third plus came at the close of the service and sent the worshipers on their way on a wave of unusual inspiration. Marion Downs, known and loved throughout Methodism with her wonderfully trained voice, sang "His eye is on the sparrow and I know He cares for me" and "I Couldn't Hear Nobody Pray." Then the choir which earlier had sung "And With His Stripes We Are Healed" from the Messiah sang, "No Man Is an Island."

As I stood at the altar as the thousand worshipers were leaving the church, I was glad to say to the minister, "You certainly were doing business for God today." We know how hard the going is in some of our downtown churches but we were convinced on this Sunday morning that there is a ministry in such churches and that it can be carried out effectively.

THE BISHOP'S PAGE

The Stewardship of All

By DONALD A. TEWS

Flint District Lay Leader

THERE is no doubt in my mind that the study, practice and promotion of Christian stewardship is absolutely essential if the individual is to grow in grace and holiness, and if the Church is to realize its role and mission in the world. In other words, we must understand that there are stewardship goals for the individual and there are stewardship goals for the Church. They would seem to be equally important, and both merit our continued emphasis and concern.

There is much disagreement among theologians as to what the term "stewardship" embraces. However, for our purposes I would like to use the definition of the United Stewardship Council. They have defined Christian stewardship as the "practice of systematic and proportionate giving of time, abilities and material possessions, based on the conviction that these are a trust from God to be used in His service and for the benefit of all mankind."

First, let us consider our stewardship of material resources. Dr. Trimble in his book "The Christian Motive and Method in Stewardship" points out that a reading of the four Gospels reveals Christ's attitude toward material resources. He comments that Jesus "acquired no wealth for himself; and, so far as the records go, he gave no money to any cause." Yet, we know that Christ spoke out against people making wealth and its acquisition their sole aim in life. Certainly the parable of the rich young ruler bears out his views in this regard. Jesus knew that when we talk of money, we are touching the most painful part of one's anatomy.

Dr. McRae in "Teaching Christian Stewardship" observes that Jesus has placed before us two sets of values. One of these he expressed in terms of "treasures on earth;" the other he called "treasures in heaven." The rich young ruler was not willing to give up his "treasures on earth" in exchange for "treasures in heaven" — and yet, we know that when the rich young ruler died these "treasures on earth" were surely left behind.

Material wealth comes to us in various and sundry ways. One

The important subject of stewardship gets added emphasis when laymen discuss it as this layman-writer does.

may sell his labor in return for wages. One may sell his services and advice in return for a fee. The farmer may sell his produce in return for a price. Some inherit wealth. Others invest their money and in return receive interest or dividends.

Most important of all, after we have acquired our wealth it is our duty to spend it *wisely*. Indeed, we can safely say, that how we spend our money reveals how well we understand our stewardship. Again we would remember that our wealth is not our own, but belongs to God. The cause of Christ and His Church has a right to lay claim to a part of it. The unfortunate around the world have a right to lay claim to a part of it. Our colleges and homes have a right to lay claim to a part of it.

A few words about the tithe. Theologians are at odds as to what the tithe entails. It's easy to say

our giving should be proportionate — but in what proportion? Since earliest times Christians have considered a tithe or one-tenth of their income as their standard of giving. Nowhere do we find Christ speaking against the tithe. We all know that he did not come to abolish the law and all good Jews kept the law of the tithe. Should we tithe one-tenth of our income? Well, what about the widow who gave all she had? We know that Jesus commended her for doing so. By this are we not led to believe that perhaps the tithe of one-tenth is the minimum? It seems to me that in teaching stewardship we must agree that a tithe of one-tenth of our income is where our Christian stewardship begins.

In addition to our stewardship of material wealth, we must consider our stewardship of abilities. Certainly, if God created us, then He created us with the abilities we possess. We find St. James saying "Every good endowment and every perfect gift is from above."

We are all aware of the fact that not all are possessed of the same abilities or the same number of abilities. We quite often refer to one as a one-talent man, a five-talent man, or a ten-talent man. Each of us is more adept at doing certain tasks than others. Some have pleasing personalities and make excellent ushers. Others can address envelopes, make telephone surveys, or operate a mimeograph and so on. Suffice it to say, there are very few talents or abilities that cannot be used in the service of God.

I cannot help but think of the urgent need for good Sunday School teachers. I understand

that most churches have this problem. We are told that our teaching program in the local churches will continue to expand. We are having difficulty finding workers for vacation Bible schools and competent counselors for our youth fellowships. Only an emphasis on the stewardship of abilities will enable the Church to meet this added demand.

Important as it is that we give a portion of our material wealth, the Church is even more enriched when we give of our abilities. I have noted recently a desire on the part of some to do away with the kitchen in the Methodist Church, and rely solely on the offering plate. I think this would be a serious mistake. The ability to cook and serve is, I am sure, pleasing to God.

This stewardship of abilities demands that we be ever vigilant in putting each man and woman in the church to work. Every church should be continually surveying this problem, and a regular checklist should be maintained on the talents and abilities of our members. We would remind each other that the man or woman who has committed his or her life to Christ should realize that their abilities come from God and truly should be used in His service. We should be very frank with new members as to what is expected of them. There is no room in our Church for an honorary membership.

Closely allied to the stewardship of abilities is the stewardship of time. It stands to reason that if one is willing to use his abilities for God, he will have to give up some time to do it. Time, too, is a gift from God. It is far too important to fritter away on mediocrity. The Christian must remember that he is not free to do as he pleases with all his time. Even if we consider the time we spend in sleeping, eating and at our work, we still have time left over in which we could be engaged in God's work.

We should not only allow time to serve our Church and fellowman, but we should also allow

some time for the enrichment of our minds and spirit through good reading. Matthew Arnold once said "that those people who do not read are no better off than those who can't read." The good steward will read his Bible regularly and will enjoy other good books. Hobbies and good music should take up some of his time.

The stewardship of time, abilities and material possessions primarily concerns the person or the individual Christian. We could



Donald A. Tews

also discuss the stewardship of the mind and body, but indeed they are by-products of those we have already discussed.

As we pointed out earlier there are not only stewardship goals for the individual, but there are some that belong rightly to the Church. I should like to mention three responsibilities I feel belong to the Church which in some respects we have neglected.

First, the Church must show a continuing interest in the family — the most sacred unit of society. Its responsibility goes further than uniting a man and woman in holy matrimony. It must provide the proper spiritual foundations for the family, and when it appears that the marriage is in danger of dissolving, the Church must step in with needed counseling.

I submit divorce is becoming a national disgrace and we are doing little about it. The responsibility falls squarely on our shoulders. Indeed, a committee should be appointed in every District to take immediate steps to preserve the institution of the family. In this regard I am deadly serious. In

Oakland County, for example, there are close to 8000 active divorce cases, and 15,000 children are wards of the court. How serious must this problem get before the Methodist Church with its vast resources does more about it?

Secondly, I believe the Church has a political stewardship. Good government is the responsibility of the Church. There is no other moral force in the community to compare with it. I would not suggest that the Church enter actively into politics with the thought of dictating a program. However, I would suggest that where there are issues that run contrary to our beliefs and teachings as to right living and what the Church stands for, then it is our business and duty to be heard.

The recent liquor controversy in Pontiac is a case in point. How many Christians have been heard to say "well, if they want to drink on Sunday, that's their business. If they don't drink in bars, they'll drink at home." I think Christ would be vitally concerned with how the Sabbath is kept. The Church should also be concerned with slum clearance, obscene literature, fair employment practices, welfare and juvenile delinquency.

Finally, the Church is most of all the steward of our spiritual resources. It has had entrusted to it the Gospel, and what more awesome responsibility could be found. That, of course, is a particular responsibility of ministers. We are sobered by our knowledge that there are churches that have de-emphasized the Gospel message and we see them dying. What other foundation does the Church have than Christ and the Good News proclaiming eternal life.

Undoubtedly there is a lot more to be said about stewardship than is said here. I am pleased that our Church has seen fit to emphasize Stewardship during this quadrennium. We are encouraged by the message of Paul to the struggling body of Christians at Corinth, "He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."

EXPRESSED EDITORIALY

Paper Bankruptcy

When we travel outside the state and contact those who see us as others do, invariably the conversation gets around to the matter of Michigan's financial condition. There can be no doubt from the experience we have had that the reputation of our fair state has suffered as a result of the legislative shenanigans at Lansing. Whatever the motives of the lawmakers may have been (and we suspect they are very mixed) the net result is a very false picture of the state's economic strength. Michigan may look bankrupt on paper but no state with the human and material resources of ours can be bankrupt *except on paper*.

We are one of the three fastest growing states of the 50 which now comprise the Union. Our debt per capita is below the national average and it is reported that we spend more for higher education than any other state. Our road-building program is a model for others. No state has more fresh-water shoreline and fresh water is a major necessity in the growth and development of a modern civilization. Industrially and agriculturally Michigan ranks high and her citizens are progressive in their outlook. With potentials like these no state can be bankrupt except through the artificial stifling of our God-given resources.

Predict Christ's Return

By the time this issue of the *Advocate* reaches our readers war will have broken out in the Middle East and Christ will have returned. At least so say the Davidians in Waco, Texas, who set April 22 as the deadline for a great holocaust and the Savior's second advent. The devout group, a branch of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, encouraged their followers to sell their property and otherwise sever all earthly ties and prepare for the Great Day. The leaders provided a loophole by saying that they are not certain how soon Christ will return, it may be after April 22, but the implication is that it will be in the very near future. The reason? The world is so bad off God simply has to do something about it.

What these sincere but misguided Christians seem to have overlooked is that God is on His throne; He is doing something about conditions and His Son is on the earth. This explanation won't satisfy the Davidians but it should do a lot for those who don't hold to their literalistic beliefs.

God rules because His physical, biological and spiritual laws operate with a remarkable precision

and deadly accuracy as those who thwart them have found out.

God therefore is doing something about conditions as he finds them by punishing those who do evil and rewarding those who do good.

His Son is on the earth in the lives of Christian people and Christian institutions of which the greatest is His Church.

We often wonder, just what more God could do than He is doing already? Would Christ's actual presence accomplish any more than His Spirit (the Holy Spirit) is accomplishing every day? Christ in bodily form might create a stir for a while but the novelty of His physical presence would soon wear off and we'd be back where we started. So with all due respect to the Davidians, they seem to be looking for the pot of spiritual gold at the end of the rainbow when all the time it's within their reach.

Belittle the Minister; Belittle the Ministry

The minister is more than a person. He is a symbol of the church in the flesh. He stands as a special messenger of God. He represents an office. A minister is all this and even more which means he should be respected not for himself only but for what he represents.

People in the public eye are open to criticism and there is nothing more ruthless than the mob psychology that comprises what we call public opinion. While no minister would seek the special privilege of protection against criticism, there is a sense in which it should be granted him, for disrespect for the minister creates disrespect for the ministry. It would be of interest to know how many youth have been kept from becoming ministers because of the criticisms they heard their parents make of their minister. While statistics aren't available, it is likely this is one reason for the present ministerial shortage. No one can belittle the minister through criticism, without belittling the ministry itself. When this happens the Church suffers as a whole.

A question naturally arises: Shouldn't the minister ever be criticized? The answer is, of course, but such criticism should not be made in public and not in the presence of children or youth either at home or elsewhere. Whatever the criticism, it should be made without emotion and should have a constructive end. The Methodist Church has provided a Pastoral Relations Com-

By John E. Marvin



mittee for the expressed purpose of handling matters of this sort. If properly used, there is seldom any chance of ministerial criticisms ever becoming a topic of community gossip. This does not include differences of opinion between ministers and laymen or other ministers on issues of religious or community concern. These are of public interest and their discussion ought to be encouraged without rancor or recrimination.

There was a time when the minister was looked up to in the community more than at present. The tendency of some ministers to be one of the boys about town has contributed to a lessening of respect for the office. Laymen have sometimes encouraged this type of ministry and like to say, "He's one of us." But it remains that a minister is *one set apart* by the nature of his profession. There is a sense in which he never can be one of the boys because it would militate against the symbol he represents. This doesn't mean a minister has to be high-hat or any less friendly. It just means that he has to respect the dignity of his office at all times lest it suffer. A minister can be well liked in a community, even popular, without sacrificing the respect he and the community hold for the ministry itself.

Channel of Communication

"The more we get together the happier we'll be."

This is more than a refrain sung by overfed, overstuffed banqueters who want to settle their dinners. It's a fundamental fact of human life which applies to nations as well as individuals. Suspensions evolve into hates and hates into wars because nations don't understand each other. And they don't understand each other because they keep their channels of communications closed.

That is why the proposed visit of Vice President Richard M. Nixon to Russia in July is highly advisable. Those who suspect it's a political stratagem to build up the Vice President's presidential possibilities are inclined to overlook the visit's more important aspects. We get a little exasperated with the type of mind that sees an ulterior motive in every public act and suspects selfish desires in every effort to improve human relations. It could be that the Vice President's visit might increase his prestige. On the other hand a mistake on his part could decrease his prestige just as rapidly. One takes chances either way in a world as tense as ours.

Since the visit of Russia's number two man,

Deputy Premier Anastas Mikoyan, many have felt a similar visit by this country's number two man would be in order. The trip will be in connection with the opening of an American exhibition in Moscow. A similar exhibition of the Russian's will be opened in New York about the same time.

