

MISSOURI MISSION MESSENGER



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NUMBER 1

THE WORK IN SCOTLAND

Eighteen years ago I became personally acquainted with brethren from West Lothian, in Scotland, who had just come over to Canada. We talked long and earnestly about the church, and I found them to be deeply consecrated with hearts full of a sincere desire to serve God. However they informed me of the battles of the church in their homeland, and asked me to go over and assist in teaching the Word. Circumstances were such that I could not do so then, but I began a correspondence with brethren in England and Scotland, which has been maintained sporadically through the years until 1943, at which time I was placed in correspondence with Albert Winstanley, a young preacher of the gospel. With him I have been in virtually constant touch, and we have written plainly all that was upon our hearts.

It became apparent as we wrote that the churches in the United Kingdom were standing for the same ideals as we, but, still there were several points of minor difference. In our exchange I mentioned our Vacation Bible Study work with children, and also the protracted Bible Studies which are conducted in this country. That called for a long and interested comparison of methods and techniques of teaching. An invitation was given to come and discuss further our work, and I placed this before the elders of the churches in this area.

The brethren at Hartford, Illinois were, perhaps the first to insist that we should attempt a closer work with those brethren. Upon their instigation the proposition was brought up and discussed in meetings of the officers of the churches in and near Saint Louis. It was agreed by all that we should make an attempt to establish closer contact with the churches over there, since our world was becoming smaller due to advanced means of transportation. One can go from New York to London now in one-tenth the time it once took to go from St. Louis to Kansas City. Tomorrow will find us standing on the threshold of a new day in transportation, which will make our brethren in England only a day away from most of us. I was authorized to begin preparations to take to brethren across the waters all that we had learned from a study of the Bible, and to secure from them all I could that would be helpful to us in developing as children of God.

You may be interested in the "red tape" which we had to cut in order to make such

arrangements soon after the war was over. I first contacted a steamship company representative who told me there were no sailings yet, and even if there were I would have to get a priority from the State Department. I went to the State Department, and they told me they were not sure the English Government would approve just now. I went to the British Consul, and was asked by him to make application to His Majesty's Passport Approval Bureau. I did that, and they wrote that they would grant a visa for travel through the United Kingdom. I then went to the Cunard Steamer Lines, and they told me they had a waiting list "a mile long." Not particularly caring to fly and wishing to go at the very minimum of cost I consulted with American Express Company. They called New York and we found that the Queen Elizabeth would be back in service regularly by that time.

We made tentative reservations thereon, and they were confirmed for stateroom D-250, for myself and wife. This is the world's largest ship, 1,031 feet long, 118 feet wide, and 234 feet high. There are 14 decks and we are on the bottom one. After we found it possible to go, we went back to the State Department to file for passports. We learned that we would have to have birth certificates made in certified form. In addition, each would have to have two prints of a picture, 2½ inches square, full-face, with light background. We would have to file three copies of a letter from the local church stating our mission, and send a money order for \$9.00 accompanying application. There were a lot of other little details required. When application was made a witness had to be present to declare our citizenship. We selected Bro. Melvin Burton because of the nature of his work. He appeared with us before the Clerk of the United States Court, and application is now pending for pass-

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THE COLLEGE DEBATE

More than six hundred persons gathered each night in the large auditorium of the St. Louis House, on December 16, 17, 18, 19, to hear the discussion between W. Carl Ketcherside, of St. Louis and Dr. Grover C. Brewer, of Memphis, Tenn. The subject of the entire debate was the Bible College issue. Great interest was manifest throughout and the attention of the large group was as near perfect as one could wish. There were no audience demonstrations, but it appeared that all present were listening carefully, and weighing the matters presented with gravity and sincerity.

Chairman of all proceedings was the Honorable William R. Schneider, a jurist of reputation throughout the nation. He was a candidate for governor of the state of Missouri in 1928, and is author of the Workmen's Compensation Law. As an authority on that subject, he is now retired from active practice to compile and revise statutes dealing with the subject. A world-traveler and raconteur, as well as a lecturer of note, Mr. Schneider lent a distinct dignity to all of the proceedings. His quiet and effective manner of handling affairs contributed greatly to the success of the undertaking.

