December 29, 1965

Ye Have Not Passed This Way

(See page 6)
A CLOCK is a useful instrument to measure the hours of a day. And a calendar marks off the days of the year. But time in its perpetual passing cannot be compared to either. The clock moves in a circle but time marches on. The calendar puts time in pigeonholes. But time in its swift passage is not made up of separated segments. Life moves from the past through the present and on into eternity. Life is not an unrelated parcel that can be measured in days and years. It flows on in a never-ending stream.

In the corridor of time the doors can be opened only to the future. There is no way back. None can live the past again. That which is in the record cannot be erased. The best we can hope for is that God will forgive the wrong and heal the wounds.

The sundial is useful only on the days of sunshine. An hourglass is a more appropriate measure of time. It is a reminder that time is running out.

These thoughts make us solemn as the old year ends. We know that while we cannot go back to live it again we do carry it with us into 1966. The year past has exercised a powerful influence upon the one now beginning. This new one joins all that have gone before to become blended with eternity.

Some will try by senseless hilarity to drown the voices from the past. They hope to forget the sins, failures, and regrets of the past year. But wherever we go, whatever we do, we must live with a recording of the past. Its din in our ears is the voice of memory, conscience, and the Spirit of God in our souls. These are voices from eternity. If we listen and learn we may make some reparations and improve the new year. We cannot undo the wrong nor do that left undone. But we receive mercy from the Lord of time and eternity, and by grace through faith we can more nearly approximate His perfect will in this new year and all which succeed it.

As the stream of time flows on, let us thank God that His mercy endureth forever.
The Road Ahead

By DENNIS WYRICK

Every man must have a world fit to live in, a self fit to live with, and a faith fit to live by. We help to build these by our own personal contribution.

ROADS ARE INTERESTING. There are winding country lanes; long, twisting, macadamized highways twisting like black serpents through the hills; and beautiful freeways and superhighways stretching across the country.

There are some equally interesting and just as demanding highways ahead of each of us in 1966. To travel them, there are necessities. Here are some of them:

A Firm Faith

Faith is the opposite of fear. Faith will destroy fear, and fear will destroy faith. Faith is belief in the power of truth, the same power that controls the universe. Faith is the basis of all miracles and mysteries which cannot be analyzed by the rules of science.

Faith is the only antidote for failure. Faith is the only agency through which the cosmic force of God’s infinite power can be made available to man. Our faith is undergirded by the promises of God: “For with God nothing shall be impossible” (Luke 1:37); and again, “All things are possible to him that believeth” (Mark 9:23).

A Patient Perseverance

There are no hopeless situations. Men only grow hopeless concerning them. Let us be sure that the position we take is fair and right, then stick to it.

John L. Sullivan said, “The man who fights one more round is never defeated.” Cut off your retreat, for when it is either sink or swim, you’ll swim. Say to yourself, I can do this and more, if need be.

Persistence is very near to immortality. “He that endureth to the end shall be saved” (Matthew 10:22). If a task or problem looks big, chop it in little pieces and go to work on it. When a situation looks hopeless on the surface, look below the surface.

Sheer determination pays off. No one could break the four-minute mile for decades. Roger Bannister did it in 1954. It has been done at least eighteen times since.

Don’t taste of the Christian life. Bite into it, masticate it, enjoy it, be one of Paul’s meat eaters, carry on to the finish. Be sure you’re wrong before you quit.

An Obstinate Obedience

The prophet said to the king, “To obey is better than sacrifice” (I Samuel 15:22). We must prac-
We must practice obedience to the laws of health. You can’t cheat on the laws of health and be healthy. We must practice obedience to the laws of nature. To be reckless here will prove disastrous.

We must practice obedience to the laws of God. We never really break the law of God. We only break ourselves to pieces upon it. Cooperate with the law of God, and be happy.

A Consistent Consecration
It is never easy to give our best, our last full measure of devotion. But it is always necessary if we would know the full measure of success which God would have us to enjoy. “The more we give, the more we get.” This is true in every phase of living. If you would know the best which God has for you, then you must give to Him your best.

The only way to put the world in debt to us to do more than we are paid for. When we do this, we set in motion one sure law of success, “The Law of Just Remuneration.”

As Christians, let us give ourselves to God entirely and enjoy that deeper-life experience of full salvation which will release the currents of spiritual cleansing and the high voltage of spiritual power in our lives.