The visit comes at a time when domestic political tensions are increasing. National political campaigns often capitalize on the international situation to win votes and invariably lose friends abroad. If the Nixon visit can create a better feeling before the campaign, possibly the harm that may be done later will be mitigated. This accomplishment alone would justify the Moscow trip.

"Where a Man's Heart Is"

Editors of 40 newspapers were asked what they thought was the most urgent national problem. In a poll conducted by *This Week Magazine* the replies reveal something about the thinking of America today. The first was economic and called for the controlling of inflation. The second was military and urged a stronger national defense. The third was scientific and advocated this country take the lead in space exploration. The fourth recommended the betterment of international relations and the fifth was religious calling for the improvement of inter-faith and inter-racial relations. There were fifteen items listed in all.

While all the problems catalogued are important, it is revealing that the first five were rated in the order of economic, military, scientific, political and religious. And it should be noted that the religious emphasis was not on making religion vital to the life of America, but aimed at getting the different religions to have better relations. Religion was noted then, as a problem in itself and not as a solution to other problems.

Whether the editors realize it or not they reveal a rather sad commentary on the life of America. Translated into simpler terms they indicate we are concerned in this order, with our pocketbooks, our guns, our skyrockets, our politics and our religious feuding.

Had this editor been asked, we would have put at the top of the list man's relationship to God and his fellow man, for once these relationships are worked out, everything else will fall into proper place and without this everything is out of kilter.

Local Church Evangelistic Initiative To Get Green Light Next Year

THE 1959-1960 evangelistic program to be presented to the two annual conferences in June will encourage local church initiative in setting up an evangelistic program for each church. This conclusion was reached in a two-day meeting of evangelistic leaders of the Michigan and Detroit Annual Conferences at the Lansing YMCA last week Monday and Tuesday. Bishop Marshall R. Reed was present as were his district superintendents from the two conferences. Area Director of Evangelism, Dr. Joseph Edwards, announced as he opened the meeting that next year's plans for evangelism were in the hands of those present. Full and free discussion was held on every phase of the subject in buzz groups and their findings were reported back to the group as a whole.

Dr. Harry Denman, secretary of the General Board of Evangelism, gave stimulating leadership to the planning conference. A layman himself, he urged more participation by laymen in the evangelistic program. Many he said are retiring early in life and could be trained to head up local Commissions on Membership and Evangelism. They might serve in capacities that would release ministers during this period of critical ministerial shortage. Owing to the tremendous growth of large metropolitan areas, he indicated that in the future evangelistic programs will concentrate on winning converts in whole regions rather than in just limited urban sections. Discussing the question, "Where is the evangelistic initiative today?", he pointed out that too often it is coming from people who seek the church rather than from the church which should be seeking the people. He wondered where the church would be without the present religious boom which he said is the first time there has been one in times of prosperity. Explaining a total enlistment program, he said it included the total enlistment of every member, the unenlisted and self. Any evangelistic mission in the local church must have ethical content and spiritual renewal, he added.

When finally spelled out, the proposed program for next conference year states that each church will be expected to determine its own evangelistic program based upon a statement of plans provided by the Conference Boards of Evangelism. It was felt that in many cases churches will feel the need for such assistance. The plans are to be forwarded to the chairman of each local Commission on Membership and Evangelism so there will be opportunity to use them in making a report to the First Quarterly Conference. Full details, together with the statement of

plans, will be presented to the Annual Conferences.

A list of pastors is to be provided who will be available as leaders in evangelistic meetings. It was also noted that Bishop Reed has volunteered to preach in vacation areas during the summer. He already is slated to spend the last week in July in the Upper Peninsula and the following week at Bay View.

Before the meeting adjourned seven long-range plans were listed involving cooperation with other boards. They were:

1. To determine the minimum membership goals for Michigan Methodism in the light of the predicted increase in population.
2. To determine the minimum number of new churches needed to keep up with the population growth.
3. An evangelistic program to reach unchurched youth in all educational institutions in the state.
4. A more effective method of caring for youth and adults away from home.
5. Ways of winning both the so-called working and wealthy classes.
6. A U.S. two-year program for youth to help establish new churches.
7. The enlistment of laymen and speakers for outpost churches.

Dr. Denman spoke Monday evening in the sanctuary of Central Methodist Church to an appreciative audience composed largely of lay and ministerial leaders in the Lansing area. Dr. Morrison, host pastor, offered the prayer and Rev. Wilson Tennant led the song service. Devotions during the two days were conducted by Bishop Reed and Rev. Allan Gray with Dr. Glenn Frye as song leader. Rev. Milford Bowen of Bellevue was elected secretary and Dr. Edwards presided at all sessions.

Protestant Players At Nardin Park This Week

CONTINUING their work of Christian Education through dramatic presentations the Protestant players have given many presentations this year in the local church. Notable this spring was their production of "A Seller of Purple" which was given on six different occasions. Three of these were at Nardin Park, the original home of the players, and other shows at Grosse Point and Messiah churches. When Mrs. Edna Alee, director, takes her group on a tour, there are no trumpet fanfares nor truck loads of scenery. Simple but effective stage settings make it possible for any church to engage the players for a religious play performance.

So great has been the interest in drama in the Detroit District that a religious drama festival has been arranged with four church groups participating. It will be held this week Thursday and May 1 at Nardin Park Methodist Church, 5151 West Chicago Blvd., at 8:00 P.M., and is open to the public. This week, the First Baptist Players of Royal Oak, under the direction of Mrs. Ralph Pearson, will present "Roger Williams and Mary"; and the Senior Youth Fellowship of Birmingham First, directed by Rev. Robert Falk, "The Valiant." On May 1, the Calvary Dramatic Club, directed by Lawrence Partridge, presents "Humanity Versus Pontius Pilate"; and the Nardin Park Players, Mrs. Edna Alee, director, "The Gardener Who Was Afraid of Death."

The annual banquet of the Players will be held at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, Hubbell and Outer Drive, May 22, at 7:00 P.M. Guest speaker will be Miss Amy Goodhue Loomis, professor of speech and drama director at Vincennes University, Indiana. Miss Loomis was founder and director of the National Council of Churches Religious Drama Workshop and for 10 years she has been director of the department of religious drama for the American Baptist Convention. An invitation is extended to all those interested in church drama. Mail or call reservations (\$1.75) to Mr. Ralph Alee, 10078 Bordeaux, Detroit 4, WE 4-5737; or Anna Tashnick, 9330 Pinehurst, Detroit 4, WE 4-5305.

Michigan Conference to Have Ministers' Seminars on Preparation for Marriage

DR. SILVANUS MILNE DUVALL, well-known authority on Family Relations, will be the resource person in a series of seminars in the Michigan Conference. He is being brought to the state by the General Committee on Family Life and the Department of Christian Family of the General Board of Education and by the Conference Board of Education and its Family Life Committee.

The churches where Dr. Duvall is to be heard are: May 11—Albion, First Church; May 12—Big Rapids, First Church; May 13—Traverse City, Central Church; May 14—Grand Rapids, Burton Heights Church; May 15—Kalamazoo, First Church.

Miss Bethany Routh, Conference Director of Adult Work, will accompany the speaker; registration fee of \$1 should be sent to her; reservations for the meals, which will cost \$1.25, should go to the churches where the minister will attend.

Dr. Duvall is professor in the Department of Social Science, George Williams

College, Chicago, Ill. He graduated from Syracuse Union Theological Seminary in 1924; received the degree of S.T.M. in 1927; studied in London in 1925 and 1926. He was professor of religious education at Scarritt College, Nashville, Tenn., from 1926 to 1931; a pastor from 1931 to 1933, when he became Professor of Social Science and Religion at George Williams, where he has been since then. He is a member of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, the National Council on Family Relations, the American Sociological Society, the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, and other groups. Dr. Duvall is the author of two books, "Leading Parents' Groups," and "Before You Marry."

The major areas to be dealt with are: 1. What is education for Christian Marriage? 2. Methods of Premarital counseling. 3. The What, Why, How, When, Who and Where of Counseling.

What They Write

Comment for this column should be written briefly and bear the signature and address of the writer, which the editor reserves the right to print. What appears here does not necessarily represent the Advocate's point of view.

Picture Makes Impression

To the Editor:

During the Lenten season, the *Advocate*, a weekly visitor at my home, carried the small picture of a man kneel-



『思量我身
不配受恩；
主愛非常！』

ing before the Cross of Christ.

Each year, for three years on Thursday of Passion Week our four-year old Ward Memorial Methodist Church here in Kowloon has had a candle-light communion service around tables arranged in the shape of a cross. This year we copied the little picture from the *Advocate* with the Chinese translation of the accompanying phrase taken from the

Helping Youthful Delinquents Is

Project of Traverse City Men's Group

THE men of Asbury-Fourteenth St. Methodist Men's Club of Traverse City have completed a very worthwhile project under the leadership of President William R. Blood.

They have been helping the men of the Michigan State Corrections Department with their work with delinquent youth at Camp Pugsley, Michigan. There are 60 boys ranging from 15 to 21 years of age who had been convicted for the first time of a felony by the courts and had been paroled to Camp Pugsley instead of being sent to Jackson or Marquette prisons where they would be thrown in with hardened criminals.

The camp is without locks or bars and the boys are put on their honor, which if violated would result in a prison sentence. The boys are given a program of work, study, and recreation under the supervision of the men of the corrections and conservation departments of the state of Michigan. It is a place which makes a break in the boy's environment and way of life, and gives him an opportunity to get a new perspective on life and his position in regard to it.

The part of the men in the program was to meet with the boys every Tuesday night between 7:30 and 9:30 P.M. for 12 weeks. Meeting first with Arthur Albright, probation officer, and assisted every other week by psychiatrist Ernest Shelly, they would occasionally be joined by Robert Scott and other men of the corrections department from down state. The director of the camp, Edward Green,

second stanza of "Beneath the Cross of Jesus," and distributed the printed cards to the communicants as they were leaving the borrowed hall where the service was held. Our people were greatly impressed by the little card and its significant message.

This is to say "Thank you."

We are a church fellowship at about two hundred fifty members, still without a church building, using borrowed quarters in the Chinese Y.M.C.A. for our Sunday worship service. The pastor's apartment is the meeting place for other groups; one prayer meeting, W.S.C.S., Methodist Men, the Choir, M.Y.F., Commissions and Committees. We have very strong leadership in our dedicated pastor, Rev. Chester Yang.

So many are traveling around the world these days. Methodists I think would be inspired by a visit to the two young Methodist churches here and the work being done among refugees in resettlement areas through Methodist and Church World Service Funds. — Etha M. Nagler, Hong Kong.

generally stayed in the background. The camp officials would brief the group as to the condition of the camp, the topic to be discussed with the boys, what they wished to accomplish, and how best to go about it. The men were taken to a room where they were introduced to all the boys in the camp. The boys were told the subject of the evening's discussion, but if the group did not wish to discuss the announced topic, they were free to talk about anything they wished.

Eight boys were assigned to each of the men who kept the same boys for the 12 weeks which made it possible to become better acquainted and more able to help each other. Each man took his group of boys into a room where he could be alone with them for 45 minutes and discuss whatever they wished. One of the boys was elected a reporter for the group, who went to an after meeting with the camp management where the men reported their discussions with the reporter from each group being present. The camp management could discuss the subjects brought up, and the reporters could carry back to their groups, the attitude of the camp management. No names were ever mentioned, and the boys were free to express their ideas with no danger of reprisals from the camp management, for they never knew which boys expressed the ideas.

Much of the value of the project was the fact that the boys all knew that the men were not being paid to do this, and were doing it for the sole purpose of helping the boys to get the right perspective on life, and become useful happy citizens, taking their rightful place in society, and earning the respect of the people where they live.

Camp Pugsley was made possible by the vision of the late Hon. Judge Parm C. Gilbert, and carried to its present by Hon. Judge Earl C. Pugsley.

It is the policy of the corrections department to not use any one group of men longer than 12 weeks in this work, for the maximum benefit to the boys. They found that Christian laymen could do a better job in this kind of work than others, and the Asbury-Fourteenth St. Men were glad to be of some help to the men of the corrections department, who are putting the State of Michigan way out in front in the battle against crime and the reform and rehabilitation of youthful offenders.

The value of the Camp Pugsley program is shown by the fact that three times as many of the boys stay out of trouble after their stay at Camp Pugsley as they did before the program was instituted.—E.P.C.

job, his wife and family will have to take a second-rate place."

Church Group Defends Right to Take Stands on Controversial Issues

CLEVELAND — (RNS) — The right of church agencies to speak out on public issues without committing the entire membership of the denomination was defended by the Executive Council of the United Church of Christ at a meeting here.

In an apparent reference to a statement by the Church's Council for Christian Social Action recommending U.S. recognition of Communist China, the Executive Council said such agencies have the responsibility to take a stand on public issues, even though their position may be unpopular.

Neither the social action group or its statement on China was referred to specifically in the Executive Council's policy declaration.

"It can be hoped," the statement said, that the "Christian integrity" of church groups making pronouncements on public issues "will not be questioned just because the word they speak may be an unpopular one."

Agencies of the denomination, formed in 1957 with the merger of the General Council of the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church, "are composed of ministers and lay members whose devotion,

interest and competence have been recognized in their selection by their fellow-members to serve in such bodies," the statement said.

