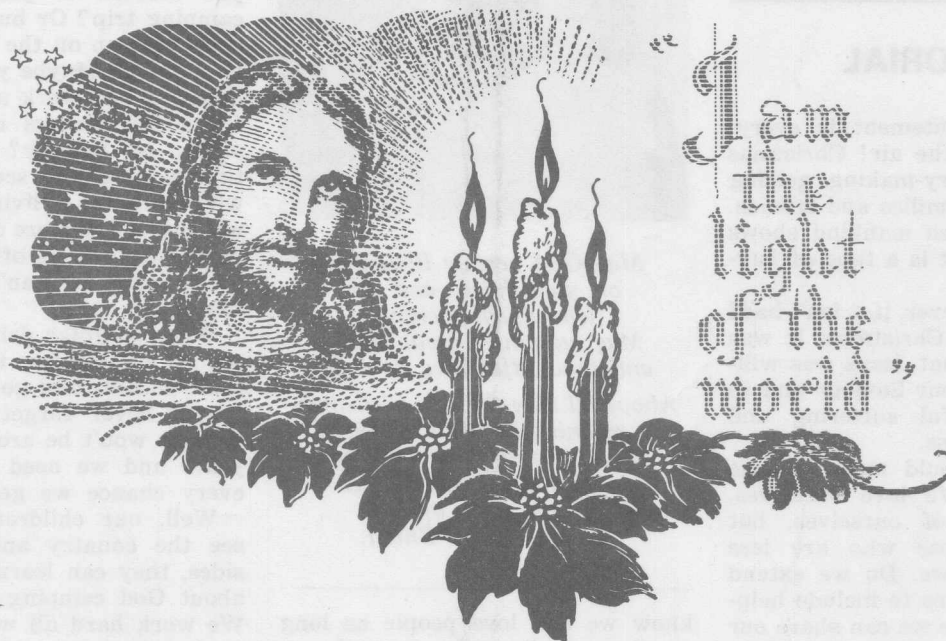


The Apostolic Faith Report

Volume XVII

December, 1970—January, 1971

Number 12



The Inn At Bethlehem

Viney Wilder

The inn was crowded, no one from inside
Had seen the star or heard the angels sing,
They never knew that just beyond the door
A baby had been born to be their king.

For these were busy folk in Bethlehem,
Exchanging views, lamenting of their cares,
Commanding tables and the choicest food,
Engrossed in their own problems and affairs.

The keeper, too, was anxious for his guests
And strived to see each detail was set right;
How could he then make room for peasant folk
Who came entreating at his door tonight?

He had made a hopeless gesture and replied
That they might seek the stable in their need,
And hurried to attend some new demand,
There were so many yet that he must feed.

Do not think harshly of the little inn
Or yet of those who tarried long ago
About the tables with their own concerns . . .
They merely erred because they did not know.

The keeper was harassed on every side
He knew not that he turned the Christ away . . .
Think rather, after nineteen hundred years,
There can be no excuse for us today!

A bright star was set in God's sky one night
To guide men to everlasting peace and light.
Wherever you are, whatever you do . . .
Make the light of that star still shine on you!

THE APOSTOLIC FAITH REPORT

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EDITORIAL

Christmas excitement is everywhere!! It's in the air! Christmas is a time of merry-making, getting together with families and friends. It is a time when mankind shows love to others; it is a time of buying and giving.

I wonder, however, if it isn't hard for us to "act" Christmas. It was an act of love that Jesus was willing to come as our Saviour and to endure the awful suffering and agony of the cross.

Christmas should mean a time of true love. We love ourselves. We take care of ourselves, but what about those who are less fortunate than we. Do we extend our Christian lives to include helping them? Maybe we can share our dinner with a lonely person that will be all alone. Do we know a child that will not have any Christmas this year? Let us help brighten his day with a small remembrance. Your thoughtfulness will mean even more to the child as you show him you care for him.

Do we show to others our faith in God, the love and spirit of Christmas as we should? We know the peace of Christ. He is real in our lives, but do we show it? Do we make it known by the way we live daily that others might see it and be drawn to Christ? Do we prefer our brother? Can we put him first or do we always want to be seen and heard?

Jesus came to bring peace on earth. He came to bring a gospel of love. May we this time and season of the year show our love to mankind in a real way. You

SEASONS GREETINGS

*From Our House
To You*



*May God bestow Blessings
on your home and all
who dwell therein.*

*May happiness abide there
and thoughtful love as well.*

*Above all may the real Christmas
meaning be made bright
in your heart—the love, joy,
peace and salvation given
by the birth of the
Saviour, Jesus Christ.*

know we can love people as long as they don't cross us and our thinking. Let us be willing, not only now, but every day of this year to go an extra mile. Let us show real love to our fellow men. This will let us enjoy Christmas all year.

We wish each of you a very merry Christmas and pray that the love of Christ will rule in your heart through this whole year.

Your continued prayers for my father will certainly be appreciated. He is in need of a touch from the Lord. My prayer is that the will of the Lord be done in his life. May we all be willing to accept God's perfect will. May the Lord bless each of you.

Howard Whiteley

Living without God means dying without hope!

A Christian Layman's Views

My Church Comes First

"Lord, I love you above all else in this world." How many times have you and I said these words? Have you really stopped and thought about the real meaning of these few words? They really commit us to a lot, and especially if we live up to them. And speaking of living up to them, have you ever thought of these words when you started to plan a weekend camping trip? Or building a weekend home up on the lake or in the mountains? Maybe you have a job that you can work a few hours at for a few dollars on Wednesday night, or Sunday? In this fast time we live in, it seems the people who work for a living can always use just a few more dollars. All the devil has to do is offer us another dollar and we can't make it to church.

When kinfolks drive 20 miles to see us on Sunday night, we just can't be rude and go on to church; they'll never forget us! But our parents won't be around too many years and we need to visit them every chance we get.