A Continuing Courage
It takes courage to stand for the right at all times; to say “no” to evil when those about you are saying “yes.” To speak the truth, when with a little shading you can gain advantage for yourself. To refuse to do a thing which you feel is wrong, even if it is customary and is done by others.

Courage is doing the right thing even if we are almost scared to death. We must have the courage of God-given convictions. If our convictions are home-based on the Word of God and Christian experience, they will prove a potent force in our lives. We must have courage to achieve.

A Personal Piety
There is no substitute here. Sir Galahad said, “My strength is as the strength of ten, because my heart is pure.”

Every man must have a world fit to live in, a self fit to live with, and a faith fit to live by. We help to build these by our own personal contribution.

A Deepening Devotion
How much does God love you? There is no way to measure His love. We get the clearest picture of His love for us at Calvary. The old colored mammy at the funeral of Abraham Lincoln raised her little grandson and said, “Take a look, Honey; take a long look at the man who died for you.” In the same way we could say, “Take a fresh look at Calvary.

How much do we love God? May our love for Him be a thing of wonder in 1966 as it deepens and broadens. This love will be reflected in our service through the church, and to a lost world.

Have a pleasant and wonderful and successful journey along Highway 1-9-6-6!
A Christian must live within his budget. Good stewardship paves roads for the furtherance of the gospel, and it also lightens the financial pressures that sometimes completely disrupt a home.

AROUND DECEMBER when Christmas bills roll in and a new budget year approaches, many families begin to take a second look at their finances. If you’re the man of the house, you may have already decided the family paycheck is simply too small, and so you have resigned yourself to another year of financial worries. If so, you probably have overlooked some ways of stretching your income. There may yet be more elastic in your paycheck than you think.

For the Christian, of course, neither money nor material goods should be his aim in life, nor should he underestimate God’s faithfulness. But neither can he take lightly the handling of that money which God has allowed him to have—whether it be much or little.

As a guide, then, for better financial planning and stewardship in 1966, consider these ten points that can help your family stretch that paycheck:

1) Recognize that a good testimony for Christ includes financial responsibility. Even in money matters, “a brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city” (Proverbs 18:19). One of the first appraisals of your character will be based upon how you handle money and how you pay your bills. And where non-Christians are involved, their image of the Christian in general is at stake.

2) Understand your own motives for spending. Ask yourself, Why am I buying this article or spending this sum? Those things which your family needs you must provide (I Timothy 5:8). You must also provide for your physical needs, so you honor the temple of God and keep alert both physically and mentally.

Fleshly motives such as pride and covetousness can be so hidden that we do not always recognize them in our buying habits. This does not mean expenditures for recreation and other enjoyments are not justified (I Timothy 6:17). But how much is this purchase or item in balance with spiritual and financial objectives?

Failure to understand sales gimmicks, sales psychology, and various sales techniques causes many customers to lose sight of their real motives for rushing a purchase. “Small Down Payment and Easy Monthly Terms” or “Protect Your Family’s Health with Lotsapep” are examples of approaches which catch us off guard and appeal to areas where emotion is substituted for reasoning.

3) Learn how to keep good records. These should clearly show:
   a) take-home pay.
   b) definite, planned, fixed obligations.
   c) those items which require savings from more than one pay period, e.g., insurance, clothing, utilities paid every two or three months, etc.
   d) the amount you have left to spend as seems best. This is called budgeting and should include at least the items listed under the “expense” column shown on the chart on the following page.

4) Watch your installment buying. Some installment buying is justifiable. Certain appliances, automobiles (if really needed), homes, and a very few other items, in my judgment, can be justified on “time.” If you do buy on credit, however, good planning plus simple arithmetic can save you much

By JOHN BASS
money and perhaps even regrets—because of certain practices of “easy-credit” companies.

Recently a Christian I know suddenly had to buy a topper. He had put off buying it until the winter weather set in, though he knew several months earlier he was going to need it. Neither had he saved toward the purchase of the coat. Since he had to go somewhere that didn’t require a down payment, the first sign of “No Money Down” was all the psychological stimulus he needed. The quality of the coat did not enter his mind, only how much per month he would pay. The coat was $69.95, but a service charge for opening a new account amounted to $5.00 and carrying charges for twelve months came to $14.00. Because of sickness the man missed three payments, so penalties and extra carrying charges were added. His final outlay on this $69.95 coat was over $100.00.