"Their utterances and enactments therefore merit, even from those who disagree, respect and serious consideration," it declared. However, the statement continued, "a Church agency speaks only for itself, not for the whole fellowship, except as members of that fellowship concur or their assent is won by the weight of what is spoken."

Church units were urged to avoid "making claims of representing or binding the United Church or its other agencies" by their pronouncements.

Agencies which "exercise a prophetic role," the statement added, cannot hope to escape "the penalty which the prophets and reformers have always incurred."

The Executive Council's statement paralleled that of the General Board of the National Council of Churches at Hartford, Conn., earlier this year, which defended the right of the Fifth World Order Study Conference at Cleveland last fall to make a pronouncement also urging recognition of Red China.

Dr. Cleland, 55, is a strapping, silver-haired man who used to coach soccer to students at Amherst and Duke. He is a native of Glasgow, Scotland, and has earned four degrees, including a doctorate from Union Theological Seminary, New York.

"There is much to be said for the celibate clergy," he concluded. "I would like to see Protestantism think seriously about the whole question. But I don't think many congregations would stand for an unmarried minister. I don't know why."

Southern Clergy Told They Cannot Remain "Uncommitted"

WASHINGTON, D.C. — (RNS) — The clergy in the South is deeply involved in its racial crisis and cannot remain "uncommitted," the Rev. Paul L. Stagg of First Baptist church, Front Royal, Va., told the Baptist Ministers' Conference of the District of Columbia Baptist Convention here.

Mr. Stagg, is a native of the South and a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. His own church has been a storm center of controversy over school segregation. He said to try remaining on the sidelines as a spectator "is to become involved in the guilt of irresponsibility."

Ministers who do their duty in the present situation, he said, "must seek to reconcile the conflict — to break down the barriers between men, between races, between classes."

"It is difficult for me to see how a minister can be involved in the problem as an avowed segregationist," he declared. "As ministers we are committed by the nature of our role to administer God's work in breaking down racial barriers."

Mr. Stagg said he has been severely criticized for opposing the use of his church as a private school. The church has been used, over his strong objections, as a site of segregated "private" classes since Front Royal's only high school was closed last September to avoid enrolling 22 Negro students who previously attended a regional high school 55 miles away.

But the clergyman said he has not yielded to any threats and still feels that to have such classes in the church building aligns the churches with those "who want to use it as a puppet for their purposes."

He urged his fellow ministers to work toward eventual dissolution of the "caste system of class and race" which he termed "an affront to the Almighty."

Married Minister Thinks Protestants Should Consider Encouraging Celibacy

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — (RNS) — A prominent Presbyterian minister thinks Protestantism ought to "think seriously" about encouraging an unmarried clergy.

Dr. James T. Cleland, dean of the Chapel at Duke University, said a married minister is faced with the choice: "Do a second-rate job of being a minister or allow your marriage to suffer."

"I can understand the reason for the Roman Catholic practice of celibacy for the clergy," he said.

Such a practice does away with the conflict of a "major loyalty" to the church with "minor loyalties."

Dr. Cleland, who also is professor of preaching at Duke University School, is married, but has no children.

"I'm happily married," he said, "but my wife has had a rough time. Some times I don't think I'm fair to her."

He made his remarks in a newspaper interview before speaking to a Duke alumni group here.

Dr. Cleland said he felt an unmarried pastor is more independent than one "committed with a wife and three kids. A minister to a great extent is a hired

hand." And one reason ministers often lack courage to speak forthrightly on some matters is that they "are afraid of losing their jobs and bringing discomfort to their families.

"Marriage doesn't mean a minister can't do a first-class second-rate job," he said. "Yet, if he does a first-rate



Our Preacher Advocates

Peace, joy and happiness accompany, the experiences of the triumph of Jesus as his will is worked out in men. The triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem was an outstanding experience of joy, but it did not last long for it was too superficial. The joy of salvation springs from faith in the heart, a deep-seated entity. "With the heart men believeth unto salvation." "As many as received him, gave he power to become the sons of God." Christ coming into our lives is Jesus' triumphant entrance for us.

Druggist Commended for Good Literature Effort

A Lift for Living

By Dr. Ralph W. Sockman



THE Commission on Christian Social Relations of Franklin Community Church through its chairman, Mrs. Donald Tracy, recently released through the area newspapers a statement of commendation concerning magazines and books for sale in the Village Drug Store.

The Commission in its regular meeting was considering the various phases of activities for which it bears responsibility which include a concern for elimination of salacious literature. It was pointed out that Mr. Stan Gaulling, local druggist, at some considerable sacrifice financially, and in terms of time, had refused to carry in his magazine rack or in his pocket-book editions, any literature that was suggestive or improper. Feeling that a positive step was better than a negative step, and rather than to lash out at the sale of salacious literature the Commission chose to issue a commendation to the drug store for the fine job it does and contacted the two area papers and released to them the statement.

In response the druggist commented that he himself is the father of three girls and that he never wanted anything in his store that he would be ashamed to have his own daughters read. The public response to the commendation, both to the church and to the store has been very gratifying.

The same Commission recently sponsored a Seminar on Christian Human Relations with Mrs. Max Williams, a U.N. observer, directing a unit on "Christian World Peace" and Rev. James Bristah, director, Board of Christian Social Relations of the Detroit Conference, directing a study on "The Christian and Integration."

PARENT-TEACHER GROUP OPPOSES THANKSGIVING DAY PARADES

DURHAM, N.C. — (RNS) — Suspension of the annual Christmas parade on Thanksgiving Day here sponsored by the Durham Merchants Association was requested by the Durham Council of Parent-Teacher Associations.

"We feel that the holding of your parade on Thanksgiving Day is contrary to the spirit of, and interferes with, the proper observance of Thanksgiving Day," the parent-teacher group told the merchants.

The parade, it added, conflicts with Thanksgiving Day services in the churches and "the spirit of thanksgiving." It added that "we also feel that it would be better to wait until after Thanksgiving Day before undertaking activities connected with Christmas."

Finding a Faith

TODAY I want to follow with you the steps by which one of the most formative figures of history found a steady and saving faith. He reached such ringing assurance that on the eve of his death he could say: "I know whom I have believed and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him."

As you know, these are the words of the veteran Saint Paul written to his young recruit Timothy. Paul's belief began where faith normally starts — in the bosom of the family. A child breathes the atmosphere of faith in the home, for only by faith can people dwell together in families. We live by faith every waking moment. By faith we ride to work, by faith we plan tomorrow's program, by faith we dine with our friends. Robert Louis Stevenson was right when he said that faith forms the axles of the universe.

We may assume that Paul's childhood was normal and as such was nurtured in the faith common to all normal homes. Moreover, his family was deeply religious, adhering to the tenets of a strict Jewish sect. His was a home of culture. Paul was proud of his standing in society as a Roman citizen, an honor not commonly accorded to people in the provinces. He was fiercely proud of his religious heritage.

But inherited faith, to become vital, must be invested. Some people fail to see this. They keep living on the faith of their parents. Because they went to church twice a day in their childhood they think they have stored up enough religious faith to last a lifetime.

Paul's faith came alive in his own experience. He watched a man die for his faith. The man's name was Stephen. Paul could not get out of his mind the words and face of the martyred Stephen who, as the stones fell on his body, looked steadfastly into heaven saying: "Behold, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing on the right hand of God." Also the bleeding victim prayed for his accusers.

The radiant face and forgiving spirit of the dying Stephen put a new germ of belief into Saul's mind. What did Stephen have which his faith had missed? What was Stephen's secret of triumph over pain

and death and bitterness? The questions haunted him.

Shortly afterward on his way to Damascus Paul had his epochal experience on the road. The record is that a blinding light engulfed him and he fell to the ground. He heard a voice saying, "Saul, Saul why do you persecute me?" Saul asked, "Who are you?" The voice answered, "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting."

Paul did not stop to argue and call for proof. He asked, "What will you have me to do?" Christ answered, "Rise and go into the city and it shall be shown you what you shall do." Paul obeyed, and set out for Damascus without stopping to ask what all would be involved.

Here Paul was following a principle essential to faith. We acquire faith in God or in our fellow men by first showing faith in them. If a neighbor invites us to dinner we do not require a written guarantee that there will be no poison in the food. If he asks us to ride in his car he does not ask us to sign a waiver releasing him from all responsibility for accidents. We begin our friendships on trust.

Likewise in our religious faith we begin our friendship with God on trust. Like Paul we must commit the will and set out to follow before we can calculate all the results. One of the weaknesses of contemporary Christianity is that there is so much discussion of religion and so little decision. In colleges there are increasing numbers of students studying comparative religions. They are seeing good points in all the various faiths but they are unwilling to commit themselves to any one faith. As Halford Luccock says, many people are trying to ooze their way into the Kingdom of God. But if we are to have a firm faith, there must be a point of definite decision.

And when we have committed our wills to God, we find as did Paul, that "suffering produces endurance, endurance produces character and character produces hope." My own faith in God is strengthened by the fact that those who through suffering might seem to have the most reason to doubt the goodness of God are the ones who believe in Him most firmly. These are times that test our faith, and thank God, there are so many, whose faith stands the test.

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Quincy Observes 50th Anniversary, Consecrates Remodeled Sanctuary

QUINCY observed the 50th anniversary of the dedication of its present church building and the consecration of the remodeled church sanctuary Sunday, April 12. Near capacity crowds attended all of the services of the day and over 150 people were served at the anniversary dinner in the church dining room.

Rev. Howard Lyman, district superintendent, was guest preacher at the morning worship service and spoke on the theme, "Christian Disciples." The combined choirs, under the direction of Mrs. Maybelle Condra, gave a beautiful rendition of the hymn, "Are Ye Able?" Mrs. Richard McConnell sang, "Open the Gates of the Temple."

Following the Church School hour, a bountiful cooperative dinner was served under the direction of Mrs. Fay Brauker. The tables and room were decorated with the anniversary theme and the center of attraction was the guest table with a beautifully decorated cake as the center-piece made by Mrs. Dayne Himebaugh, a member of the church. On it was the scripture text, "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord," Ps. 122:1. This text was also found on each individual place card at the tables. The honored guests at the dinner were those who were members in 1909 when the present church building was dedicated and who *are still members now*. These are: Mrs. Stella Cowan, Mrs. Mamie Moore, Mrs. Addie Parker, Miss Grace Ransom, Mr. and Mrs. Ruel Rawson and Theodore Rawson. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Moore were also included who were present at the original dedication and who joined the church in June of that year. Mr. Ruel Rawson is the member of longest standing in the church, having joined 69 years ago when a boy of 12.

Bishop Marshall R. Reed was the guest preacher at the afternoon service. He led the congregation in the consecration of the remodeled sanctuary which was completed last December and spoke on the theme, "A Remarkable Century." The Senior Choir sang, "All Thy Works Shall Praise Thee" by Lorenz. Among the guests present at this service were Mrs. Adymae Hathaway of Chicago and Mrs. Lloyd Van Patten of Wayne, Michigan. They are the two surviving daughters of the late Rev. and Mrs. William Parsons of the Michigan Conference who served the Quincy Church in 1896-97 and the great-granddaughters of Mr. and Mrs. John Broughton, early pioneers of Quincy who donated the land where the church now stands and in whose home the first Methodist Episcopal Church Society was organized in 1836, a year before Michigan became a state. Mrs. Van Patten rendered a violin solo in the afternoon service.

Another highlight of the afternoon service was the solo of Mrs. Robert Gray of Grand Rapids who sang in memory of her father, the late Rev. R. D. Freeman, pastor when the church was dedicated in April of 1909. Memorial flowers were in memory of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Rawson and Mr. Harry Cowan.

An informal reception was held for Bishop and Mrs. Reed following the afternoon service, under the direction of Mrs. Clay T. Brockman, wife of the church lay leader.

The committees who helped to make the day a success were: General Planning: Mrs. Lewis Moore, Mrs. Fay Brauker, Mrs. Ashley Van Doren. Invitations: Mrs. Everett Bowerman, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Dryer, Mrs. Stella Cowan. Dinner: Mrs. Fay Brauker, Mrs. Nellie Corless, Mrs. Clyde Palmateer, Mrs. Robert Snyder, Mrs. Ashley Van Doren. Dining Room: Mr. and Mrs. Kyle Rootes, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Van Hoosear, Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Lambright, Miss Phyllis Corless. Program and publicity: Mrs. Maybelle Condra, Mr. and Mrs. Clay T. Brockman, Mrs. Leona Braun and the pastor, Rev. Dorr Garrett. Hospitality: Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Ruel Rawson.

CLARK HOME ON TV

ON SUNDAY, April 12, Clark Memorial Home, Grand Rapids, was shown on Channel 8 Television for 15 minutes in moving pictures. The program was arranged by Mrs. Blanche DeKoning on the "Over Sixty" series.

J. W. Rigterink, M.D., physician at the Home for the last 38 years, has retired. A reception and recognition dinner was held for Dr. and Mrs. Rigterink by the trustees and members of the Home on April 15. He is succeeded by Willis Dixon, M.D.



Participants in the charter presentation at Durand, l. to r., are: Rex Teeters, program chairman; Wells Bruno, promotion chairman; Kenneth Behnke, secretary; Guy Jones, president; Fred Ham, vice president; Donald Tews, district lay leader; James Bellows, treasurer; Rev. Norbert W. Smith, pastor.