Well, our children hardly ever see the country and nature. Besides, they can learn a few things about God camping out like that. We work hard all week and if we don't get out like this on the weekend, our life is all work and no pleasure.

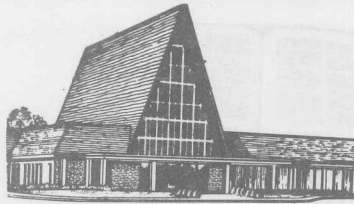
You know, in the natural world, these are natural things to do, but by the Bible, we are not of this world but born again. "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Mat.. 6:33.

If we do these things on church service time, what impression does it give our friends or relatives that we would like to see become Christians. Surely they can't possibly think that we "love God very much, especially ABOVE all else in this world."

Christmas is a gift from God that a man cannot keep until he gives it to someone else.

D. C. Smith

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES



Galena, Kansas

The Lord is blessing our church. We had 2 men saved in our Sunday night services lately. Brother DeWayne Hansen is now in charge of our Young People's group and they are growing.

Also we have formed a Junior group for the Sunday night services with Sister Phyllis Hansen as the leader. They started with three present and on the second Sunday night had 10 present. This group includes grades 5-8. We felt we needed another group because of the great age span between the Children's church and the Young People's group.

We have enjoyed having Bible School Students visiting us; also Rev. and Mrs. Regier and Rev. and Mrs. Ronnie Martin. The church served coffee and cake in honor of the 24th wedding anniversary of Bro. Paul and Sister Bonnie. Our church has received the attendance banner again for the month of November at the Tri-State Youth Rally with 36 present.

Rita Robinson, reporter
Paul Clanton, pastor

Laverne, Oklahoma

Many things have happened in our church since last reporting to the paper. God has been so good to us in both spiritual and temporal blessings. In the early fall we had 10 which we baptised in water. Our attendance has been good and the Lord's presence has been felt in each service.

During November the Rev. Lowell Long was with us in a revival. Our church was blessed with his ministry as each message was inspired by the Holy Spirit. Many personal victories were gained and our church was spiritually lifted. Sis. Marolyn Lemmons assisted with the music. To prepare for this revival our church had cottage prayer meetings and fast and prayer days.

We enjoyed the Report and look

forward to receiving it each month. May I also take this opportunity to say "thanks" to Bro. Olen Bachler for the many years of service he has given to the Apostolic Faith Bible School. May God richly bless and repay him for all his labor and burden.

Jack Cornell, pastor

Joplin, Mo.

God has blessed our church with his presence and has been working among us. We do praise His name for His goodness. We have had a number of visitors from the Bible School and they have been a real blessing to the church. Our young people were in charge of the church service one Sunday night recently. We have such a wonderful group of Christian young people and Bro. and Sis. Mark Bard are doing a fine job as their leaders.

Our church has suffered a great loss in the death of Sis. Leon Oakes. She was always in the services when she was able to come.

May the Lord bless each one.

Onal Nunn, pastor

HELP WANTED

Christians of the Apostolic Faith Movement who can carry a burden and pray for a revival in the town of Katy, Texas, beginning January 3, 1971. Rev. G. K. Kerr, evangelist. Anyone interested in the job, meet our Lord, at a place of prayer in our behalf.

Pine Hill, Alabama

God is still showering His love and blessings upon us, with an ever increasing attendance in Sunday school and church. We thank God for this, and are endeavoring to build a parsonage. This project is being built on faith, and God is supplying the needed funds wonderfully, and in various ways. We are humbly grateful for the way the people here are pitching in and doing their bit. May God bless each one.

Let us not fail to mention our

Teenage group and their continuing work for the Lord. Their witnessing in school, community, and wherever they go. We thank God for them.

Much prayer is needed in the world today, to increase the faith and strengthen Christians in the work of the Lord. So let us "pray without ceasing," that others can know and love our Blessed Saviour.

Remember, "Keep looking unto Christ, for He will never fail."

Mamie M. Kelly, reporter
Jim Arnall, pastor

Tomball, Texas

The Dedication of the Apostolic Faith Church of Tomball, Texas (formerly the Hufsmith Church) will be December 13, 1970. There will be all day services with a basket dinner. Rev. Joe B. Dewese of Hempstead, Texas will be the main speaker for the afternoon service.

Services began in the new church on Sunday, November 8, 1970, with blessings from the Lord.

Much is being planned for the immediate future:

November 16—The South Texas Preachers Meeting.

November 24—Special Thanksgiving Service.

December 5—South Texas Youth Rally.

December 13—The Dedication.

December 26 thru 31—Holiday Services, with Watch Night Service.

These services will be night services only.

Rev. A. B. Stanberry has resumed his Radio Broadcast on KFRD, Rosenberg, Texas, 950 on the dial, each Sunday morning at 9:30 to 9:45 o'clock.

Thelma Neff, reporter

Rev. A. B. Stanberry, pastor

Ralls, Texas

The Lord continues to bless here at the Ralls Apostolic Faith Church. He meets with us in every service and gives us assurance just when we need it most. We did so enjoy the short time at Camp Meeting in August. It encouraged us to see others holding on preaching the Apostolic Faith Doctrine. May God bless everyone who is not ashamed to preach it and live it. It will take living a

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SERMON OF THE MONTH



Another Look At

CHRISTMAS

By Rev. H. L. Waterbury

It is a good thing to observe Christmas Day. The mere marking of times and seasons when men agree to stop work and make merry together, is a wise and wholesome custom. It helps one to be relieved of the tension that has seized this world of ours, and helps us to feel the supremacy of the common life over the individual life. Then too, it reminds a man to set his own little watch by the great time clock of humanity.

However, to observe Christmas Day only as a holiday is to miss the greater part of the blessing, because Christmas stands for something. It commemorates a birth, a birth of man, the God-Man, Jesus Christ. It was He who brought the gift of life to the world for He said, "I am come that ye might have life."