Even if you have only a small bank balance or small earnings, your banker will sometimes make possible emergency bank loans at just a fraction of the cost of other types of credit—especially if you have met your previous obligations.

Some loan organizations or even stores will lend you money only on the basis of a monthly unpaid balance. The pitfall here is the small appearance of the percent per month they quote. If they say 3½ of 1 percent per month, you are paying 9 percent per year. Few banks, if any, charge more than 7 or 8 percent per year. Note that 1½ percent per month is actually 18 percent per year, or more than twice bank loan rates!

Installment buying is often an inducement to purchase things you don’t really need, or more expensive items than you need, under the false impression that “it’s so easy to make those small payments.” Remember that every dollar you pay for interest is money you must give up from other areas of your budget—perhaps even doing without certain necessities.

5) Learn self-discipline in spending. This can be done only if you set your mind on goals, then think on these goals and their eternal values enough that they become the real motivating forces in your life. It isn’t so easy to rationalize the need for a new car, a better TV, more expensive furniture, or all the other normal temptations if our minds are fixed on a workable, long-range plan to use these dollars in the best possible way.

One young woman entering full-time Christian service knew she could not afford to keep up her new car payments on the lower salary she was going to receive. She also realized there were other costs of owning the car. Insurance came to $145.00 a year, license $10.50, gas and oil $225.00, city tax $15.00, and these did not allow for depreciation or repairs! With a monthly payment of $55.00 she estimated it would cost her at least $80.00 a month to keep this car. Looking at her goals—a life to serve the Lord in every way, regardless of cost—she found it easy to substitute city transportation and save at least $50.00 or $60.00 a month.

Reappraise your goals before making decisions which affect your economy.

6) Learn how to recognize good buys. Buying cheaper items, however, is often a false saving. Also, off-brand merchandise becomes a poor purchase when repairs are necessary or the guarantees are not adequate.

Watch for seasonal sales. Once you become a “seasoned” buyer, you can save sizable sums of money. Stores do not like to carry merchandise over from year to year, and often they will lower prices on the very items you need and have been saving for.

Keep in mind, too, that stores with easy credit rules frequently must charge higher prices than stores doing a primarily cash business. If you buy from places that allow heavy credit sales, the people who don’t pay their bills cost you money. Someone must make up the loss of the merchandise these people buy and don’t pay for.

The best rule of thumb in wise buying might be summarized in this way:

(1) Buy from a reputable merchant.
(2) Shop and compare prices, especially on groceries. Sometimes a few blocks’ walk will save substantial amounts week after week.
(3) Watch for legitimate sales.

7) Learn to save. This does not mean you cannot at the same time be generous in your giving, or that you should “hoard.” But every family should normally try to build up at least an emergency reserve. It is costly to have to borrow for an unforeseen thousand-dollar hospital bill, and it may take months or even years to pay it back. If you have that thousand dollars in reserve, you not only save accumulated interest charges, but you also earn around forty dollars interest each year that thousand dollars is in your reserve!

8) Look at your finances in God’s perspective. In the materialistic age in which we live, items which yesterday were luxuries easily become today’s necessities. Attractive four-color advertising shouts from every direction that “this item will make your life more full” or another item will make your life more comfortable. In such an atmosphere the Christian continually needs to remind himself that “life consists not in the abundance of the things which he possesses” (Luke 12:15).

9) Set a goal of at least 10 percent for the Lord’s work. There is nothing that will bring more long-lasting satisfaction than “spending” on the harvest of souls.

10) Recognize that your paycheck can be stretched for those organizations you feel led to support. The Lord wants you to use that 10 or 15 percent you give in the best way you can. “He that is slothful in business is a brother to him that is a great waster” (Proverbs 18:9). Pray about the distribution of your funds for the Lord’s work. He will give wisdom in distributing them.

There is probably a lot more elastic in that paycheck than you had ever dreamed! Good stewardship pave roads for the furtherance of the gospel, and it also lightens the financial pressures that sometimes completely disrupt a home.

THE GNARLED CHERRY tree hovering near our kitchen window seems to speak to me. It is bare, shivering in the darkness. But only now when the winter winds and rains have beaten away its leafy clothing do we see what it really is. And only when the hard blows of life strike bitterly do we see what a person is truly like.