Methodist Men



News of local church, sub-district or district Methodist Men's activities are solicited for this column. If possible, copy should be typewritten and double spaced.

260 Attend 10th Annual Appreciation Dinner

THE Detroit District Board of Methodist Men and Lay Activities held their 10th annual Ministerial Appreciation Banquet Monday evening, April 13, at Mt. Olivet Methodist Church, Dearborn. Two hundred and sixty reservations were turned in for Methodist Men of the district and their ministers who took advantage of this opportunity to enjoy an evening with their preachers and friends.

After a delicious dinner, President Downey Presnal expressed a few words of welcome as the program got under way. The Mt. Olivet Men's Quartet sang several songs including "The Jericho Road" and those who were present at Lansing for the State-wide meeting, April 11, know what a wonderful job this quartet can do with gospel songs. Mr. Kenneth Adler was the speaker of the evening and talked on the Olympics and what they mean for Detroit. District Superintendent Everett K. Seymour gave a short talk on the future outlook for the Detroit District Methodist Men.

New Club at Durand

THE newly-organized Methodist Men's Club of Durand received its charter at the March meeting. Since organizing the Club has sponsored two basketball teams in the County Inter-Church League; sponsored the local Boy Scout troop; completed several work projects.



The Methodist Men's Club of the Farwell Methodist Church met in the church basement for a planned supper and the presentation of the charter of the organization. The charter was presented by John Hanson, president of the Clare Methodist Men's Club to Vice President Dick Fullerton of the Farwell Methodist Club. After its presentation the charter was signed by the members present. The club has twenty-one charter members.

Future plans include a major remodeling of the church sanctuary and the serving of a mother-son banquet.

Mr. Donald Tews, district lay leader, presented the charter and challenged the men to fulfill their highest potential as laymen of the church. Mr. Wilbur Bills, sub-district lay leader, also spoke to the group.

Chalk Talk Entertains Alpena Fathers and Sons

ON APRIL 8, 123 fathers and sons of the Alpena Methodist Church gathered for their annual banquet served by the WSCS. Richard Crystal was toastmaster. The program included a chalk talk, "The Time Bank" by Jim Robertson and a musical pantomime by teenagers, Howard French, Philip Dafoe, Bob Gilliland, Dennis Lutes, William Paige and Warren Erickson.

9th St. Observes 10th Anniversary

THE Ninth Street Methodist Church of Three Rivers observed its tenth anniversary April 3 with a dinner at the church served by the Rose Circle to 58 members and guests.

The men retired to the sanctuary for the program. Vice president Chester Neamen was master of ceremonies. A singspiration was led by Dick Remington with Richard Berry as organist. They later played a piano and organ duet.

Lay leader Allen Snyder welcomed the group which included Methodist men from Benton Harbor, Fennville, Burr Oak, Colon, Schoolcraft, Centreville and Three Rivers First Methodist Church.

Maynard Myers, the club's first presi-

dent, told of the group's organization at a dinner meeting for 35 men held in his home. Russell Gotschall, former leader, told of meetings in Grand Rapids and Lansing prior to the local organization of men under the direction of Rev. Harold Jacobs, now pastor at Lansing Potter Park.

Donald Neamen, one of Ninth Street's college students, introduced former pastors Rev. Harold Jacobs, Rev. Dorr Garrett of Quincy and Rev. Gordon Showers of Hartford who related experiences

during their service in Three Rivers. District Lay Leader Earl Sorenson of Fennville spoke briefly.

Rev. Stanley Buck of Benton Harbor Peace Temple showed his pictures of a South American tour.

A moment of silent prayer was held for the first Michigan Conference Lay Leader Ralph Goodell and four deceased charter members Harry Gleason, John Kline, John McCullum and Lee Knapp.

Stephenson Combines Charter Night and Father-Son Banquet

STEPHENSON Methodist Men held a combined father and son banquet and charter night recently with Rev. Robert Firary, pastor of the Peshtigo Methodist Church as guest speaker.

Clifford Corey, local lay leader, very ably piloted the program for the evening. Speaking for the fathers were Mr. Henry Porras and Mr. Corey; and for the sons, David Westrich.

Mr. Corey also installed the newly-elected officers as follows: President, Allen Corey; vice president, Harold Philippo; secretary-treasurer, Don Johnson.

Climaxing the program was the showing of pictures that Mr. Firary had taken on a recent trip to Mexico. His very interesting slides as well as witty comments made for a most interesting and informative program.

The ladies of the WSCS served a delicious turkey dinner which was enjoyed by the fifty-five fathers and sons present.

Men of Simpson, Kalamazoo, Show How



The laymen of Simpson Methodist church, Kalamazoo, have solved the question of how to get large numbers of their laymen to attend the annual All-State Men's Rally at East Lansing. They just hire a bus and load 'em in. This is the second year a bus has been chartered for the meeting and plans already are underway to do the same next year and to have an even larger attendance. Shown above are some of the laymen from Simpson standing beside their bus after arriving on the MSU campus for the meeting which broke all attendance records.

Going PLACES, Doing THINGS With OUR YOUTH

REED CITY'S SALUTATORIAN

MISS Mary Dykstra, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Dykstra, and member of the Reed City Methodist Church, is salutatorian of the Reed City High School senior class, earning a 3.965 average out of a possible 4.0. Had she not taken a driver education course, in which tradition forbids the awarding of an



Mary Dykstra

"A", she could have had the same perfect 4.0 point average as did Judy Noreen, valedictorian.

ADVISES GIRLS TO ASK FOR DATES

PHILADELPHIA (RNS) — If girls did more asking and less waiting when it comes to dating, there'd be many happier marriages, according to at least one Protestant youth leader.

"Girls can pick a good marriage bet just as well as the boys," contends the Rev. Leslie Conrad, Jr., youth director of the United Lutheran Church in America and executive secretary of its official young people's organization, Luther League of America.

Writing in *Luther Life*, the League's publication, Mr. Conrad counsels: "Let the girls ask for their own dates and even pop the question when the time comes and we'd have fewer divorces and fewer frustrated career women."

As for the financial arrangements on a girl-asks-boy date, what's wrong with the good old "Dutch treat" system, he wants to know.

Key to the current controversy about steady dating, the youth leader declares, is maturity.

"A mature young couple are wise enough to spend considerable time with their respective circles of friends, and a sensibly proportioned amount of time with each other," he asserts. "They have other interests such as school and church clubs."

Believing that immaturity is the root of most teenagers' problems, Mr. Conrad gets a double A rating from all teenagers for maintaining that modern

youngsters should have more freedom and less parental restraint.

"That doesn't mean that junior should run the household, but it does mean that Pop might loosen up once in a while and let him have the car keys," the clergyman says.

If parents let their children "have more freedom in their early teens, they'll be a lot more mature when they reach high school," he observes, adding: "Kids who get in trouble haven't grown up.

"They don't know where to draw the lines because they never learned how to make decisions for themselves."

OVID MYF'ER WINS HONORS

MISS Lorelei Exelby, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Exelby of Ovid, has been named salutatorian of the senior class at the Ovid High School. Miss Exelby has been active in MYF, serving as Fellowship and Faith chairman and local president, president of the Grand Rapids District in 1958, and is now Michigan Conference publicity chairman; as well as being active in general work of the church. She has attended Youth Assembly, been a delegate to annual conference, attended a youth camp each summer, and was a representative from the Grand Rapids District on the UN-Washington Seminar in 1958.

Active in the music program both in



Lorelei Exelby

church and school, Miss Exelby served as assistant Cherub Choir director and accompanist for two years, sang in the Junior Choir for four years and the Senior Choir for four years.

Her extracurricular activities in high school include senior band, dance orchestra, dramatics, Pep Club and Cheerleading Squad. She attended the Michigan State University youth music program the last two summers; and placed first in the Area Voice of Democracy Speech Contest. In her spare time, she gives piano and saxophone lessons. She is a member of the National Honor Society. Her future plans are to attend

MSU in the field of Music Education and to continue her activities in church work.

EAST TAWAS VALEDICTORIAN IS HOMEMAKER OF TOMORROW

MISS Carolyn Evans, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Evans of East Tawas, has been named valedictorian of the 1959 graduating class of the Tawas



Carolyn Evans

Area High School. Carolyn maintained a 3.966 average out of a possible 4.0 during her four years in high school.

In addition to her scholarship, she has been in the band, vocal groups, language and debate clubs, forensics and the junior and senior plays. She was named Betty Crocker "Homemaker of Tomorrow" for 1959, a member of the Central Michigan College honor band and the National Honor Society.

Carolyn has been active in The Methodist Church all her life. She has served as local, sub-district and district Youth Fellowship officer and at present is Detroit Conference MYF chairman in the area of Christian Outreach. This year she was a member of the United Nations Seminar trip. Carolyn has been accepted for admission in three schools, Albion, Oberlin and the University of Michigan.

GRANDVILLE METHODIST IS "TEEN OF THE WEEK"

PHILIP LEE SMITH, son of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Smith of Grandville and a senior in the local high school, was named recently as "Teen of the Week." Phil is a member of First Methodist Church, Grandville, and active in the MYF, serving the group as vice president last year.

He has an impressive sports record and served as co-captain of both the football and basketball teams this year; was selected quarterback for the All-Grand Valley football team and received honorable mention on the All-State team. At the conclusion of the basketball season he was selected to the All-Grand Valley team and last year was on the

About Persons

all conference second team. With his partner, Larry VanSpriel, he won the regional doubles team championship in the tennis tournament at Holland last spring and begins his fourth season with the Grandville team this spring. He is president of the Varsity Club and Chaplain of the Hi-Y, enjoys music and sings in the glee club. During the summer he is a counselor at the YMCA Day camp. He hopes to follow a career in coaching or recreational work and plans to enroll in college next fall.

MINISTER'S GRANDSON RECEIVES AWARD IN OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE

BILL SULLIVAN, son of Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Sullivan of Oak Ridge, Tenn., received the God and Country Scout Award at the First Methodist Church of Oak Ridge. Bill, a junior in high school, also holds the Eagle rating, and the Explorer Silver Award.

He is the grandson of the late Rev. Frank James Grant of the Detroit Conference, and Mrs. Gertrude Grant now of 25671 Sherwood Road, Warren, Michigan. Mr. Grant died in 1928 while serving a pastorate at Stockbridge.

Bill's mother is the former Kathleen Grant, younger daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Grant. His father is on the staff of the ORNL Technical Information Division of the Union Carbide Corporation at Oak Ridge.

GERMAN YOUTH PROTEST BAD ATMOSPHERE AT WORK

WUERZBURG, Germany (RNS) — Legislation to protect young people against immoral films and publications will remain useless without simultaneous efforts to combat the "salacious atmosphere" in factories and offices, Protestant and Roman Catholic youth leaders declared here.

Over 80 per cent of the boys and 61 per cent of the girls complain about "dirty conversations" at their working places, representatives of Church and interdenominational youth groups asserted at a meeting sponsored by the West German Agency for the Protection of Youth.

"These figures," the delegates said, "are shocking evidence that a large proportion of young people are constantly subjected at work to influences which in the long run will provide them with an entirely distorted and negative picture of relations between the sexes, of love and marriage."

They stressed that according to recent findings the unwholesome atmosphere in shops and offices was the most frequent cause of perverting the morals of young people.

They called on employers, factory councils and responsible workmen to insure that the atmosphere at work does not become "a menace to the spiritual and moral development of teen-age workers."

MRS. C. L. ADAMS has returned from Deland, Florida, to her home at 710 N. Barnard St., Howell. Mrs. Adams is the widow of Rev. C. L. Adams of the Detroit Conference.

MR. VOLNEY LUTZ, Lay Member of the Detroit Annual Conference from Central Methodist Church, Sault Ste. Marie, was recently elected to the City Commission at the Sault. Both Mr. and Mrs. Lutz and their two older daughters are members of the Chancel Choir.

MR. AND MRS. O. G. PRETTYMAN have returned to their home at 2213 Jefferson St., Muskegon Heights, after spending some time in Phoenix, Ariz.

DR. AND MRS. JOHN W. GREENWOOD are now at their home, 14784 Auburndale, Livonia, after spending the winter in Palm Harbor, Fla. Dr. Greenwood is a retired member of the Detroit Conference.

SIX SENIORS at Albion College, who have majored in chemistry, have been awarded a total of \$14,420 in assistantships and fellowships for graduate work toward the Ph.D. degree in chemistry. Those winning the fellowships are: Truman Jordan of Saline; Edward Weiskopf of Downers Grove, Ill.; Richard Carpenter, Canton, Ohio. Receiving assistantships are: John Bosoms of Ludington; David Ryder of Grand Haven; and James Taup of Birmingham. Both Jordan and Ryder are Dow Scholars at Albion, having received this award from the Dow Chemical Company for superior work in the field of chemistry.

REV. AND MRS. IRA E. CARLEY have returned from Lakeland, Florida, to 1638 Burlington Drive, Gull Lake, Hickory Corners, Michigan.

MRS. WILLIE FIRTH of Tampa, Florida, widow of Rev. Willie Firth of the Detroit Conference, planned to leave April 28 for Michigan, where she will spend the summer. She expects to arrive at 1002 West Ionia, Lansing 15, May 2 and later will visit her sons in

Dearborn, Mich., and Chicago, Ill. She hopes to attend some sessions of the Detroit Annual Conference in June.