The Bible suggests certain fundamental truths that one must believe in order to be saved, and among the most basic of these is the deity of Jesus Christ. "neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12. "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name," John 20:31. "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life," I John 5:12.

In these last days we have experienced an extra-ordinary manifestation of evil within the professed church, the result being an apostate church, which shall have a definite reward, Rev. 3:16. This has been a problem throughout the history of Christendom, but never witnessed in the magnitude which we experience. One reason for this, is that basic to the menace of apostasy is the master stroke

Satan has made at the very fountain of life: the Deity of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Empirical studies have proved that multiplied thousands of professed Christians, including a majority of protestant ministers, do not believe in the miraculous conception and virgin birth of Jesus Christ—such failure in faith results in alienation from God's plan of salvation because the only source of life has been rejected. A person who does not believe that Jesus is the Christ, the only begotten of the Father, is not saved and shall never inherit eternal life, but the wrath of God abideth on him, John 3:36. "Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is anti-Christ, that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father." I John 2:22, 23.

This world is willing to accept the Babe in the manger, and stop there. But God is in Jesus Christ, and to accept the Baby without accepting the Man on the Cross, the Saviour and His Resurrection, indicates a complete lack of what constitutes a Christian.

Surely we of today need to replace the farce of the conventional Christmas with the force of the Christmas Gospel. Only as we sinners are justified through the blood of Jesus Christ, shall we become men approved of God. He has said: "There is no difference, for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Romans 3:22, 24.

This year's Christmas celebration shall without a doubt surpass any display of gaiety and extravagance that the world has ever known. People everywhere, of every nationality and creed, shall join in, but the sad part is this: very few people will stop to realize the magnificent underlying truth —

that we are commemorating the birth of Jesus, as it is recorded in the Bible.

Many modern Christians have lost—or never had—an enlightened understanding of the genius of Christianity: that the New Testament is the fulfillment of the predictions and promises of the Old; that Jesus, the Christ, is the link that binds the two testaments together. The early New Testament church writers and preachers saw this clearly, and constantly pointed out the New Testament fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy.

When Matthew narrated the virgin birth of Christ, (Matt. 1:18-25), he said it was the fulfillment of the Old Testament prediction of Christ's virgin birth. "Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." Matt. 1:22-23; cf. Isa. 7:14).

In our great pagan land of America the commemoration of Christmas has become artificial and sickening. People sentimentalize about Baby Jesus, but they reject the Risen Lord, because He demands that all men repent and acknowledge Him as God Incarnate, who died and rose again to save us from our sins. Our world that gushes over the infant Jesus would crucify again the Christ of God.

In this desperate age of evil and deception, may we establish our faith in the Christ of the Bible—God's gift to a sin cursed world, that believing in Him, we should not perish but have everlasting life. May the words of our lips and the conduct of our life inspire faith in the faithless, hope in the hopeless, and life through Christ to those who are dead in trespasses and sin.

The only way to put Christ in Christmas is to offer Him the place that He came to assume—not only in recognizing Him as the World's Saviour, but by accepting Him as your personal Saviour, and Lord of your life.

When shall we ever sing the
continued on page 8

TEACHER'S NOTEBOOK



TEACHING WITH SUCCESS EVALUATION

In our discussion with you over the past several months concerning our Success as Sunday School teachers, we have discovered ways to examine ourselves to make sure we're fit candidates as teachers, ways to improve ourselves and our teaching, and methods to use to improve pupil participation. Now, in the last series of articles in the next two or three issues, we wish to consider the evaluation of our teaching.

Is evaluation important in the Sunday school room?

When a man builds a house, or a woman makes a cake or a dress, the builder makes an appraisal of its merit or value. Maybe not consciously but many questions come to mind and are answered as to whether everything was done just as it should be.

The same is true with our teaching. In order to become better and to see better results, we evaluate each lesson. . . our preparation, was it adequate; our presentation, was it good, did it succeed in getting the results desired; our pupil's participation, did they ask questions, did they willingly answer those asked in class?

The teacher's review of her lesson presentation is entwined with her evaluation of the pupil's progress. She knows that the pupil's success or failure at learning is due to her success or failure as a teacher; and her teaching technique plays an important part in such success or failure. In taking account of her efforts as a teacher, the Sunday-school teacher merely takes inventory and adopts good resolutions after each lesson instead of once a year.

In public school this evaluation is done with quizzes and examinations. Yet as Sunday School teachers we hesitate to use these in fear of driving away our students. Too often a teacher just hopes piously and perhaps prays that the pupil may have been helped. If you ask if her pupils are advancing in favor

with God, she may reply that she doesn't know but she is praying for them.

Prayer is good but it is not enough. She must know whether the pupil is growing spiritually. In order to teach effectively, the teacher must evaluate the pupil, his learning, and his life for several reasons. (1) The pupil's success, here and hereafter, depends upon his Christian education. Jesus said that we would know them by their fruits. (2) The teacher must know the pupil's spiritual understanding and attitudes before she can measure his progress. (3) She must measure his progress in order to help him learn what he needs to learn in order to grow spiritually. (4) His progress depends upon her teaching; therefore, she must know whether her teaching is effective; that is, whether her preparation is adequate and whether her presentation is getting results. (5) Since the pupil's advancement must be continuous, her evaluation must be continuous.

The question is, "How does the teacher evaluate the pupil's progress in Christian learning?"

Educators suggest many methods of evaluation as the questionnaire, pupil placement tests, the rating scale, score card and many others. Below we will give you samples of what we feel are good to use as Sunday School teachers.

For Children

Sometimes, if the pupils are little children, the parents can help evaluate their child's learning by answering the teacher's questions. you observed any change in his Sunday to be returned the next. The list might include some similar to these: Is the child eager to come to Sunday school? Does he ever tell you what he has learned? Does he remember the lesson? (This can be answered by the parents indirectly bringing up the subject at the Sunday dinner table). Does he get ready for Sunday school without urging? Have you observed any change in his language, attitude, conduct or in-

terests which reflect the influence of the Sunday School? Does he tell his playmates about his Sunday school?