Dr. Brewer was selected to defend the colleges because of his ability as a debater,

as well as his qualifications to speak authoritatively on the subject. He was contemporary with many of those who established the original colleges in the south, and is at present a member of the faculty at Harding College. His degree, Doctor of Laws, was granted him by the school. Bro. Brewer is a man of distinguished appearance, an orator of note, and a man of culture, as he informed the audience. We are confident that the college supporters could not have selected a more eminent defender of their position.

Bro. Brewer selected as his moderator, W. L. Totty of Indianapolis. E. M. Zerr acted as moderator in behalf of Bro. Ketcherside. There were very few untoward incidents which demanded attention of the moderators, or of the chair, and the discussion was probably about as clean as one could wish for.

A great many ministers of the college persuasion came to St. Louis for the event. Among them were Eugene S. Smith, publisher of Gospel Broadcast; Dr. George S. Benson, President of Harding College; Edward J. Craddock, of Chicago, Illinois; G. A. Dunn, Sr., of Dallas, Texas; E. L. Johnston, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Frank L. Cox, of the Firm Foundation, Austin, Texas; A. B. Bar-

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THE WORLD'S NEED FOR CHRISTIAN HOMES

By ROBERT H. BRUMBACK

Where ever the preacher travels he sees the need for real Christian homes. Individuals who long ago pledged themselves to Christ have lost that earnest zeal and steadfast devotion to the Lord that once characterized their lives. They have forgotten the fundamental truths that are the foundation of a real home. Neglect of God's word in the home and failure to give Christ his proper place in the home life are responsible for the spiritual decline that is apparent in the lives of many who claim to be Christians.

The rush of present day living contributes also to this moral decline, this breakdown of faith and this lack of responsibility which is revealed in the increase of lawlessness and the alarming growth in the number of divorces. National leaders, sociologists and educators are alarmed by these conditions and suggest various remedies, but almost without exception they fail to recognize that the only enduring remedy for these things is the religion of Jesus Christ.

If a home is to endure it must be founded upon the Bible; it must recognize God and give Christ the place to which He is entitled. The blessings of God can not abide upon a home that completely ignores Him and rejects His Son. The home and the family, created by marriage, are ordained of God. God said that it was not good for man to be alone and Paul declares that marriage is honorable in all, but whoremongers and adulterers will God judge. Since God ordains and approves this relationship, it should be lived under His direction. The young man and the young woman who start a home are concerned with making it a comfortable, livable abode. They are interested in supplying it with easy chairs, a nice radio, and such other things as contribute to the well-being of the physical man. These things are not the things that will make that companionship endure. If the husband and the wife in the newly created home do not know of the influence of the Bible and do not seek the guidance of God and the fellowship of Christ, that home has but little chance to endure. A home under the leadership of Christ, though it be only an humble abode of two or three rooms, can be the happiest place this side of heaven. This does not mean that perfect accord will always prevail. A home begins with two distinct personalities, with two lines of thought, with two ways of doing things, with different likes and dislikes. Before these blend into one, differences will arise, opinions will vary and clashes of temperament come.

To have the counsel of the Bible and the blessed privilege of prayer will keep these things from disrupting the home. Our dif-

ficulties will bring us closer to God and will show us that He is our never failing source of help and strength. The guidance of God's word and His promise of strength for each day is sufficient to carry the new husband and the new wife through the difficult period of readjustment. As time goes on and their lives are blessed with children, the young father and mother must recognize that God has charged them with a great responsibility, that of bringing the child up in the nurture and the admonition of the Lord. This is the greatest investment that can be made in the future of the child. Upon the conduct of the father and the mother at this time rests the future of the nation of tomorrow.