DR. JAMES R. POLLOCK, pastor of Grace Methodist Church, Grove City, Pa., visited his parents, Rev. and Mrs. C. E. Pollock, at their home in Holt, April 6 and 7. Dr. Pollock's daughter is a student at the University of Michigan.

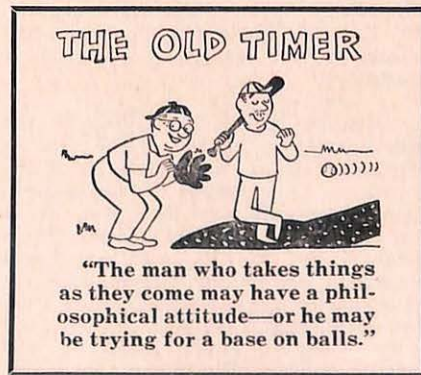
REV. BLANCHE NELLER AND MR. NELLER have returned to their home in Portland after spending a few months in Florida. Mrs. Neller, of the Michigan Conference, will be available for pulpit supply after May 1.

MISS EDITH PARKS of S. Rhodesia, Africa, will be in Albion from April 27 through July 11 where her address will be: % Miss Julia McCune, 1100 Jackson St., Albion, Michigan. She will be studying Latin privately with the help of a tutor. While in Albion, Miss Parks will also be present at the following meetings: The Michigan Conference Summer School of Missions, June 22-26; The Guild Week-end for Michigan and Detroit conferences, June 26-28; and the Detroit Conference School of Missions, July 6-10. For these three meetings she can be addressed, % Susanna Wesley Hall, Albion, Michigan.

MRS. RUSSEL EMMETT, chairman of the Commission on Evangelism of Grace Methodist Church, Detroit, is spending several weeks in Florida.

REV. AND MRS. A. F. NIEMANN, who spent the winter at Lakeland, Florida, are returning about May 1 to 538 Hillcrest Ave., Harrison, Michigan. Mr. Niemann, retired member of the Detroit Conference, preached twice during the winter.

MISS LORIS LEE McSWAIN, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Schier Rice of Indianapolis, and PERRY HARVEY MURDICK, III (Tad), son of Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Murdick, Jr., of Gaylord, were united in marriage in the Redeemer Lutheran Church in Indianapolis, Ind., on February 14. The young couple met at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, from which the bridegroom graduated last June. He is a graduate of Grand Haven high school. The bride graduated from Upper Arlington High School, Columbus, Ohio. Miss Katie Lee Murdick, sister of the groom and a freshman at Albion College, was the bride's attendant and Peter Fisher of Grand Haven was best man. Following a reception at the Riviera Club in Indianapolis, the young couple left for Pensacola, Florida, where Tad is taking classes and training preparatory to becoming a Marine pilot. Their address is Bld. 4, Apt. 16, Grandview Apts., Warrington, Florida. The bridegroom's grandfather, Dr. P. H. Murdick, a Methodist minister, served a pastorate in Port Huron and was pastor at Peace



Temple Methodist Church, Benton Harbor, at the time of his death in 1938. His Grandmother Murdick still lives in Benton Harbor.

BORN: To Rev. and Mrs. Grant Dunlap a son, Dale Irwin, April 16 in the Marlette Community Hospital.

REV. ALBERT R. ELLIOTT of Shelby, who has passed his 84th birthday, was elected to his second four-year term as Justice of the Peace at a recent township election.

DR. AND MRS. GORDON PHILLIPS, who spent three months in Florida, have returned to their home at 14,900 Grandville Blvd., Detroit. Dr. Phillips is a retired member of the Detroit Conference.

REV. MERLE NICHOLS, pastor at Brown City - Omard, was called to the bedside of his father who was critically ill on Sunday morning, April 12. Charles McNary of Brown City filled the pulpit there, and Hazel Mahaffy, the Omard pulpit.

REV. AND MRS. ADOLF BERGMAN, Peck, held evangelistic services in the Salvation Army Citadel, Monroe, April 6-12. There were 28 commitments to Christ.

CLARENCE RICE, son of Mrs. Thomas Rice of Detroit and the late Rev. Thomas Rice of the Michigan Conference, has been awarded a scholarship by the National Science Foundation. This will permit him to take a six-week study course at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago with all expenses

LINER ADS

FOR RENT—Housekeeping cottages, accommodating two to six. Safe, sandy beach. Non-drinkers preferred. Also lots for sale. H. & L. Smith, 3803 Port Austin Rd., Port Austin, Mich. Phone Caseville ULster 6-4429.

FOR RENT—Four bedroom summer home on Lake Louise in Northern Michigan. Ideal for two families. All modern conveniences, fireplace. Excellent bathing, boating, fishing. Weekly rate \$100.00, less for longer period. Available August, September. Don Westcott, 12764 Northlawn, Detroit 38, Michigan.

PIPE ORGANS, new, home and chapel size. Require less floor space than average couch. Includes 16-ft. pedal, two full manuals, 32-note pedal. Easily moved. Custom voicing and design. Priced from \$2950. Write HOME PIPE ORGANS, Box 14, Grand Ledge, Michigan.

BAY VIEW COTTAGE FOR SALE — Central location, modern kitchen and bath, gas heat, fireplace, 2 bedrooms, deep lot (with patio) backs into Bay View Woods. \$3,850. Dwight Large, 3130 Winston Rd., Philadelphia 18, Pa.

RELIGIOUS libraries purchased. Baker Book House, Dept. MA, Grand Rapids 6, Michigan.

REMEMBER the Methodist Foundation in your Will. Your bequest will serve the Charitable, Educational and Philanthropic institutions of Michigan Methodism. For information write to Dr. Versile D. Bentley, Secretary, 2150 Penobscot Building, Detroit 26, Michigan.

FOR RENT—Attractive log cottage on Lovely Lake Louise. All modern conveniences, including full bath. Reserve immediately for choice dates. L. La Verne Finch, 500 Snyder, Ann Arbor. Normandy 3-3054.

and transportation paid and is designed to improve Science in the United States. The scholarship was granted to only four candidates in the entire nation. Mr. Rice is a teacher in the Sunday school at Ford Memorial Methodist Church, Detroit.

REV. AND MRS. VICTOR LONG-FIELD of Midland will fulfill a long cherished dream of visiting the scenes of their missionary work in the Belgian Congo, leaving Tri-City Airport on May 21, on the anniversary of the day that they set sail for the Congo the first time, 32 years ago. They will return via the Holy Land in July.

REV. N. A. McCUNE of East Lansing, retired member of the Michigan Conference, was one of 26 citizens who were honored at the Lansing Centennial Distinguished Citizens Banquet on March 31. As a part of the program to observe Lansing's 100th year, this occasion was to recognize those who had given outstanding service to the city and community.

Obituaries

LOTTIE HEWSON COX was born May 30, 1887, in Belleville the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. R. L. Hewson. Mr. Hewson served pastorates in the Upper Peninsula in both the Iron and Copper Countries and Lottie graduated from the Atlantic Mine high school in the Copper Country in 1905. She attended Ypsilanti and Marquette State Teachers Colleges and taught school in Painesdale, Iron Mountain and Detroit. She retired from the Detroit Public School System after 38 years of devoted service. Her husband, Thomas M. Cox, died in 1927. Mrs. Cox was an active member of St. Paul's Methodist Church, Highland Park, where she served as a member of the Official Board, the Board of Trustees, and various commissions and committees. She was active in the WSCS and a teacher of the Friendly Circle Class in the church school for over 30 years. Her death occurred on April 2 and burial was in Oakview Cemetery, Royal Oak, Rev. Roy Johns of Highland Park First conducting the service. She is survived by a sister, Mrs. E. E. Whale of Ionia; a nephew, Dr. Edmund Whale of Ann Arbor; and a step-mother, Mrs. R. L. Hewson of Rochester.

MRS. JACKSON SPENCER, 86, the eldest member of the North Branch Methodist church, died April 16, at the Ferguson Convalescent Home, Lapeer. Funeral services were held Apr. 19 at the Blackburn Funeral Home, North Branch. Rev. Karl Patow officiated, and interment was in the Burlington-North Branch cemetery. Casket bearers were her grandsons, William, Arthur and John Spencer, James Anderson, and George Baldwin. The former Clara Jane

Glover was born in Burnside township, Lapeer County, February 21, 1873, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Glover. She married Jackson Spencer of North Branch September 19, 1894, and had lived 39 years at her farm home on North Jefferson Rd., North Branch. She is survived by three sons and three daughters: George Earle Spencer of Detroit, Clyde of Almont, Clarence of Romeo, Mrs. Fred Baldwin of North Branch, Mrs. Earl Anderson of Cass City and Mrs. Nellie Fry of Masonville, Colo.; two sisters and one brother, Mrs. Maude Lambert of Palisades, Calif., Mrs. Luella Keeler of Denver, Colo., and Hugh Glover of Midland. Also surviving are 20 grandchildren and 32 great-grandchildren. She was a life member of the local chapter, O.E.S., and had been a member of the Methodist church 70 years.

MRS. CHRISTINE MATTHIESEN CRANDALL died at her home in Webberville April 9 following a long illness. She was born Feb. 6, 1904, in Leroy Township, Ingham County, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Matthiesen. She graduated from the Webberville high school in 1923 and the following year taught at the Lee School. On June 2, 1925, she was united in marriage to Lawrence Crandall of White Oak Township, Ingham County. Mrs. Crandall was a member of the Webberville Methodist Church where she served as organist for many years, and was a member and past president of the WSCS. She was also a member of the Woman's Advance Club and had served on its executive committee. Mrs. Crandall had served as village treasurer for several years until her health failed. She spent much of the last two years in hospitals, waging an uphill battle against cancer. She is survived by her husband; a son, Glenn of Arcadia, Calif.; a daughter, Mrs. Neil West of Webberville; two grandchildren; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Matthiesen of Webberville; two sisters, Mrs. Russell McCormick of Eaton Rapids and Mrs. Sam Darnell of Webberville. Funeral services were held in the Webberville church on April 12 with Rev. J. N. Cobb officiating. Burial was in the local cemetery. Casket bearers were Clifford and Leon Matthiesen, Henry R. Miller, Lawrence Lockwood, Harry Elliott and Hulett Judd.

Attention! Saginaw Bay District Ministers

The Saginaw Bay District Committee on Ministerial Qualifications will meet at the District parsonage in Saginaw, Tuesday afternoon, May 5. Any who would like to appear before the committee will please contact Rev. Warren Ware, West Branch, for an appointment.

All-Electric Kitchen Installed at Ypsilanti

THE Woman's Society of Christian Service of the First Methodist Church, Ypsilanti, has completed the remodeling of the church kitchen. Stainless steel work tables and counters with new base cupboards were installed. Two commercial electric ranges, a double deck oven and a large mixer are included in the all electric kitchen. A new dish washing center with a final rinse of 180 degree water will enable the women to maintain sanitary conditions in the soiled dish handling. A food waste disposal is included in the thirteen-foot stainless steel pot and pan sink and drain board assembly as well as one in the dish washing unit. A hand sink is located between the kitchen and salad or dessert room to comply with the regulations of the Board of Health for Food Handlers. The entire modern kitchen was designed to comply with all of the State of Michigan requirements for quantity food service. A two-speed exhaust fan provides proper ventilation.

Located in the salad or dessert room is a twelve-foot Formica top assembly with a home size double stainless steel sink with storage cupboards below for salad, dessert and relish dishes. A large refrigerator containing 24 trays on which to store plates of individual salads is also in this area. A tray cart is used to deliver fourteen of the trays to the dining area. Dinner plates are stored in portable dish dollies and moved to the serving center. A twin five-gallon coffee urn is placed in the dining room adjacent to the kitchen. In the base of the urn is storage space for over two hundred cups and two dozen coffee pots.

The lighting is furnished by fluorescent fixtures and the entire area was cleaned and decorated.

In November the Educational Unit adjoining the church was consecrated and with the need of many fund raising projects in the future it was realized that the improved kitchen facilities would enable the workers to better serve the members of the church and the social organizations of the community.

Increased interest in all of the departments of the church is evident with more youth in Sunday school and a double church service being held each Sunday morning.

The committee spent many months in studying and counseling with food handling authorities and are confident the results bear out their serious consideration of each decision.

The members of the remodeling committee responsible for this transformation were: Mrs. J. Lynn Houck and Mrs. Gerald Kelly, co-chairmen; Mrs. Flora Clyne, president of the W.S.C.S.; Mrs. Stanley Rose, chairman of the Local



Among those serving on the kitchen remodeling committee for First Methodist Church, Ypsilanti, are, l. to r.: Mrs. Donald Martin, Mrs. Howard Helfrich, Mrs. Gaylord Marshall, Mrs. Mary Gilbert, and seated, Mrs. Flora Clyne, president of the WSCS; also seated, Mrs. John Wescott; standing, co-chairmen, Mrs. Gerald Kelly and Mrs. J. Lynn Houck.

Activities Committee; Miss Caroline Lewis, Miss Sara Lewis, Mrs. Donald Martin, Mrs. Irving Dixon, Mrs. Andrew Smith, Mrs. Gaylord Marshall, Mrs. Mary Gilbert, Mrs. Howard Helfrich and Mrs. John Wescott.