I'm thinking about a little woman who knows she has cancer in the last stages. She is not old. We would say, "It is not time yet for her to go." When someone asks her how she feels, she replies, "I'm doing fine." Never does she complain of her suffering. She knows, and by example, is teaching others what acceptance means. She wears the robe of life casually, knowing that any day she may be required to toss it aside. Because this bitter blow of cancer has struck her, I've seen the real woman—a woman well rooted, strong and sturdy in the Christian faith. Yes, the cherry tree and winter remind me of her.

Winter's icy rains and slush and snow remind me that we must slacken pace. We can concentrate more now on home and family—make up for those summer and fall months when we worked so hard there was little time for popping corn, making candy, playing Scrabble, or putting puzzles together. It's time now to help Junior with that model airplane, or Sissy with the doll clothes. And why not rest a little and refuel for spring?

As Anne Morrow Lindbergh said in *Gift from the Sea,* it's a fine time to "relearn to be alone." It is only when we're alone that we find the true essence of ourselves, that we are able to tap certain resources and solve our most nagging problems.

BUT THE CUTTING BRISKNESS in the air, the drifting, gypsy snowflakes, tell me something else. Soon it will be our son's tenth birthday. I must plan a party. I can visualize the children coming—six or eight boys and two or three girls, with jangling packages under their arms. The children are dressed in bulky woolen clothes, fleecy-lined hats, and bright scarves. And they're wearing wet, rubber boots. The snow is blowing against their faces like cold cobwebs. Their noses, bitten by the angry wind, look like red cherries and their eyes are watery, but they're gay and full of merry laughter.

As the old year slips away, we should let our grievances go with it. We should forget all the disagreeables of life, the slander we have heard, our neighbors' faults and peculiarities, the faultfinding, and all the things that hurt us.

And let us remember the love of God, the value of time, the worth of character, the influence of example, the virtue of patience, and the powers of kindness, for . . .

WINTER REMINDS ME that we are one year nearer eternity. And as Carlyle said, "One life; a little gleam of time; no second chance for us forever more."

But winter inspires me to look forward. Spring, that cheery season of young love, apple blossoms, weddings, butterflies, and daffodils, will soon peek around the corner. It seems I can smell the fragrance of its lilacs and roses freshly bathed with a morning shower. Spring will be tripping in on tender, green feet, and with the rebirth of grass and plants and flowers we should have a rebirth of spirit—a reawakening in our souls, a newness of purpose.

Isn't it wonderful that, whatever the season, we may, if we're willing, always have summertime in our hearts—the warm, abiding presence of our Lord!

By DOROTHY S. HAMPTON
MOSES HAD DIED and Joshua had become the leader. Tomorrow he would be entering into the land of Canaan. The yesterdays had been filled with wanderings, chastenings, and defeat, in spite of God's preservation and His hand in bringing the nation through the Red Sea out of the land of bondage.

Tomorrow the people would tread a new and untried path in which God had promised to do wonders among them. Joshua calls upon them to sanctify themselves for the new experiences that await them.

The best assurance for God's wonders tomorrow is today's consecration to His cause. It matters not what tomorrow holds; God's people are prepared for it if they draw nigh to Him.

Like Israel, we are entering upon a new way. There will be new experiences to face, new problems to solve, new trials to endure, new temptations to meet, new sorrows to bear, new opportunities to grasp, new tasks to perform, new blessings to enjoy.

It will be a way of testing. God has never promised His people an easy way. Today must often see tomorrow's waiting duties without seeing how they are to be accomplished. But followers of God need have no fears.

It will be a way of provision. When the priests of Israel stood before the swollen waters of Jordan bearing the ark of the covenant, the waters divided and they went over dry-shod. When God says, "Go," He will make provision for the way.

It is a way of certainty. Even if the new year has uncertainties, it also has certainties. Jesus Christ is its chief Certainty.

The new year has much to offer. With it, dawning hope springs afresh in our hearts. Looking forward, the coming years assume the aspect of a cluster of glowing stars. Deeply reverent should be our attitude toward the old year now fading into memory while we look with radiant hope on the new year now dawning.

While the new year presents an untrodden path, the feet of faith falter not to enter upon it because of the One who goes before us. We walk with assurance, for it furnishes us a fresh beginning. It holds safeguards for us that human hands cannot provide. It offers investments that draw eternal dividends.