If the nation is to endure it must progress along the right moral and spiritual lines. If the children, whom God sends to bless the homes of this nation, are to contribute anything of moral and spiritual value to the nation, they must have the right training. Upon the parents rests the responsibility of giving them the right training. Will you give them a background of Bible teaching? Will you set them the right example by attending church and Bible study every Lord's day?

Children are God's gift to the father and the mother. They must be trained aright in body, mind and morals.

Proverbs 22: 6 "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it!"

Will you, fathers and mothers, begin this training in the home you have established? Will you there begin to study God's word that you may fulfill your duty and obligation to God?

WHAT THEY SAY

From California on the west to Pennsylvania on the east, there came faithful brethren to hear the discussion on the college issue. Scores came from points in between those two states, many of them driving long distances each night to listen to the exposition of the respective positions. Here are a few of the comments for our readers.

E. M. Zerr, New Castle, Ind. "I regard this debate as the most complete defence of the Church of Christ as against the Bible colleges that has occurred in half a century."

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Frazier, Milan, Mo. "Brother Ketcherside made it stand out that he was defending one body — the church, while Dr. Brewer attempted to defend the human Bible Colleges."

Mr. and Mrs. Buell Boyce, Kansas City, Mo. "We think this debate is the best we've heard out of the 12 debates we have been privileged to attend. An orderly discussion like this will accomplish much for the truth. We would like to see one in every town where the division exists."

Glen E. Frazier, Milan, Mo. "To me the debate was very impressive. Bro. Ketcherside proved not only by the Word of God, but also by statements from the writings of the college brethren themselves that Bible Colleges are not according to the divine plan in connection with teaching the Word."

J. Ed. Uland, Bloomington, Ind. "Alexander Campbell said that a debate is worth a year's preaching. I have been impressed by the discussion of this pertinent issue. The sincerity, fluency, and force of each respondent was inspiring. I learned more about both sides of the issue in 8 hours than I had in 15 years in the church. My wife and I enjoyed it a great deal."

Wilbur Storm, Riverside, Calif. "To have had the privilege of attending this debate was well worth the expense incurred and the 3500 mile trip we made."

Edna Shearer, Reedley, Calif. "Bro Ketcherside did a splendid job of defending the truth. The thing that has pleased me most is the freedom from ugly insinuations and merriment. Surely much good will, result from this debate to anyone who is honest of heart, and I feel that many of the opposition are honest. If this debate doesn't open up a large new field for mission work, I'll be surprised."

Tabitha Dickerson, Kansas City, Mo. "Facts and figures presented by two very able speakers at this debate, have made me understand more clearly how unscriptural man-made institutions really are."

C. H. Powell, Martinsville, Ind. "It was a wonderful opportunity to hear the college issue discussed by two talented men, and after hearing the arguments from both sides I am stronger in my conviction than ever before, that the One Body is complete within itself."

F. R. Bailey, Chillicothe, Mo. "The mutual interest for truth in most everyone and the high standard of dignity manifest by both debaters impressed me."

Mrs. F. R. Bailey. "The fine spirit showed by our own debater and the cooperation of the church folk made the deepest impression on me."

Reba Owens, Martinsville, Ind. "I admired greatly the gentlemanly conduct of Bro. Ketcherside and his presentation in the debate; and feel very much strengthened by my presence."

Grace Bailey, Chillicothe, Mo. "I was favorably impressed by the gentlemanly conduct of both debaters and the eagerness of the audience to hear that which was presented."

Winford Lee, Ethel, Mo. "The gentlemanly conduct manifested in general was a fine thing. Without reservation, I say that the logic used by Bro. Ketcherside was the best I have ever heard."

THE WORK IN SCOTLAND

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ports. We anticipate no serious trouble along that line.