Evangelism Emphasized at Detroit District Board Of Education Meeting

THE ANNUAL meeting of the Detroit District Board of Education was held at Ferndale First Methodist Church, April 7. As part of a new plan to "streamline" this Annual Meeting the business session was held at 4 P.M. This was an open meeting when reports were presented and discussions held with all the District Staff and leaders, and the District Officers were elected. Rev. L. Wayne Smith was Chairman for the entire program and steered the meetings along in a speedy, creditable manner.

At 6:30 P.M., 125 people attended the dinner and evening program, which emphasized Evangelism in the Church School with Children and Youth. The following guests made short presentations to the entire group: Bishop and Mrs. Marshall R. Reed, Dr. Everett K. Seymour, Dr. Harold E. Bremer, Dr. J. H. Laird, Mrs. Harold Bremer, Mrs. J. H. Laird, Mrs. L. Wayne Smith and Mrs. Walter S. Ryan were also at the head table. The Host Pastor and his wife, Dr. and Mrs. John Parrish, and the other ministers of the Ferndale Church enjoyed the evening without any responsibility for the program. Dr. Parrish said in his greeting, "It is good to have the group here, and for us to enjoy the fellowship like everyone else."

After an audio-visual hymn sing and a brief report of his activities for the year, presented by Rev. Walter Ryan, District Field Worker, Dr. Laird gave a penetrating presentation on the subject of Evangelism in the Church School. A panel including Miss Harriet Palmer, Rev. Frank Cozzadd, Dr. Joseph Edwards, Dr. Laird and Mr. Ryan, and moderated by Mr. Smith, discussed questions that had been handed in by members of the audience.

A delicious dinner was prepared by members of the Woman's Society of Ferndale under the leadership of Mrs. John Schabinger, and members of the MYF served very efficiently as waiters and waitresses and assisted in other ways. The evening closed with a message of prayer by Bishop Reed.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR MINISTERS OF THE DETROIT CONFERENCE

Thursday, April 30—Last day for Conference voucher adjustments. Adjustments become necessary when a church treasurer has used the wrong line on the voucher in remitting money to the Treasurer's Office.

Wednesday, May 13—All payments by churches for this Conference year must be in the Treasurer's office by 4:00 p.m., May 13.

Monday, May 25—Deadline for Annual Conference Reports, Table No. 2, to be in the Treasurer's Office.

—Erland J. Wangdahl
Detroit Conference Treasurer

News From The Churches

News of your local church is solicited for this column. Please send copy typewritten, double spaced.



BELL OAK, on the Webberville charge, observed its fourteenth Sunrise Easter service this year. The church was filled to capacity for the 6 A.M. reading of the Easter story and singing of hymns. Mrs. Ruth West sang a solo and Rev. Gordon Overholt, United Brethren Evangelical pastor of Byron, delivered the message. Breakfast was served at the Methodist Hall by the WSCS assisted by the MYF and some of the men. Rev. J. N. Cobb is the pastor.

ARMADA will observe its 100th anniversary on May 3 with an all-day celebration beginning at 10:00 A.M. when Rev. John Adams, minister when the present church was erected, will preach. Lunch will be served after the service. At the 2:00 o'clock service, Bishop Marshall R. Reed will be the guest speaker; and in the evening the district superintendent, Rev. Arthur Smith, will speak. At six o'clock a pot-luck dinner will be served. Rev. Paul L. Amstutz is the pastor.

OMARD, on the Brown City Charge, had 150 fathers and sons sit down to a ham dinner served in the church basement by the ladies of the church on April 9 at 8:00 P.M. Roy Clark gave the invocation. After dinner they went to the main auditorium for the program which included: The welcome, by Gerald Blatt, president, who introduced James Potter, Jr., toastmaster, and led group singing; a solo, Rothwell McVety; toast to the sons, Charles Eager; toast to the fathers, Ronald Potter; piano solo, Lloyd Duckworth; reading, Gerald Blatt; Rev. Bertram McNally of Harbor Beach was the speaker of the evening. James Baldwin gave the benediction. Rev. Merle Nichols is the pastor.

PERRY held its second Friendship Dinner, sponsored by the Commission on Missions, on Sunday, April 12, following the morning worship. Over 50 persons enjoyed a planned pot-luck dinner. The pastor, Rev. Ira Fett, gave the grace. A short program was presented, in charge of Miss Mollie Euler, chairman of the commission. The Junior Choir gave special numbers with Mrs. Richard Grider, director, at the piano. Cherry and Max Snyder offered musical selections, and Mrs. Floyd Brazie told of her recent visit to the M. J. Clark Memorial Home in Grand Rapids. Mr. Fett gave a short talk and dismissed the group with the benediction. On April 21, at 7:30 P.M. the Shaftsbury-Perry churches held their fourth quarterly conference in the Perry church, in charge of Dr. C. A.

McPheeters, district superintendent. The WSCS sponsored a coffee hour after the meeting in the church dining room, in charge of Mrs. Byron Pierce, president.

BAY CITY FIRST had 80 prayer-group members in attendance at a 6:30 dinner Friday night, April 10, in Fellowship Hall of Wesley Hall. The speaker of the evening was Rev. Arthur Delamarter, retired Methodist minister, of Clare. Rev. T. Leonard Sanders, pastor, introduced the speaker after leading the group in a song fest and devotions. Mr. Delamarter spoke on, Love the Perfect Antidote for Hate and Fear, and described conditions in Europe where he and Mrs. Delamarter spent last summer as counselors with the Michigan Council of Churches Youth for Understanding student exchange program. They claim as their adopted children a German boy and a Cuban girl who have lived in their home as exchange students. Also a Japanese girl whom they are now educating in this country and whom they met in one of their stays in Japan. The Dela-

marters leave for Europe the last of June where they will again do counseling in the M.C.C.Y.U. student exchange program returning home the last of August.

CASEVILLE'S choir, under the direction of Mr. Don A. Heator, presented special anthems at the Palm Sunday and Easter services. On Palm Sunday, Miss JoAnn Fogle, Mr. and Mrs. Jess Hoy, Mr. and Mrs. William Nienstedt, and Mr. and Mrs. William Rottman were received into full membership of the church. On Easter the sacrament of baptism was administered to Donald Lee and William Jay Cleaver, Colleen K. Connors and Pamela Jo Schwalm. District Superintendent Arthur E. Smith preached on the subject "What Manner of Man Is This?" at the morning worship service on April 12. Jeffrey James Ellison, son of Rev. and Mrs. Floyd A. Ellison was baptized by Mr. Smith during the worship service. The fourth quarterly conference followed the worship service.

CONSTANTINE held its annual father-son banquet sponsored by the Home Builders class with Rev. Raymond Norton of Three Rivers, the speaker. Frederick Davenport acted as master of ceremonies and James Easterday and son, Rodney, gave the toasts. Ruth Ann and Mary Lou Wilson sang. At a white breakfast given by the Woman's Society of Christian Service, Mrs. Raymond B. Bucknell of Sturgis spoke. The high school girls' choir, directed by Mrs. Betty Timm Lintz and Ruth Ann Wilson, accompanist, sang. Previous to the communion service Thursday evening, March 26, the Wesley Foundation choir of Kalamazoo presented a concert. They were accompanied to Constantine by Rev. and Mrs. Charles F. Cooley. Mr. Cooley is the director of Wesley Foundation in Kalamazoo. The WSCS served supper for them.

CRYSTAL VALLEY MYF earned money and purchased a silver plate baptismal bowl which was dedicated on March 15. Miss Cheryl Boundy, president, and Miss Janice Ruggles, vice president, assisted the pastor, Rev. Viola Norman. Mr. and Mrs. James Martz and Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Powers were baptized. The WSCS held a White Breakfast March 25 with a planned devotional program. Walkerville was host to the Union Good Friday service with Crystal Valley and the Wesleyan Walkerville church taking part. Each church provided special music and Rev. Justus Dowd of Walkerville gave the message. On Easter Sunday at Crystal Valley the three children of Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Cabana were baptized, Holly Irene, LeRoy Lloyd and Timothy Dale. Marva Terryn and Bernice Halliday assisted the pastor. One infant was baptized at Walkerville, Steven Glen Warmuskerken, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glen War-

"The Last Supper" Dramatized at Metropolitan

ON MAUNDY Thursday, Metropolitan Methodist Church, Detroit, presented for the first time a dramatization of "The Last Supper." This presentation was made by living persons costumed to depict Christ and the Disciples. Dr. Robert Bruce Pierce was the reader for this original pantomime drama. Holy Communion was served to the congregation in their pews at the same time that the character of Christ served the disciples. Communion was served to 523 persons. It is hoped that this will be a yearly tradition.

The role of Jesus was portrayed by Rev. Jesse DeWitt, Missionary Secretary for the Michigan Area. Members of Metropolitan portrayed the disciples and boy with water jar, and householder.



Christ washes the disciples' feet in the portrayal of "The Last Supper" at Detroit Metropolitan.

muskerken; and two youth, Marlene Marie and Nancy Jean, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Woodworth. Six were received into membership at Crystal Valley, April 12; Jack Leroy and Mrs. Julia Elaine Mustard, Floyd John Powers and Mrs. Wilma Lucile Powers, James Clement and Mrs. Bertha Louise Martz.

STANDISH held an Easter morning sunrise service, planned and presented by the young people. Kenneth Lyon gave the invocation and Miss Carol Houghteling the reading of the Scripture. Misses Kathy Hoffman and Nancy Sivier acted as candlelighters during the continuation of the Tenebrae Service from Thursday evening. A Brass Ensemble composed of Roger Bessinger, Jeff Reed and Don Logan presented "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today." The morning prayer was given by Kenneth Lyon followed by the Lord's Prayer. A Men's Quartet consisting of Gene Gillett, Roger Bessinger, Jeff Reed and Ken Lyons presented a selection. Robert Milne gave the Easter Meditation, "Why I Believe in the Resurrection." A Young Women's Chorus, Pat O'Brien, Carolea Edgley, Barbara Shaffer, Pat Wales and Nancy Burtch sang "O Morn of Beauty." The prayer of dedication and the benediction were also given by Robert Milne. Miss Carole Lenahan acted as organist. Receptionists were Miss Nancy Burtch and Don Logan. Ushers were Jan Noffsinger, Paul Pennock, Wayne Pennock, Elmer Pestrue and Herb Williams. Following the service the Young Adult Class served a pancake breakfast.

MASON'S WSCS has completed its second study course for this year which met the requirements for Jurisdictional credit. Classes had a registration of between thirty and forty with an average attendance of 85 per cent. Mrs. Arthur Zickgraf, secretary of Missionary Education, was class instructor, with Mrs. Wm. Dart assisting in organizing the transportation and hostesses, and Mrs. Clayton Cain planning for devotional leaders. "Pilgrimage to the Middle East" was held as a morning coffee, in the homes, for six weeks during February and March. This study, being so timely, enjoyed marvelous group participation with newspaper clippings and pictures. Of special interest was an article from Good Housekeeping magazine, "I Married a Moslem," a sheik's robe, camel saddle bags, rugs and craft work from the Near East. The fall study class "Concerns of a Continent" was a night meeting to interest younger and employed women. They met for four sessions in the homes of the members. Displays from Mexico, Alaska and the Caribbean area were shown. Films were shown at both classes. Quizzes, map studies, buzz groups and questionnaires kept the study a challenge. As a follow-up project cash

donations were sent to the Methodist Home on St. Croix island and the Missionary Project for the Near East. This is the third study class to receive Jurisdictional credit in fifteen months. Mrs. Lawrence Barton is president of the group. E. Lenton Sutcliffe is the minister.

IONIA CIRCUIT received 27 into membership at LeValley and Berlin Center on Palm Sunday and Easter on profession of faith. There were 15 baptisms. Many of these were located as prospects in the attendance roll-taking project of last fall and their decision

School of Prayer to Be Held at Petersburg

A SCHOOL OF PRAYER will be held in the Petersburg Methodist Church, located mid-way between Adrian and Monroe, May 10-15, Rev. Willis B. Hunting, host pastor.

George and Thelma Hales will be the guest speakers. Evening lecture topics are: Sunday, May 10, "The Way of Be-



George Hales

lieving"; May 11, "The Power of Believing"; May 12, "What Is God's Will"; May 13, "The Promises of God"; and May 14, "Victory in Jesus." Evening meetings are at 7:30 o'clock.

Monday through Thursday, 9:30 to 11:00 A.M., a Prayer Laboratory will be conducted at the church. These morning meetings will feature a talk, a question-answer-discussion period, and devotions.

Plans are under way for a special Youth Rally at the church on Sunday, May 10, at 5:30 P.M.

All meetings and lectures are interdenominational and the public is invited. The speakers will be available for private conference and counseling.

Those who have had the privilege of hearing the Hales know they speak from a depth of rich, personal experience. Mrs. Hales accompanies her husband on most of his speaking missions and conducts meetings along with him. She is known throughout Methodism as a leader in Spiritual Life Retreats under the auspices of the Woman's Society of Christian Service.

obtained in the house-to-house evangelistic project of the week of evangelism in February. Five weeks before, the pastor, Rev. J. Lawrence Ward, started a series of five sermons or discussions from the turn-over chart, "The Spiritual Training of Methodist Christians." This Series, completed by Palm Sunday, was given before the entire congregation at both churches Sunday mornings to instruct those uniting with the church, as well as all of the present membership in attendance.