Young People or Adults

An end-of-the-year quiz is often helpful. Use a form for your students to fill out making sure they don't sign their name. Tell them the purpose for the quiz is so you will be able to make their class more interesting, more stimulating and more meaningful to their personal lives.

Do you attend church, () regularly, () more than half the time, () less than half the time?

Do you have a time of personal devotions () regularly all year, () only part of the time, () just a few times a year?

Do you have a time of Bible reading () regularly (at least 4 days out of the week), () less than half the week's day, () just a few times a month?

Do you realize your stewardship and give and work for the Lord () each week, () more than half the weeks in the year, () less than half the time?

Or you may prefer to use the following list for analyzing the pupil's participation and his spiritual growth.

Is the pupil: (a) a harmonizer . . . settles arguments, is friendly, warm, and accepts others' ideas. (b) an initiator . . . suggests discussion topics, presents new ideas and helps timid ones to participate. (c) A clarifier . . . asks questions or elaborates on contributions of others to clarify for the group or ask for further information or ideas to clarify purposes. (d) An information-giver . . . helps the group goals by offering personal experiences and opinions. Gives facts and other information when needed. (e) A listener . . . serves as audience during group discussions, maintains participative attitude while talking very little.

Or is the pupil: (a) an antagonist: rejects ideas without consideration, argues unduly on small points, blocks progress by going off the subject quarrels with the group or individuals. (b) a dominator . . . monopolizes conversation by not giving others a chance to participate, lobbies for pet projects, and

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THE TRINITY

By Mrs. E. A. Greever

"There are three that bear record in heaven, the **Father**, the **Word** (and the word was made flesh and dwelt among us (Jesus)) and the **Holy Ghost**: and these three are one." I John 5:7.

Dear friends, in the book of all books, the Bible, we find "that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation for the prophecy came not in old times by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." II Peter 1:20, 21.

In I. Cor., chapter 2, verses 9 and 10 we read, "As it is written eye hath not seen nor ear heard neither have entered into the heart of man the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by the Spirit for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea the deep things of God."

Col. 1:26-28. "The mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but is now made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: whom we preach, warning every man and teaching every man, in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus." In Ephesians the third chapter we read of the dispensation of the grace of God, how that by revelation he made known to Paul the mystery and it tells us as we read here that we will understand his knowledge in the mystery of Christ. Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. In this scripture we read of God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Spirit.

God told Noah to build an ark for his safety from the destruction that was to come. It was built by God's blueprint. The door to the ark was set in the side with lower, second and third stories (a type of Father, Son and Holy Ghost) and friend, keep in mind the dove (a type of the Holy Ghost) was in the third story. The Bible teaches us

that it, the dove went out through the window which was in the top of the ark. So our lives must be led by God's blueprint, remembering God so loved the world, Christ loved the church, and when he went back to heaven asked the Father to send us another Comforter that we may be saved from the wrath to come. The work of the Trinity is remembered in many places in the Bible. In the following these are mentioned.

The sower and the seed. St. Matt. 13:8,9. "Some seed fell on good ground and brought forth fruit, some a hundred fold, some sixty, some thirty fold. Who hath ears to hear let him hear."

In St. John 15: 1-5 is scripture concerning the branches of the true vine. The branch that **bearth fruit** he purgeth that it bring forth **more fruit** and then abiding in the vine brings forth **much fruit**.

In St. Luke 11: 5-8 the scripture speaks of a friend coming at midnight asking for three loaves and because of his importunity (continuous knocking) his friend arose and gave him as many as he needeth.

St. Matt. 13:33, "Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened."

The story of the prodical son who came back to his father who received him with a pardoning kiss asked that the best robe be placed upon him (robe of righteousness) and a ring upon his finger. (The Seal). St. Luke, chapter 15.

In Ephesians, chapter 5 we are told to awake from sleep, arise from the dead (dead in sin) (Brought back to God). Then we are asked not to be unwise but understanding what the will of the Lord is (This is the will of God even your sanctification). And in verse 15 to be filled with the Spirit.

Now I wish to mention two scriptures in the Old Testament.

The outer court, then we enter where we find the candlestick and the table with the shewbread and after the second veil into the Holiest of all. Here we find the censer (the altar of incense) the ark of the covenant. Heb. 9: 2-4.

In Psalms 51: 1-10, David asks the Lord to blot out all of his transgressions, cleanse and renew a right spirit within.

As the Ark built by Noah following God's blueprint was a place of safety from the storm that was soon to come, so through the Father, Son and Holy Ghost all people today if willing to come God's way, can have a way of escape, a refuge from the wrath to come.

"As in the day of Noah so shall it be in the coming of the Son of Man," Matt. 24:37 and St. Luke 17:26. These scriptures speak of the condition of the world.

But in the message I wish to speak of the door to the ark. It was to be set in the side thereof with lower, second and third stories. And please keep in mind a window thou shalt make to the ark finished above so it had to be placed in the third story.

Dear friends, if you are looking and longing for a place of safety and assurance, let the Lord have his way and in that time that you seek him with all your heart, he will be found of you in his promise.

Christ is the door into the sheep fold, by him if any man enter in he shall be saved, go in and out and find pasture. He is the sure foundation, a tried stone.

By the disobedience of one (Adam) all were made sinners.

By the obedience of one (Christ) many are made righteous.

Repentance (godly sorrow for sin) will bring us back to God. And except we repent we will all likewise perish. Repentance and remission of sins was to be preached in all nations beginning in Jerusalem.

This is the first story.

In building a three story house we certainly cannot begin and finish the second story without the first. Neither can the third be built without the second.

In Old Testament scriptures we read of how people would come back in repentance and God heard and forgave. And if necessary the same is time in the day of grace. But Jesus said a wise man is he who **digs down deep** and builds his house upon a Rock (Christ).