It was thought best for Nell to go along since she handles so much of my detailed work, and is so familiar with it. She will take care of a great deal of the correspondence. Both of us know this will be a hard trip. We are not going on a pleasure cruise. I expect, God willing, to spend as many hours out of each 24 as possible talking with the brethren and teaching the Word. I know they will be able to teach me many things. They are well-informed in the Scriptures, and ardent in their service. I want to get all from them that is possible. It is planned that we shall leave New York on February 20, and disembark at Southampton on February 25. After that our time is in the hands of the brethren over there to do with as they desire. I expect to attend one of their conferences (same as our mass meetings) and also to visit as many churches as we can during the little more than two months we shall be there. When we come home, I shall give a full account of all visits and contacts in the Missouri Mission Messenger in the months that lie ahead.

It may be appropriate to announce that since we began this plan, the college churches sent Otis Gatewood and one of the deacons from Lubbock, Texas to survey Germany for future mission work. They stopped off in England and spoke for the brethren there, who subjected them to some close questioning as to their stand on Bible Colleges, Mutual Edification, Professional Ministers, etc. Our brethren in England do not fully understand the differences on these issues, but stand much as we do on them. Immediately after these two were in England, George Benson, President of Harding College went over and visited the churches. I do not know what kind of impression they have left concerning me, or our work.

It is estimated that there are about 15,000 members in England, over 30,000 in Australia, and about 5,000 in New Zealand. The brethren maintain several missions in Africa, many of which are taught by natives who have been shown the way of the Lord. Because of an involvement with the "Co-operation" the situation is confused, but more and more of the churches are freeing themselves from any entanglement and

rejoicing in their freedom and congregational autonomy.

It requires a great deal of preparatory work to make such a trip. The youngsters who are in High School will be cared for by their grandparents, Bro. J. W. Watts, and Sister Watts. It is expected that they will take over here at home during our absence. This will work a great hardship upon them inasmuch as "Dad" is an elder of the church at Flat River, and also the mayor of the city. Thus, he has responsibilities at his own home. He has always been willing to take on additional responsibilities if by so doing he can aid the church.

Hershel Ottwell will take over the radio program, now in its fourth year on WTMV. We will publish a February edition of the Missouri Mission Messenger, four times as large as this, and that will take care of the paper until the June issue in which we hope, by God's grace to begin the report of our work. It has been decided by the brethren here that we should receive no finance at all over there, but that all expenses be borne by interested congregations over here. They have also decided to make this a matter for consideration by the various congregations which wish to have part in the fellowship of the work.

We are also asking those who care to do so, to give us a letter signed by the officers of the local church, extending good wishes and prayers to the brethren over the ocean. Those letters will be left with them, and will give them addresses of faithful churches, and names of faithful brethren. I will attempt to contact anyone for any of you, when possible. If some of the girls in the brotherhood who have married our soldier lads, will give me the names of relatives, I will visit them when I can. We need your prayers that we may remain humble and fervently serve our master.

THE COLLEGE DEBATE

(Continued from page 1)

rett, president of Florida Christian College; Dean Sears of Harding College; and a number of others.

Both groups held day meetings; the faithful brethren at the Manchester Avenue Church, and the opposition at the Overland church. Many of the preaching brethren, young and old, who are opposed to other institutions to do the work of the church, assembled with the Manchester church daily and gave talks of a helpful and edifying nature. The meetings were inspiring and constructive, with the fellowship being more closely knit than ever in the face of the opposition by those who would seek to overthrow the autonomy of the church, and set up rival institutions thereto.

The debate will be printed in book form by both Eugene S. Smith, of the Gospel Broadcast, and W. Carl Ketcherside, of the

Missouri Mission Messenger. Orders may be placed in advance, and books will be mailed immediately upon their completion. No money should be sent now, as the cost of the book is not known exactly. The maximum will be \$2 per copy. The speeches were recorded on a Sound-Scriber, and will be presented as delivered. The faithful brethren also made regular transcriptions of the discussion in full, so that future generations may have the opportunity of hearing it, just as though they had been in the auditorium.

It is not within our province to describe the full reaction to the debate, or to rehearse it here. The book will give you full coverage of all the speeches. Dr. Brewer took the position that the schools were church adjuncts and represented the church at work. He said he had personally made pleas for their support from the church treasury, and had urged that they be put on the regular budgets of the church. It was revealed privately by several of the college preachers present that there is a lot of division in their own ranks as to the part the schools should play. We predict it is a good thing to have these speeches recorded. Order your book from us today!