DETROIT CAMPBELL AVENUE held a choir reunion and concert the evening of April 19, a reunion of former members of the Chancel Choir which has had a notable history for many years and is still going strong under the leadership of Albert Tennant, organist-director; and president, Robert McIlvane. The concert was presented entirely by former members, most of whom are singing in choirs of other churches of the city and suburbs. Those participating included, Lois Moerline, Eric Silvester, Lois and Joe Lamas, Annabelle Marshbanks, Jack Pritchard, Harold Koch, Dorothy Norred, Ruby Morton, Peggy and Bernie Smith, Harvey Thompson and Jean Pletcher. Mr. Tennant was at the organ. A social hour followed with members of the choir serving refreshments to the entire congregation of over 300 persons. A series of Lenten family night services preceded Easter with the following speakers: Rev. Charles W. Cookingham, Rev. Scott MacDonald, Rev. Wm. H. Perkins and Rev. Ralph Janka. The MYF had charge of the Easter sunrise service and presented a play, "Because He Lives." Breakfast was served by the Men's Class. The pastor, Rev. Frank F. Benish, received nine children on confession of faith at the worship service. The offering amounted to \$1,225.



"A frigid silence at home is often a sign that a man will have to thaw his own dinner."—Hal Chadwick.

"Behind every successful man there's a woman—and she usually catches him." — George Shearing.

"If you don't like your lot, build on it."—Ed Harding.

"A baby's slightest whimper wakes the mother. What slows things up is her rousing the father to see about it." — Hal Chadwick.



Around Methodism With The Circuit Rider

News of The Methodist Church
Beyond Michigan's Borders

Hospital Dedicates \$3,000,000 Center For Aged

A \$3,000,000 Rehabilitation Center to serve the special needs of the aged was dedicated at Iowa Methodist Hospital in Des Moines. More than 1,500 persons toured the seven-story building and attended the dedication ceremony. Among participants in the rite were Methodist Bishop F. Gerald Ensley of Des Moines; C. Orval Clark, president of the hospital; and Rabbi Edward Zerlin of Temple B'Nai Jeshurun here, who offered the closing prayer. Designed for future expansion by two additional floors, the 120-bed structure is equipped with the latest cardiovascular-pulmonary function laboratory to keep pace with new developments in the diagnosis and treatment of heart and lung diseases.—rns.

Methodists in Military Service Number More Than Any Annual Conference

The 350,067 Methodists in military service outnumber those in the largest Annual Conference (Virginia: 332,671) of The Methodist Church. Add their dependents who live on or near military bases, and the figure is nearly 700,000. The 451 Methodist chaplains almost equal the number of ministers in two average-size annual conferences. The constant flow of young people into the military "pipe line" — uprooted from home, church and community—includes about 280 Methodists a day. The even greater number leaving military service to return to civilian life includes about 334 Methodists a day—comparable to the membership of an average-size Methodist church. These and similar "areas of joint concern" were reviewed in Washington, D.C., March 30 by Methodist chaplains at the semi-annual meeting of the Methodist Church's Council of Secretaries.

Publishing House Plans to Serve Methodist Membership of 12,000,000

A study indicates that The Methodist Church is expected to increase in membership from about 9,700,000 at present to more than 12,000,000 by 1975, and the Methodist Publishing House, Nashville, Tenn., has announced plans for a major expansion program to meet the needs of the growing denomination. The plans call for expanding and reorganizing the distribution system of the publishing house, it was announced April 2 by Lovick Pierce, Nashville, president and publisher. Moves are currently being made toward the establishment of six regional distribution centers to serve the United States. They will be located in the areas of Nashville, Chicago, New York, San Francisco, Richmond, and Dallas. The regional

centers will carry full inventories of publications and supplies. They will process mail orders and handle promotion for their regions.

"The availability in each section of the country of larger inventories than our present branches have been able to carry because of space limitations should improve our mail-order service," Mr. Pierce said.

Related to the regional centers will be retail units, or local houses, which in addition to handling retail business will receive mail orders from designated territories. The Methodist Publishing House is currently operating such units in 15 cities including Detroit and plans call for the eventual establishment of other local houses.

All Faiths Hail Church On Centenary

Denominational, Roman Catholic and Jewish religious leaders, as well as civic officials, joined in felicitating Trinity Union Methodist Church, Providence, R.I., on its 100th anniversary. Their greetings were contained in a 20-page brochure, compiled by the church, which gives a brief history of the congregation's first centenary and details of the anniversary observance. The week-long centennial ceremonies were scheduled to start April 19.

Heading the list of well-wishers were Episcopal Bishop John S. Higgins of Rhode Island, and Catholic Bishop Rus-

sell J. McVinney of Providence. Others included President Barnaby C. Keeney of Brown University, executives of the state Council of Churches, Rhode Island Baptist Convention, and Rhode Island Congregational Conference, and Rabbi William G. Braude of Temple Beth El.

"I am sure the angels look upon the centenary of a church community as a bouquet of one hundred years of service to the community and to the individuals who may have come under its benign influence," Bishop McVinney said. "May the next hundred years be as fruitful."

Making a plea for religious unity, Bishop Higgins said, "It is my hope and prayer that long before you celebrate your next centenary we shall be one Church."—rns.

Bishop Franklin Heads Council of Bishops

Bishop Marvin A. Franklin of the Jackson (Miss.) Area is the new president of the Council of Bishops. He succeeds Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam of Washington, D.C., who was host to the council at its semi-annual meeting in Washington April 14-17. Bishop Gerald Kennedy of Los Angeles was named president-designate for 1960-61. Bishop Roy H. Short of Nashville was reelected secretary. In addition to the officers, members of the executive committee are: Bishop Edgar A. Love of Baltimore and Bishop Marshall R. Reed of Detroit.

Bishop and Mrs. W. Angie Smith in India



Bishop W. Angie Smith (third from left) of the Oklahoma-New Mexico Area and Mrs. Smith (second from right) met with religious and governmental leaders of India during a recent episcopal visitation. Here the Smiths are seen with four Indian leaders: (from left to right) Dr. P. C. B. Balaram, area secretary for promotion and public relations for The Methodist Church in Southern Asia, Mrs. Shot K. Mondol, Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, Vice-president of India and a noted philosopher who has lectured in the United States, and Bishop Shot K. Mondol of the Delhi Area. Bishop Smith conferred with Bishop Mondol and other Methodist leaders during his India visit. While in Delhi, he and Mrs. Smith had an interview with Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. Bishop Smith is a former president of the Council of Bishops and is currently president of the Board of Evangelism and the Joint Section of Education and Cultivation of the Board of Missions.—Punjab Photo Service.

Gaylord to Have Fund Campaign for New Church

REV. Roy R. Finch, from the Department of Finance and Field Service of the Division of National Missions, of the Board of Missions of The Methodist Church, located in Philadelphia, was in Gaylord on Wednesday, April 8. At 6:00 in the evening, he met, at dinner, with a number of laymen, and at 8:00 o'clock he spoke before the Official Board and other members of the church. Under his guidance and leadership, the Methodists in Gaylord, will conduct a building fund drive late in May, culminating on Wednesday evening, June 4. Definite goals were set at this meeting, and it is anticipated that, at the conclusion of this special campaign, Gaylord Methodists will be well on their way towards raising funds for the new church which they very much need, and want. Rev. Guenther Branstner is the pastor.

At its regular meeting, April 7, the WSCS had as guests the Onaway WSCS, in accordance with the group exchanges which has become an interesting and helpful part of the society's program. The 12 guests included the president and a number of the officers. Mrs. Robert Stutesman of Gaylord was soloist and after the business meeting, Mrs. Arlon Wright of Gaylord showed movies which she and her family took last summer on a trip to our now 49th state, Alaska. Refreshments were served by members of the Circle of Light. The report of the Nominating Committee was read and resulted in the following: President, Mrs. Glenn Gibbs; vice president, Mrs. Sherman Martin; secretary, Miss Bell Taylor; treasurer, Mrs. Clyde Patch. Secretaries: Promotion, Mrs. Hobart Scott; literature and publicity, Mrs. Virgil Snett; children's work, Mrs. William Deneen; supply, Mrs. Doyle Edson; Christian social relations, Mrs. John Benser; missionary education, Mrs. Harry McCreery; status of women, Mrs. Robert Ward; student work, Mrs. Don Campbell; youth work, Mrs. James Mongeau; spiritual life, Mrs. Bea Green; local church activities, Mrs. Leonard Hillman; co-chairmen of nominating committee, Mrs. Lloyd Taylor and Mrs. Peter McVannel; pianist, Mrs. Lloyd Taylor. These officers and the new circle chairmen will be installed at the May meeting.

The Society held its second annual White Breakfast this year. Mrs. William Deneen sang "I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked" and Mrs. Merle Harford, wife of Elder Merle Harford of the Reformed Church of the Latter Day Saints, was guest speaker.

You can force an idea out of the mind only by putting in a stronger idea.

A man is what he thinks about all day long.

APRIL 30, 1959

The Church at Work in Education — Evangelism — Social Relations

CAN YOU SLEEP ON A WINDY NIGHT?

By John D. Rozeboom

Christian Education Field Worker

THE story is told of a farmer who put a "help wanted" sign on his front gate. A stranger walking the road saw it, and applied for the job. When asked what his qualifications for the job were he replied "I can sleep on a windy night." Because he needed help



Rozeboom

badly the farmer hired him. Soon he discovered he was an excellent and resourceful worker. One night a great storm came up. The farmer, as he always did, went out to check the stock, and the doors and equipment. He found everything safely prepared for just this kind of storm. Then he knew what the stranger meant when he said — "I can sleep on a windy night."

There are lessons here. Life will loose its storms on us. The winds of misfortune and tragedy will buffet us. The hurricanes of temptation will mix us up. What kind of workmen are we? What kind of attitude does our church school have? How well do we do our work? Do we have faith in the effectiveness of our work? In short, can we sleep on windy nights, and know our work has been done to the best of our ability?

If you are a church school teacher, you can't sleep if you haven't really prepared yourself for doing your best job. You need training and you need experience. Nor can you "sleep on a windy night" if you have not prepared yourself

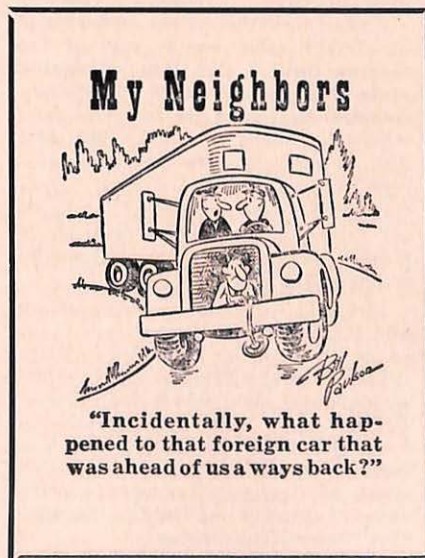
and your own life spiritually. "Study to show thyself approved of God, a workman that needs not be ashamed, rightly interpreting the word of truth."

Does your Educational program demand this kind of standard of all its workers? *Are we, as educational leaders* and as parents of children, and as interested workers, setting this kind of preparation as our goal, or are we content to just go along with the problems, and meet them as they come up, and get up every windy night for some emergency, to keep things from blowing away?

Did you ever stop to think what our usual hectic crisis programming is saying to the growing minds of our people? It says we have other things that demand our first priority of time and energy, and "religious" things can come later. It says Christian education, the Church, and its Mission in the world are *second class* concerns. Can you blame our youth for not choosing it as a career? Can you honestly blame children for not thinking about their Sunday school lesson, when the biggest complaint teachers have is that preparing it takes them too long? When our attitude, as workmen in God's vineyard is to get by with as little expense in time, energy and money as we can, can we blame the people we teach if they follow our lead, and "get by" with everything they can?

This also applies to our homes. Can we trust our children out of our sight? Are we sure that the storms of growing up will find written in their lives the necessary built-in protections? Have we built them there? Or have we been too busy doing our own things, and become concerned only when our child breaks one of society's rules. "Can we sleep on a windy night?" The question has the same meaning here. And don't forget — when you were growing up, just as when your children are growing up, the process is one of religious, and moral, and social, and individual storms. They are violent and unpredictable. But we can prepare for them. We can be the kind of **Workmen** who need not be ashamed — who can sleep on a stormy night.

I hope I have agitated you. I hope that some of you who can't sleep will begin to do something about it. Prepare yourself spiritually and educationally to work in your church. Prepare yourself soundly as parents. Give the important things priority, and make your religion the most important aspect of your life. Unless you do, you have no right to expect your children or your community to. Can you sleep easy tonight, with these questions in your heart? We live in a stormy world.



Coming Events



Lesson commentary based on "International Sunday School Lessons: The International Bible Lesson for Christian Teaching." Biblical quotations are from the Revised Standard Version. Both Lessons and RSV are copyrighted by the National Council of Churches in the U.S.A.

By Howard Emrick

Sunday, May 10

Speak Fearlessly For God

II Sam. 7:11; 12; I Kings 1:5-40

SEVERAL chapters form the background for today's lesson. Chapter 7 presents David's hope for building a temple in which to worship God and the reasons why he is not permitted to do so. The more ancient tradition was that David was permitted to make all the preparations for the building but was denied the privilege of building it because he was "a man of blood." In this chapter, however, a different tradition is cited. Since Israel had seemingly fared well with a "tent" as the meeting place for worship, an elaborate temple might be an innovation which would prove to be spiritually disastrous. Perhaps Nathan, in telling David that he could not undertake the temple-building, was being ultra-conservative and against progress. In any event, he was informing David in behalf of God that he could not do it.