So after repenting if you are wanting an overcoming, standing continued on page 7

The Trinity

continued from page 6

grace experience, surrender your life completely unto the Lord and the same blood that blotted out all your sins will cleanse the sin nature with which you were born. (This you cannot repent of). Your part is to consecrate your life to God and then God will sanctify you (The second story). Many scriptures could be given but since I have given them in previous articles I will ask you if it is necessary to re-read them.

When Jesus walked among men he comforted them. In fact, whatever their need for spirit, soul or body through his word they received. Before going back to heaven he told his disciples to tarry in the city of Jerusalem until they be endued with power from on high. This he spoke of as another comforter. And this message (such good news) was to be given even unto the end of the world.

Friend, this is the third story

Do you remember reading in St. Matt. 3:16 about the baptism of Jesus when he came up out of the water, the Spirit of God descending like a dove fell upon him.

The Dove was sent from the ark before the waters abated and returned but didn't return when they had abated. So Holy Ghost filled people are continually doing all they can that people everywhere have an anchor that is both sure and steadfast.

In St. Luke chapter 14: 28-30, Jesus said, "For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish." And in verse 33 of the same chapter he says, "So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple."

There are so many scriptures one could mention along the different avenues (ways of approach) to the work of Father, Son and Holy Ghost that I almost fear I may not have been yielded to the Spirit that you may see clearly

the different definite experiences one must have to have a finished building.

The following is a poem given me one day when in the Spirit that might help you to see more clearly.

Lord I'm so happy 'tis revealed
unto me
God's great true plan for the
world and me
Father, Son and Spirit three great
trinity
Through which all people can be
made free.

God the heavenly Father by his
marvelous plan
Loved this lost world and gave
his Son
To redeem their souls from their
fallen state
Sinner come to him ere its too late.

Jesus, God's dear Son gave his life
so freely
To pardon your sins and to sanctify
thee
That Spirit, soul and body might
preserved be
'Till the Father sends from heaven
his son for thee.

The blessed Holy Spirit, the pre-
cious unseen guest
Will seal your life then you are
fully blest
And you are looking up waiting the
hour
For Christ to return and change
you by power.

Quickened by the Spirit that now
dwells within
You are able in body to glorify him
Running to and fro searching here
and there
There is naught to compare with
God's blessings rare.

God's love was shown, Christ's
blood was shed
Now the Spirit is calling to you
my friend
What will your answer be on that
day?
When the Father sends from
heaven his son for me.

For somehow, not only at Christ-
mas but all the long year through,
the joy that you give to others is
the joy that comes back to you.

J. G. Whittier

Four Ways to Help Your Pastor

By Vernon E. Broilier

A pastor often stands midway between guidance from heaven and pressures from his congregation who push in a slightly different direction. While attempting to maintain equilibrium in this somewhat awkward position, he may be subject to criticism. Unfortunately, some of this criticism comes from well-meaning members of the church.

Actually, of course, we and our pastors are in the same battle. We are on the same side. We have the same goals. We are serving under the same Commander in chief. We are part of the same family of God. Let us ask ourselves, what practical help can we give to the man God has put in a position of leadership in the local congregation of which we are a part?

The word HELP can serve as an acrostic to remind us of some ways in which we can assist our pastor, and thus strengthen the church as a whole.

First, we can honor him as God's man for the task. The church prayed for God's will when it chose the pastor, and the pastor sought God's will as well. Now that we are together, let us honor the man selected as spiritual leader at this time, and get on with the common task.

Next, we can encourage the pastor to develop his ministry and fulfill his potential as God's servant. Young preachers especially need our help in this regard, but a minister never gets too old to need appreciation. Are his sermons a help to you? Tell him so. Has something he said helped you to draw nearer to God? Tell him so.

Are you in need of counsel or prayer? Go to your pastor. Show confidence in his advice and ask his prayers for your need. He wants to be of help and rejoices when God uses him in this way.

We encourage the pastor when we act upon his suggestions and respond to his ministry. Nothing is more discouraging than indifference to a plan or suggestion or

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MAN'S WAY OR GOD'S WAY

By Rev. Joe B. Dewees

"And again he entered into Capernaum after some days; and it was noised that he was in the house. And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them, no not so much as about the door: and he preached the word unto them." Mark 2: 1 and 2.

"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine." II Tim. 4:2.

"The word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Heb. 4:12.

"For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." I Cor. 1:21.

This is God's plan and God's idea of the best way to reach people. I shall add another scripture: Rom. 1:16. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

The only reason we hold camp meetings, revivals, youth camps, Bible schools, church services, or any other religious gathering, is for the gospel or word of God to be taught and expounded.

We, as Christians, should be careful to see that this is carried out or we will wind up by using entertainment and programs to take the place of gospel preaching.

Some may say that they are tired of preaching, but if we will use God's plan, it will be a blessing. I used to get tired of having my mother wash my ears, but it was necessary and it was good for me. The gospel is good for us.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." II Tim. 3:16 and 17.

If we adhere to a program, we do not give the Holy Spirit a chance to work. Everything is "cut and dried" and most of the time "man directed". Are we afraid to trust the Holy Spirit? We should be careful to let the Holy Spirit direct our services and not depend on programs.

Some people would like for the regular service to be all gospel singing. Gospel singing is a wonderful blessing but should not completely replace the preaching of the word. You could never hear all of God's word in songs. Both congregational and special singing are an aid to a service and should be used as such.

Plays, skits and readings have a place in religious services but should not be used to the exclusion of preaching and teaching the word.

The main reason for a religious service is to preach and teach the word of God, or the gospel. I believe this is God's plan.

"And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers, for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." Eph. 4:11 and 12.

Another Look At

Christmas

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song "Peace on Earth" in a way approved of God? Will it suffice to say that it shall happen only when proud men have had their fill of themselves, when they realize that human diplomacy and expediency are bankrupt; when they humbly bow down before the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and accept God's gift of life. Every other religion pictures man as reaching up for God. Christianity pictures God as reaching down for man. Christianity is not an achievement, it is an acceptance.