Let us face tomorrow with a great certainty, a calm confidence, and with a faith firmly founded in the Word of God.

*Joshua 3:4*
We May Not Know What Tomorrow Holds for Us, but . . .

WHATEVER IT IS
I’M SURE IT’S GOOD!

By ROBERT W. HELFRICH

THE LATE THOMAS KELLY in his book, A Testament of Devotion, has suggested that one of the steps which leads to a life of holy obedience is to live each present moment in utter submission and openness toward God. The implication is that we should keep up a silent prayer vigil in the deeper levels of our lives where we are alone with God—even as we live and move about in the world around us.

The silent prayer which offers ourselves in continuous obedience could possibly be, “Open Thou my life. Guide my thoughts where I dare not let them go. But Thou darrest. Thy will be done.” Or perhaps this prayer of continuous submission could be just a seemingly simple, “Be Thou my will. Be Thou my will.”

It must have been just such a prayer and just such a life of continual unreserved submission that prompted the footsteps of Jesus as He deliberately followed the Father’s plan from Bethlehem to Calvary. His prayer, “Not my will, but thine,” suggests that He believed, Whatever tomorrow holds, I’m sure it’s good! And when He triumphantly emerged from the garden sepulchre Easter morning, He knew that His feelings had been justified.

THE APOSTLE PAUL’S “I-Thou” encounter on the road to Damascus was the beginning of a series of events that would eventually lead him to a dark, damp dungeon cell in Rome. His words, “What will thou have me to do?” suggest his willingness to follow God’s divine decisions.

And it was while the now aged apostle awaited execution that he penned the words to a young protégé: “I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing” (II Timothy 4:7-8). Paul willingly lived a life of utter submission to the will of God which said to the unbelieving pagan world of his day, I don’t know what tomorrow holds for me. But whatever it is, I’m sure it’s good!

Perhaps, even now, you are passing through a deeply trying experience which seems to have put you out of touch with God. Perhaps tomorrow represents the source of your fears. Then you may draw comfort from the words of Song Writer Lister, “Keep me safe ’til the storm passes by.”

THAT LIFE WHICH lives each moment in utter submission and openness toward God will be able to continue to praise God as He “dwells” with Him “’til the storm passes by.” For while I do not know what tomorrow may hold for me, whatever it is, I’m sure it’s good!

Even the most pious Christian is not spared the walk through dark, stormy valleys, but God has given certain promises to the submitted soul which will see him through the storm.

First, it is the Lord who personally leads us through the storm and comforts us with such words as “Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom” (Luke 12:32).

Then, it is the Lord who promises us that we shall not be alone for a moment. “Lo, I am with you alway” (Matthew 28:20).

AND FINALLY, it is the Lord who personally leads us out of the storm into the dawn of a perfect day and we are better, and stronger, and wiser because of the experience. “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose” (Romans 8:28).

Isn’t it wonderful! You and I may not know what tomorrow may hold for us. But whatever it is, we can be sure it’s good!
The Stuff of Life

Time is the stuff of which life is made. It is the raw material from which we fashion the mansions or the shacks in which we shall live eternally. And none of us know how much of it we have left with which to work.

One of the strange facts of experience is that, the longer we live, the faster seem to pass the days and the hours. When one is ten years old, a year is 10 percent of his life, and seems like an eternity. When one is twenty years old, a year is only 5 percent of his life—and seems to pass twice as fast. And when one is fifty, a year is reduced to 2 percent of his life, and seems gone almost before he can turn around.

Someone wrote the whimsical lines that illustrate how quickly the years pass, the families grow and go, and we come to the end of the line:

My newborn infant tumbles from my arms
And trudges off to school;
A youth walks home with her; their child
Brings me a shawl and stool.

One thing this certainly means—that whatever else we waste, we dare not waste time. One may squander a fortune, and regain it. One may lose his health, and find it again. One may miss a promotion, and get another. But no one ever regained a wasted hour, or found again a day that was lost.

NO BETTER SECRET for the living of our lives was ever given than by the Psalmist when he said, “This is the clay which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it” (Psalms 118:21). We cannot live in the past, nor yet in the future. It is in seeing each day as a fresh thought from the mind that we find strength and perspective for the task.

Yesterday is no longer ours. What we put into it lives with us. Only God’s forgiveness can erase any portion of the shadow there may have been in it. Only God’s grace can brighten any potential good it may have known.