REAL BARGAINS

The price of "New Testament Questions" by E. M. Zerr; and "Lessons from Yesterday" by W. G. Roberts, has been reduced. Either of the books may now be obtained for a one dollar bill. Think of it! At that price you can now purchase them in quantities to distribute among your friends. Please order directly from the above brethren. Send your order for "New Testament Questions" to E. M. Zerr, 1914 South 14th St., New Castle, Indiana; and for "Lessons from Yesterday" to W. G. Roberts, Hammond, Illinois. Get busy and order these books now. The supply is limited!

NEXT MONTH

The February issue of the Missouri Mission Messenger will be 16 pages. There will be no further publication until June 1, when we shall start giving you an account of the trip to England, Scotland and Ireland. This will be done in diary form, so that you can travel right with us by word picture. Your next issue will cover four months of the regular size paper.

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THIS and THAT from HERE and THERE

ANOTHER DISCUSSION

Because of a statement made by W. Carl Ketcherside in the course of his remarks during the discussion, Grover C. Brewer felt called upon to publicly issue an invitation to discuss the same propositions at the winter lectureship at Freed-Hardeman College, the debate to be conducted in the college auditorium. This was publicly accepted by Bro. Ketcherside, who also made a tentative acceptance of an invitation issued by Dean Sears, to hold a discussion on the topic at a future date in the auditorium at Harding College, Searcy, Arkansas. The latter will have to be arranged after the return from abroad. A further invitation was issued to discuss the propositions in Indianapolis, and a proposal will be made to Dr. Brewer to do this on a reciprocal basis, that a like debate be held in Memphis, Tennessee. Further announcement will be given in the pages of the Missouri Mission Messenger at a later date, and, inasmuch as the debate at Freed-Hardeman may occur on January 7, it may be over by the time you receive this paper. If so, report will be made in the February issue.

THE SCRIPTURE STANDARD

This is the name of the paper published monthly by our brethren in England and Scotland. We are sure that it will give you an account of our trip among their churches from their viewpoint, just as the Missouri Mission Messenger will present it from our viewpoint. We are very anxious that as many of our brethren as possible take the Scripture Standard, and keep up on the developments over there. I want to receive those subscriptions and take them with me to present to the brethren upon my arrival. The cost of the paper is only 2 shillings, sixpence, which will amount to about 60 cents at our current rate of exchange. Please send me your subscription with that amount enclosed, and with your name and address carefully printed. We are certain you'll welcome the privilege of thus keeping in contact with these brethren and their work across the ocean.

SAINT LOUIS STUDY

The annual protracted Bible Study got under way at 9 a. m., on Monday, December 30, at the Church of Christ, 7121 Manchester Avenue. The studies will continue daily for six weeks, with Bible Study from 9 a. m. to 2:30 p. m. daily, followed by an hour of development for public work in the church. On Wednesday nights, Bro. Ketcherside will conduct a question forum at the Manchester church; on Thursday nights a speaking program will be featured at the Lillian Avenue

church; and on Friday nights a student participation service will be held at Webster Groves.

Pre-study enrollment showed the following names of those expecting to attend: Indiana: Ed Uland and Bob Duncan, Bloomington; Mrs. M. E. Adamson, Middletown; Mary Bradley, Bloomington; and H. R. Miller, Bridgeport, are attending the first week. Colorado: Lois Carlock, La Junta; Norma Lee Lawton, Denver; Mary Lessy, Deertrail. California: Evelyn Hasty and sister, Oakland. Iowa: George LeMaster, Council Bluffs; Ivan L. Dennis, Mt. Ayr. Illinois: Richard G. Riggins, Charleston; Charles Fleener, Hammond; Richard Kerr, Brookport. Missouri: Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Bailey, Nona Bailey, Gerald Bailey, Chillicothe; Hubert James, Almartha; Billie Stone, Nesho; Clinton Kline, Belle; Dorlene Wilmoft, Gallatin; Meta Whanger, Mexico; Carl R. Foster, Auxvasse.