Read the Christmas story for yourself and get the facts. You will find that Jesus was conceived of the Holy Ghost, born of a virgin in Bethlehem of Judea, the city of

David. Angels announced Him, wise men worshipped Him, and shepherds sought Him. Underneath these established facts, there is one purpose for His manifestation; to save you from sin. Take the Lord Jesus as your Christmas gift.

Four Ways To

Help Your Pastor

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sermon over which one has prayed and tried to present for the good of all. Even if we can't accept every idea the pastor offers, we can appreciate his sincerity—and perhaps we can discuss our differences with him and offer our own ideas.

Third, we can love our pastor. We should love him as a brother in Christ, and honor him for his work's sake. When a pastor is invited into the family circle for a visit or a meal it shows he is loved and appreciated as a person.

Of course, it is unfair to expect the pastor to spend more time with us than with others. He may have to decline the pleasure of our company at times in order to fellowship with someone else and minister to them. We can encourage him by showing we understand his many commitments. He serves many families. If he spends too much time with one, other members may tend to feel he is not their pastor.

Finally, we can pray for the pastor. This is one way in which all of us can help. The load a pastor carries as spiritual leader of many people with diverse needs is often heavy. As parishioners, then, we should "hold up his hands" and pray he may be used to bring victory to many. A true pastor does not resent the load he carries. He only wants to be effective, and to this end asks your prayers.

Some Christians pray for their pastor only as long as they can agree with him. They are like the lady who said "Amen" every time the preacher said something that touched someone else's weakness. When his words struck a blow of conviction to her own heart she complained that he had "quit preachin' and gone to meddlin'."

Prayer for the pastor will keep us close to God and open to the

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News from Churches

continued from page 3

holy life to make it through.

We enjoyed having Sister Sutton with us some time back. Also recently we had Janice (Orange) Cass and her husband in service on Sunday night. Anyone passing through this area is welcome to visit with us. Don't forget to pray for the work here.

Robert and Dora Beydler

Hardesty, Okla.

Our hearts are filled with praise as we begin to see a spiritual move among our people. The Lord blessed us with two outstanding services last Sunday. It was a real joy to see the Christians spend time in prayer gaining victories needed. With God's signs telling us of the very close return of His son to this earth, each person needs to feel the necessity of deepening his life in the Lord. Instead of pulling apart and letting jealousy and strife rule in our lives and churches, we must bind ourselves together with the love that God gives when He cleanses us in sanctification. Without this great love, Satan may cause us to stumble and fall . . . missing our goal of heaven. Pray with us, as we pray with you, for a moving of the Holy Spirit in the lives of each minister, gospel worker, and layman. Without this, our vision will vanish and we will perish.

Howard Whiteley, pastor

Arnett, Okla.

In the Arnett school auditorium on November 7, 1970 at 8:00 p.m., the Apostolic Faith Church sponsored Faith Chapel Singers from Faith Chapel in Canyon, Texas. They presented a very up-lifting and soul stirring message in song to approximately 300 people. Our hearts were made to rejoice to see so many young people giving out the glorious message of salvation, and the Arnett Community was touched by this inspiring service. We are expecting great things in our community following such a wonderful visitation of the spirit of the Lord.

After this soul stirring message in song, the Faith Chapel Singers, area youth in attendance, and other guests enjoyed a wonderful fellow-

ship hour together. The ladies of the Apostolic Faith Church had prepared sandwiches and all the trimmings to be enjoyed by all as they visited and became acquainted with the gospel singers who brought the evening program.

On Sunday morning, November 8, 1970, we felt very honored to have with us Rita Conn, Music Director of Faith Student Choir, who played the piano and rendered several lovely numbers in solo.

We have set a goal of 50 to reach for Sunday school attendance, but we have not attained this yet. We are praying, visiting, and inviting, hoping to surpass this number.

Reverend Heil by invitation traveled over hill and dale for about 40 miles to make his way to the Ioland School house in the extreme southeast part of Ellis County on November 12, 1970 to conduct Bible lessons to hungry hearts. It is hoped these can be held each Thursday evening at 8:00 p.m. Your prayers regarding this work for the Lord will be greatly appreciated.

We are in the process of landscaping the church yard and area surrounding the parsonage. Evergreens, pines, and rows of hedge will be placed around the church property.

Reverend Floyd Lamunyon of Laverne, Oklahoma is scheduled to conduct some Bible Doctrine lessons in Arnett on December 2, 3, and 4, in the church at 7:30 p.m. We are looking forward to these.

Our next scheduled event is Sunday evening, November 22, 1970, when we have our Thanksgiving Fellowship Dinner at 6:00 p.m. in the Educational Wing of the church. Our church service will follow this fellowship hour.

In our Sunday School Class we are studying Conviction. We have just finished Enlightenment. This study is proving to be very helpful in gathering together our scriptures to use as the need may rise from day to day.

Ruby V. Kibbe, reporter

Rene A. Heil, pastor

Guymon, Oklahoma

We continue to enjoy God's blessings in a marvelous way. We have had several saved recently in our regular services. Our attendance

is holding up well, in spite of colder weather. We have more new families coming, with one man and his wife recently being saved. They live adjacent to our new church.

We have scheduled our Christmas cantata, by our church choir, for the morning of December 20, under the direction of Bill Patterson. That same evening we plan to have our Christmas program under the direction of Mrs. Peggy Duke.

We are most encouraged by our Sunday Morning Youth Class with Kathy White as teacher. It has an attendance of 22-25 or more. Recently our Guymon youth were honored with the attendance banner at the Balko Youth Rally.

Mrs. Delia Tomlinson is the leader of the adult class. They also have an evening Bible study class which proves a blessing to our church.

Our young married class has great potential, with all members working hard and praying long for results. Presently, we are taking a thorough study of Bro. Regier's Bible Doctrine book.

Bro. Clois Spradling is our Sunday School superintendent, and always has a genuine burden for our church.