Chapters 8 and 10 deal with some of David's war ventures. Chapter 9 tells of his kindness to Mephibosheth, Jonathan's surviving son. In chapter 11, we see the vividly frank portrayal of David's sin against Bathsheba and Uriah. This sin, or these sins, darkened David's entire subsequent career. After committing the sin against Bathsheba, David did his best to get out from under the responsibility of the wrong-doing but to no avail. The blame rested on him. It was then that he connived murder. He instructed Joab to put Uriah right up on the front line in the battle against the Ammonites, knowing that the probability of Uriah's being killed would be almost certain. This is exactly what happened, and we suppose that it may have been in David's mind that this was the end of it. Not so! Nathan, the prophet, representing the voice of God, was on the job. He knew what had taken place, and he made arrangements to go to David and confront him with the deed. Nathan used the indirect method, but it was none the less effective. He told David a parable of a rich man who, in entertaining a traveler, took the only lamb a poor man had and prepared it for a meal, being unwilling to use any of his own animals, of which he had plenty. The injustice

so aroused David that he ordered that the rich man be killed. It was then that Nathan fearlessly drove the point home, "Thou art the man" (KJV).

David was smart enough to apply the prophet's words to himself, and he was immediately sorry for the crimes he had committed. He was humble enough to listen to Nathan and to accept his indictment without resentment. David's repentance, from all we can discern, was genuine and real. Someone has pointed out that David's great sin would have been forgotten if it had not been for his repentance. It was an accepted maxim of the day that a king could bring into his harem whom he would; but morality was improving, and David's actions were intolerable to Israel's God. In fact, his sin was thought of as a crime against God (Ch.12:9). As for Bathsheba, her part was neither praiseworthy nor blameworthy. She had no option. It is probable that Nathan risked his own life in rebuking David as he did, but this is the mark of a true prophet — to speak the word of the Lord and let the chips fall where they will. Even in high places, the true prophet speaks, without regard to his personal danger or standing, in the name of the living God.

Nathan made it plain to David that although he repented of his sins and would be forgiven he could not escape the punishment. There are inevitable consequences that accompany wrongdoing which even repentance and forgiveness cannot eliminate. There is a crude conception of sin seen here in ch. 12, but this was a part of the Hebrew idea at that time. It would seem that the poison of David's sin was transferred to the innocent child which Bathsheba bore him. The child died as a result. The scriptures present this as an act of God. Even though the idea is somewhat shocking to us, the underlying principle is clear — that suffering and sorrow do follow in the wake of sin.

Prophets who will speak plainly and fearlessly for the right are needed as much in our times as in Bible times. There is temptation to graft, wrongdoing, and deceit in high places. Let us ask: "What does it mean to speak fearlessly for God? Does one need to be critical always if he is to speak fearlessly? Are open expressions of approval of right action also examples of fearlessness?"

This column is published every other week. Additional dates for this column should be sent to the Advocate, Adrian, Michigan, by responsible persons as early as possible and not less than three weeks prior to event.

May 1959

- May 1-3—Detroit Conference Older Youth Weekend Retreat, Judson Collins Camp.
- May 2—Michigan Conference Day Camp Training Conference, Crystal Springs.
- May 3—Rural Life Sunday.
- May 3-10—National Family Week.
- May 6—Grand Rapids District WSCS Annual Meeting, First Church, Grand Rapids.
- May 7—Ascension Day.
- May 7—American Bible Society Annual Meeting, New York, N.Y.
- May 10—Mother's Day.
- May 11—Big Rapids District Annual Conference.
- May 11—Kalamazoo District WSCS Officers Training, White Pigeon, 1:30-3:30 P.M.
- May 11—Kalamazoo District WSCS Officers Training, Simpson Church, Kalamazoo, 7:30-9:30 P.M.
- May 12—Michigan Christian Advocate Board of Trustees Meeting, Adrian, 10:00 A.M.
- May 16—Michigan Conference Day Camp Training Conference, Lake Michigan Methodist Camp.
- May 17—Aldersgate Sunday.
- May 17—Pentecost (Whitsunday)
- May 19—Detroit Conference WSCS Annual Meeting, Ann Arbor.
- May 20—Michigan Conference WSCS Executive Committee Meeting, First Methodist Church, Jackson.
- May 21—Michigan Conference WSCS Annual Meeting, First Methodist Church, Jackson.
- May 24—Aldersgate Experience of John Wesley.
- May 24—Trinity Sunday.
- May 25—Kalamazoo District WSCS Officers Training, Dowagiac, 1:30-3:30 P.M.
- May 25—Kalamazoo District WSCS Officers Training, South Haven, 7:30-9:30 P.M.
- May 30—Memorial Day.

June 1959

- June 2—Grand Rapids District WSCS Officer Training, Lakeside Church, Muskegon.
- June 3-7—Detroit Annual Conference, Metropolitan Church, Detroit.
- June 4—Grand Rapids District WSCS Officer Training, Grandville.
- June 4—Grand Rapids District WSCS Officer Training, Plainfield Church, Grand Rapids. Evening meeting.
- June 10-14—Michigan Annual Conference, Albion.
- June 14—Michigan Conference Youth Assembly, Wesley Woods, Rev. Walter Russell, Director.
- June 14—Methodist Student Day.
- June 16—Grand Rapids District WSCS Officer Training, Nashville.
- June 18—Grand Rapids District WSCS Officer Training, Belding.
- June 21—Kalamazoo District Senior Institute I, Crystal Springs, Rev. Royal S. Synwolt, Dean.
- June 21—Big Rapids District Intermediate Camp I, Wesley Woods, Rev. Charles Van Lent, Dean.
- June 21—Michigan Conference Youth Workcamp I, Lake Michigan. Rev. Walter Russell, Director.
- June 21—Grand Traverse District Senior Institute, Lake Louise. Rev. Philip Carpenter, Dean.
- June 22-26—Michigan Conference WSCS School of Missions, Albion College, Albion.

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- June 26—Kalamazoo District Junior Camp I, Crystal Springs. Mrs. Elmer Ormiston, Dean.
 June 28—Grand Traverse District Intermediate Camp, Wesley Woods. Rev. Leon Shaffer, Dean.
 June 28—Michigan Conference Youth Workcamp I, Lake Michigan.

July 1959

- July 5—Older Adults Assembly, Crystal Springs. Miss Bethany Routh, Director.
 July 5—Grand Rapids District Intermediate Camp, Wesley Woods. Rev. Paul Robinson, Dean.
 July 5—Big Rapids District Senior Institute, Lake Louise. Rev. John Francis, Dean.
 July 6-10—Detroit Conference WSCS School of Missions, Albion College.
 July 10—Kalamazoo District WSCS Woman's Day at Crystal Springs.
 July 12—Michigan Conference Junior Choir Camp I, Crystal Springs.
 July 12-17—North Central Jurisdictional Semmar for teachers of Nursery, Kindergarten, Primary, Junior, Intermediate, Senior High and Adults, Albion.
 July 12-18—Michigan Methodist Laboratory School, Albion College.
 July 12-24—Detroit Conference Youth Bus Caravan tours Eastern states.
 July 13—Albion-Lansing-Grand Rapids Districts Joint Intermediate Camp II, Wesley Woods. Rev. Roger Rollins, Dean.
 July 19—Kalamazoo District Intermediate Camp I, Crystal Springs. Rev. George Chaffee, Dean.
 July 19—Albion-Lansing District Intermediate Camp I, Wesley Woods. Rev. Charles Fulmer, Dean.
 July 19—Michigan Conference Family Life Camp I, Lake Michigan, Miss Bethany Routh, Director.
 July 21-24—National Methodist Town and Country Conference, Wichita, Kansas.
 July 21-31—Woman's Division National Seminar, Greensboro, N.C.
 July 25-Aug. 2—National Youth School of Alcohol Studies and Christian Action.
 July 26—Grand Rapids District Junior Camp, Wesley Woods. Rev. Howard McDonald, Dean.
 July 26—Albion-Lansing District Senior Institute, Lake Louise. Rev. Sid Short, Dean.
 July 27-30—South Central Regional Briefing Conference, Mt. Sequoyah, Fayetteville, Ark.
 July 31-Aug. 15—Michigan Conference Youth Workcamp, Lindsey Wilson College, Kentucky. Rev. Walter Russell, Director.

August 1959

- Aug. 2—Kalamazoo District Junior Camp II, Crystal Springs. Rev. Theodore Bemmink, Dean.
 Aug. 2—Albion-Lansing District Junior Camp, Wesley Woods. Rev. John Bullock, Dean.
 Aug. 2—Dowagiac Youth Retreat, Lake Michigan.
 Aug. 9—Michigan Conference Junior Choir Camp II, Crystal Springs.



By
Allan G. Gray

Speaking of Books

A PRIVATE HOUSE OF PRAYER

By Leslie Weatherhead

IN HIS "Prescription for Anxiety," Dr. Weatherhead suggested that everyone needed a prayer room. Drawing largely on the analogy and the suggestion of Jesus to withdraw into one's closet, he has created a house of prayer and furnished it for thirty-one days. The first room is where we affirm the presence of God. The second is a room of Praise and Thanksgiving; the third, one of Confession and Forgiveness. The fourth room is where we affirm and receive, while in the fifth room we purify our desires. The Sixth room is where we intercede for others and the seventh room is our place of meditation.

From his own private prayer notebook, Dr. Weatherhead has brought out these furnishings. They are prayers, quotations, snatches of scripture and above all poetry! Anyone who has read any of his writings has been struck by the freshness and uniqueness of his selections. In fact he says in the preface that if anyone dislikes poetry, this book is not for him.

Frank in his admission that prayer comes hard for him but that he cannot long endure without it, he has created this rather elaborate subterfuge to get around his difficulties. The plan is designed for any length prayer session or can be divided at will. He uses it for a half hour either before or after breakfast.

If your prayer life has lacked imagination or if you just haven't had any, here are some excellent suggestions which will give zest and substance.

There is a valuable explanation called the Vestibule and also a helpful section entitled, "When the doors will not open." Also, at the conclusion there is an appendix of prayers which he has used in City Temple, London.

Dr. Weatherhead is a well known and widely published preacher whose own winsome personality and adventurous spirit commend him so greatly to the American Christian public.

("A Private House of Prayer," Weatherhead. Abingdon Cokesbury, \$3.00. This book may be secured from the Cokesbury Bookstore, 28 E. Elizabeth St., Detroit 1, Mich.)

Quiet Time Thoughts



By
Leroy M. Whitney

"BE STILL, and know that I am God," recorded the Psalmist in Psalm 46:10. This is the healing knowledge — to know God! To know that He is, that He sustains all things, that He will supply us with all needed things is to enable us to live confidently.

The question is, How can I know God in the hurry and din of the modern world? There is no time to think, no opportunity to stop in the mad rush, no waiting as the Africans say "to let our souls catch up with our bodies." Jet planes can now fly from Los Angeles to New York in a few minutes over four hours! We often wonder what the hurry is! We get places so fast, we are not adjusted to being there before we arrive. It is a strange anomaly of our modern life that while we never had so many time-saving gadgets, we still have no time. Modern Christians can scarcely find time to pray, or to spend an hour in church.

We miss so many worthwhile things in our hurry. We go so fast that everything we pass is a blur. We do not distinguish the faces of friends or loved ones. Looking into God's face, and pausing with Him, seems out of the question.

Were we to slow up a little, leave off some of the things we think are so necessary, and concentrate on discovering what is really essential, we might see God's face, and come to recognize Him. In so doing we would find a quiet place in our lives, a place of refuge, of taking stock, of evaluating activities. We would begin to live more confidently, with less fear, less nervousness. We could begin to say, "God is our refuge and strength, a well-proved help in time of trouble. We shall not fear though the earth be removed, and though the mountains shake into the sea. The LORD of Hosts is with us, the God of Jacob is OUR refuge." What assurance that brings for living! What strengthening from above comes to us from such a faith.

You will note in the text that knowledge follows stillness. "Be still, and know." It is also true that stillness follows knowledge. When we get to know God and to depend upon Him, we are not easily disturbed by all that goes on. We have a trust now that casts out fear. "We shall not fear, though the earth be moved."

The Family at Prayer

Compiled by

ABIGAIL G. RANDOLPH

A lovely book of more than one hundred prayers for every family occasion and need. Introduction by Bishop Hazen G. Werner tells how the family learns to pray together. A significant family gift. 75¢ a copy, \$7.50 per dozen.

The Upper Room

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CHELSEA METHODIST HOME MEMBERS *Seen At Indoor - Outdoor Recreation*



Members of the Chelsea Methodist Home family assembling quilts, which, when completed, will be sent to needy Koreans, are: Mrs. Mae Russell, Royal Oak; Mrs. Grace L. Westcott, Hillsdale; Miss Ethel L. Jardine, Detroit Central; and Mrs. Maude Barker, Ferndale. The group averages 12 to 15 quilts per month. Donations of USABLE COTTON BLANKETS for quilts will be appreciated.



Miss Mae Clark from St. Clair enjoys a summer flower garden maintained by Home members.

Address all gifts and inquiries to: Rev. Edwin J. Weiss, Superintendent, Chelsea Methodist Home, Box 208, Chelsea, Michigan.