A service lasting until midnight will be conducted on New Year's Eve. This will be held at Webster Groves church. Hershel Ottwell was scheduled to teach analytical studies of approximately two weeks, while Bro. Ketcherside attended to the debate at Freed-Hardeman college and concluded other arrangements for the trip abroad.

COMPTON BUILDING FUND

With nine Missouri churches and four from other states cooperating, the church at Compton, California, received a total of \$425.40 during December. This makes \$1,841.20 to date, and leaves only \$158.80 to go on the \$2,000 we asked for to help these brethren on their building. If you have not yet sent, help us whittle down the remaining amount by mailing a check at once to Don H. Flick, 512 West Poplar, Compton, Calif. Send it at once so it can be reported in the February issue. Here are the contributions for the month just past:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes entries for Kansas City, Mo. (26 Spruce) \$100.00, Kansas City, Mo. (5906 Kenwood) 50.00, Rockhill, Mo. 50.00, Ozark, Mo. 50.00, Long Beach, Calif. 40.00, Unionville, Mo. 35.00, Webster Groves, Mo. 25.00, Windsor, Ill. 25.00, Kirksville, Mo. 15.40, Brixey, Mo. 10.00, Stull, Kansas 10.00, J. H. Flick, Bogard, Mo. 10.00, David Dibble (Bethel, Conn.) 5.00, Total \$425.40

J. B. Ruth, Compton (California) says his health is improving and sends thanks for

the contributions rolling in. Good interest and attendance in the Compton church. . . . D. N. McDonald, good old soldier of the cross at Spokane (Wash.) tells us his wife has been ill all winter. He says they are meeting in Mascnic Hall, 706 West Garland Ave. . . . E. M. Smith reports good meeting at Secor (Ill.) with a number of non-members at the services. . . . Joe Clay, Kirksville (Mo.), reports churches at Unionville and Martinstown going along nicely. . . . Virgil Atwell, Knob Noster (Mo.), tells us Bill Hensley was with them on December 8. They are on a deal for a building to purchase, and will do all of the financing without asking for aid. That's something for a little group of brethren. . . . Carl Landes, Kansas City (Mo.), reports a Bible reading to be held at 26th and Spruce Street church, by Robert Brumback, in January. Wilford worked in California during December, and will return for 3 months service in Colorado. J. M. Lamb, Iberia (Mo.), reports grand meeting at Mount View with James W. Truitt, with 5 added. One man, who was immersed, was 72 years old. Mount View has recently repaired the building, now have electricity installed. Bro. Truitt will labor with them again in 1947. . . . Doesn't it thrill your soul to read of all the work being done by these faithful brethren? It does mine! Thanks be to God for His great blessings and love. . . . Orders are now being taken for "PROVEN PROVERBS," which is our next radio book, off the press in a couple of weeks. Better send at once for yours. 3 for a dollar. . . . R. O. Webb says the debate at Saint Louis was the best he ever attended. . . . Congratulations to the Western States News for a grand job and a good paper in December. Nice going out there, Ken Morgan. . . . There will be 3 meetings in Saint Louis on Thursday nights for a couple of months. I will teach at a room in Southside Y. M. C. A., while the Manchester elders conduct a Bible study in a home, and the church at Lillian has its regular midweek meeting.

"PROVEN PROVERBS"

All of our readers are urged to send their orders at once for the next book of radio sermons, "PROVEN PROVERBS," which will come from the press very soon. We must have these immediately in order to process them before leaving for England. Please mail your order, accompanied by remittance, if possible. These books will contain 13 sermons applying the wisdom of Solomon to present-day problems. Don't miss getting yours. The cost is 35c per copy; 3 for a dollar. Congregations desirous of ordering the books in quantity please mail orders as soon as possible. Thank you!