David Lively has taken the Youth Ambassadors on Sunday evenings. These teenagers are very eager to work for the Lord. Many of them are new converts, and their enthusiasm is spilling over into the rest of the church. They are starting several new projects, one of which is to raise money for an activity bus.

On Wednesday, November 18th, four college students came forward for salvation at the Student Center. It is a rare pleasure to see college football players, and beauty contestants kneeling at the altar. I would think all the money and time spent is well worth the effort. The college youth are also taking up a project to raise money for an activity bus. We hope, between the two groups, to purchase a bus to handle their activities.

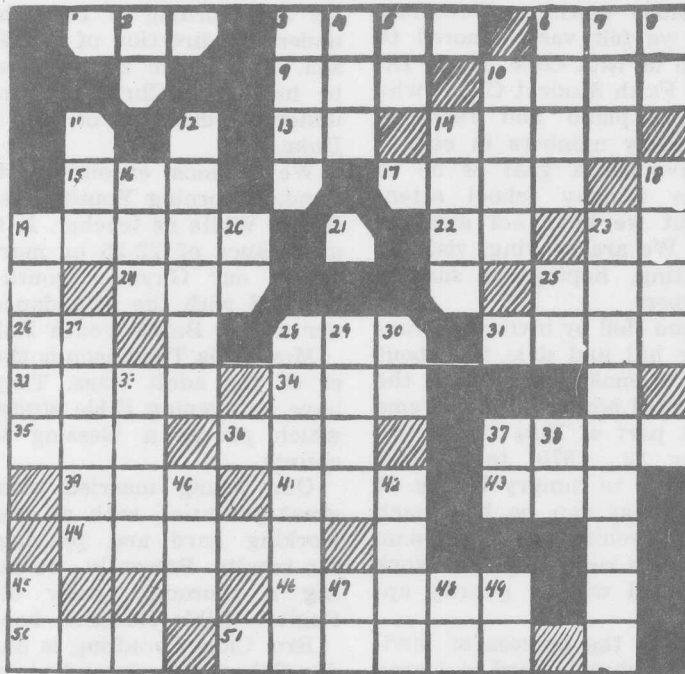
Bro. and Sis. Bill Patterson continue to do a splendid job with the student body at Panhandle State College. Please pray, with us, for a soul winning effort.

Edwin Modrick

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CRUSADERS FOR CHRIST

THE VISIT OF THE MAGI



Answer Next Month

Across

- 1 "with exceeding great..." Matt. 2:10
 3 "they saw the ..." Matt. 2:10
 6 Age
 9 City in the northeast of Canaan Num. 34:11
 10 Mohammedan chief
 13 "lying ... a manger" Luke 2:12
 14 and 15 "The Magi were the... .."
 17 Herod ... the wise men to 23 down
 19 They brought ...
 21 "out of thee shall come ... Governor" Matt. 2:6
 22 No good
 23 "demanded of them where Christ should... born" Matt. 2:4
 24 Golf mound
 25 Evergreen tree
 26 "called the altar..." Josh. 22:34
 28 "they departed into their own country another ..." Matt. 2:12
 31 "they forsook their ..., and followed him" Mark 1:18
 32 Simeon took Jesus in his ..., and blessed God

- 34 Jesus was named when he was eight days ...
 35 Beverage
 36 Anger
 37 A gift of the Magi
 39 "Ye ... my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you" John 15:14
 41 They came to ... Jesus
 43 Native mineral
 44 Another gift of the Magi
 46 Destitute of thorns
 50 "there is ... God" Mark 12:32
 51 "they had ... their treasures" Matt. 2:11

Down

- 2 "Bethlehem ... Judea"
 3 "And they ... unto him" Matt. 2:5
 4 "purge away thy dross, and take away all they ..." Isa. 1:25
 5 "hath raised up ... horn of salvation for us" Luke 1:69
 6 "we have seen his star in the ..." Matt. 2:2
 7 Poem
 8 Symbol for nickel

- 10 Herod was ... of Judaea
 11 Servant of Solomon Ezra 2:57
 12 Comes in
 14 "the star, which they saw in the east, ... before them" Matt. 2:9
 16 Small lizard
 18 Race from which Jesus was descended
 19 "be called ... in the kingdom of heaven" Matt. 5:19
 20 Southeast
 23 Place of Christ's birth
 25 "When ... have found him, bring me word again" Matt. 2:8
 27 "being warned of God in a ... that they should not return to Herod" Matt. 2:12
 28 They fell down to ... him
 29 On the lee side
 30 Yard
 33 Mother of Jesus
 37 "... and search diligently" Matt. 2:8
 38 "Do men gather grapes of thorns, ... figs of thistles" Matt. 7:16
 40 "come down ... my child die" John 4:49
 42 Paradise
 45 "..., I am with you always" Matt. 28:20
 47 Northeast
 48 Second note in scale
 49 Maryland

CHURCH NEWS

continued from page 9

Las Vegas, Nev.

We want to thank everyone for their prayers and the cards they have sent. The Lord has undertaken. At first the doctor told us that with an operation to put a rod in my leg, he could have me up in 3 to 4 weeks. But the Lord has performed a healing miracle in my leg and I do not have to have an operation. The 23rd of this month (Nov.) he plans to put a walking cast on my leg. Praise the Lord he still answers prayer.

The Lord has also been continuing to bless in our services. We have been running the high 20's for a couple of months. Remember with us unsaved husbands we would like to see won for Jesus.

Frances Dearing, pastor

The Lord may lead you around, but He'll lead you aright!

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Dear Bro. and Sis. Whiteley:

Hope this finds you and your work being blessed by God. We are well and still finding plenty to keep busy for God. Thanks be unto God for strength and health to keep going with our work.

May God bless the Churches in my prayer.

Christian love,
Rev. Opal Ferry

Dear Bro. and Sis. Whiteley:

I can report victory and a great miracle of deliverance for me. I was sick with a virus of the throat and chest which caused me to begin bleeding from the mouth. I was taken to the hospital but received very little help. Sis. Wytt sent me an anointed cloth. As I prayed and laid it upon my chest, I was healed. Praise His glorious name. With all the intense love and desire of my heart to live an overcoming life, mindful of His child.

I can and have purposed in my heart to live an overcoming life. I can do nothing within myself, it is only through Him who has all power and authority.

Mrs. Clarence Dodd
Oconto, Nebr.

Dear Bro. Howard:

Please extend for us a warm and hearty greeting to all of our friends across the movement.

We have enjoyed our travels through the summer and early fall. We want to take this opportunity to express our thanks to these many fine people who have treated us so kindly as we traveled around.

After work weeks at Bible School, we went to Follett to fill in for Bro. Doc Methvin. On the way we stopped at Oklahoma City and spent a few days with the Edwin Waterbury's. After our two week fill in engagement, we spent some time with the Paul Eccles' of Booker, Texas. While there, we visited the Churches at Perryton and Beaver.

On the weekend of Oct. 9-11, we conducted three days of services at Pampa. The Lord Blessed during these services, God's Spirit was close during this time, and there were some good altar services.

From Pampa we traveled to Arnett to help in a Revival there. There was good singing, praying, testifying and preaching, by Bro. Lowell Long. We had to leave before the Revival finished because of a Revival scheduled for us in Hinton, Alabama. At the time of this writing, we are in the Southland and having a wonderful time in the Lord. One young lady has found Christ as her Saviour, and the altar services have been real good.

Again we would like to remind the pastors and evangelists that we are open for calls to fill in, help in Revivals, or hold Revivals. We would also consider it a privilege to help our Churches or Ministers with any work projects. We can be contacted at: 9th and Zauk, Dumas, Texas 79029, care of L. A. Long.

Yours in Christ,
Carl and Cody Jelsovsky

Teacher's Notebook

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asserts authority. (c) A clown: disrupts the work of the group by horsing around, jokes, mimics, etc. (d) an apple polisher . . . tries to gain favor with the leader of the group or other members, tears himself down or apologizes to gain support. (e) A deserter . . . refuses to participate, sets himself aside from the group, is indifferent, aloof, excessively formal, daydreams, doodles, whispers to others to others, and wanders from the subject.

Remember Your Purpose

Your measurement of the pupil's progress determines whether your purpose for him is being accomplished. That purpose is (1) to recruit the pupil for Christ; leading him to an obedient acceptance of Jesus as the Son of God, and as his personal Savior and Lord. (2) To conserve, or nurture, the converted pupil in Christian growth; or, as Paul puts it, "the perfecting of the saints."

For the first objective if the pupil is a junior or older, answer the following questions: (1) Does

he believe in Christ . . . has he accepted Him? (2) Can he give the proofs of Christ's claim to deity? Can he tell the steps a person must take to obey the Scriptural requirements for becoming a Christian?

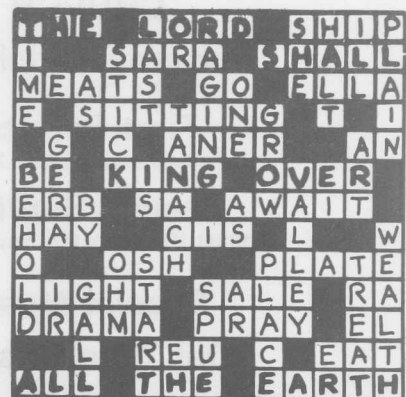
For checking on the Christian growth of the converted pupil answer these: (1) He attends Bible class and the other services of the church regularly. (2) He brings new members to the class and church. (3) He gives regularly and with enthusiasm. (4) He participates in class and church activities generally, finding his chief interest in church work. (5) He observes daily devotions. (6) He is generally admired as a Christian at home, school, work, and play. (7) His personal habits, conservation, and general manner are those of a Christian.

Remember, your purpose is to coach him in his Christian growth. Are we doing our job as teachers fully and with enthusiasm? Or do we dread each Sunday and do just enough to get by? We must answer to God for the responsibility which He has entrusted in our hands.

Four Ways To Help Your Pastor

continued from page 8

Holy Spirit's dealing with us and with the church. Prayer changes things—even pastors and congregations. So let us honor the pastor; encourage him; love him; pray for him. These are good ways to help the pastor.



Answer To Last Month's Puzzle

HOW OTHERS DO IT

ADULT CLASSES

Help the retired people find a useful place in your church and watch the new glow of pride on their faces.

Maybe the retired man could build or repair easels and flannelboards, construct shelves and mend broken toys, chairs and tables.

Often in the nursery and beginner's classes a grandma through some mysterious skill can often quiet that new child who upsets the whole class with his crying.

Retired people can often use their time to visit those absent and those who are shut-ins.

A sewing grandma might be able to make visual -aid puppets for the teachers along with other props desired.

The joy of brightening other lives, bearing others' burdens, easing others' loads and supplanting empty hearts and lives with generous gifts becomes for us the magic of Christmas.

W. C. Jones

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First Service

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Second Service

10:00 P.M. into the New Year

Special Music

Old Time Gospel

Jack Cornell, Pastor

Holy Convocation

PEOPLE'S CHURCH

AND NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY

Hiway 71 South Fayetteville, Arkansas

Common Table begins December 27
at the National Guard Armory

Motel Rooms available close by

Evening Service December 26 at 7:45 o'clock
at People's Church

Remaining Evening Services Dec. 27-31, 7:45 o'clock
at the National Guard Armory

SPECIAL

WATCHNIGHT SERVICE DECEMBER 31

COMMITTEE:

Bro. L. J. Ehrlich, Rt. 8, Whillock Ave., Fayetteville, Ark.
Phone 501 442 7043

Bro. Jim Moris, Rt. 1, Box 30B, Combs, Ark. 73721
Phone 501 643 3491, Elkins, Ark.