Tomorrow is only a hope, so far as life on this earth is concerned. Tomorrow, they say, is the day when the lazy work. It is also the day when the unspiritual pray. But we must not boast ourselves of it, for it may never come.

This is why God’s word is always “now.” The devil’s word is either “yesterday” or more often “tomorrow.” It is the Lord who says, “Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation” (II Corinthians 6:2).

There are truth and challenge in the lines:

Today is ours—let’s live it.
And love is strong—let’s give it.
A song can help—let’s sing it.
And peace is dear—let’s bring it.

The past is gone—don’t rue it.
Our work is here—let’s do it.
The world is wrong—let’s right it.
If evil comes—let’s fight it.

The road is rough—let’s clear it.
The future vast—don’t fear it.
Is faith asleep?—let’s wake it.
Today is free—let’s take it.

(The Way of Holiness; author unknown)

Evangelism in the Church of the Nazarene

The Herald of Holiness this week carries the names and addresses and slates for January of all commissioned evangelists in the Church of the Nazarene who request such service through the Visual Art Department of the Nazarene Publishing House. This is in continuation of a practice of many years. The last Wednesday of each month the Herald will list slates for the month following.

Next week, as a special insert sponsored jointly by the Department of Evangelism and Visual Art, a complete Directory of all commissioned and registered evangelists and song evangelists in the church will be presented. It is hoped that pastors and interested laymen will detach and retain the Directory for future reference. Present plans are to print the Directory each year.

In harmony with actions taken by the General Assembly in Portland a year ago last June, the distinction between “commissioned” and “registered” evangelists will be observed. The monthly Herald listing will be slates only, and will distinguish between commissioned and registered evangelists.

One of the most frequently questioned features of the Herald of Holiness is the space devoted to evangelists’ slates. Since the monthly listing will not henceforth serve as a directory, the amount of space used will be reduced.

The editor has defended the practice of printing
evangelistic slates on three grounds. First, it does offer a modest service to our evangelists, practically the "forgotten men" and women of the church.

Second, the Herald listings do serve as prayer reminders for laymen who have taken upon their hearts the work of those evangelists with whom they are acquainted. Some of our evangelists invite prayer partners to follow and work with them through the slates in the Herald.

Third, for whatever it is worth, the two or three pages listing revivals being held in local churches across the nation is at least a mute testimony to the fact the Church of the Nazarene is vitally interested in maintaining spiritual vitality and winning the lost through revival campaigns. These lists witness to an evangelistic passion we must never lose.

STRANGELY, "EVANGELISM" has come to be rather a popular word. That is, it is widely used today. It turns up in some unexpected places. The only thing, "evangelism" is now being used in very strange ways.

Last month, the Associated Press reported on a meeting of the Methodist council of evangelism in Miami Beach, Florida. According to the newspaper report, the council was told that "seeking to save an individual soul is not evangelism and is not even Christian for these times."

The speaker was Dr. E. Edmund Perry, professor of history and religion at Northwestern University. Dr. Perry is reported as saying that old-time revivals were proper "for other times." But he told the three hundred church leaders gathered for the national conference, "It is not Christian for today. I abhor the notion of individual salvation."

Dr. Perry stated, with a little more sense than is reflected in the other quotations cited, that Christianity "must assume its place as one among other religions in the market place of religious affairs. It cannot claim a privileged position, immune to criticism, analysis and comparison."

With all due allowance to journalistic emphasis, these are startling statements in the context of a "council of evangelism." No more complete contrast could be imagined than with the clear and unambiguous note which will be sounded next month in the Conference on Evangelism of the Church of the Nazarene in Kansas City's Music Hall.

"Evangelism" is now being defined as "serving men," not "saving" them. Let it be admitted that there is great need for service in today's world. But how can you better serve one who is lost than by first "saving" him?

Christianity, properly so-called, has never been anywhere other than in the marketplace. It has never claimed—or at least has never had—immunity to criticism, analysis, and comparison. But its function in the marketplace is to point to "the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."

Let us remember that God's Church is a living temple, growing, rescuing, saving, ennobling men; because in it, as the source of its power, as the fountain of its salvation and love is the Lord Jesus Christ, a living, personal Presence. The Church is not a society of men with a certain belief and forms and ritual, but the Divine Person moving in the hearts of men. And men are built into it by the Divine touch.—Selected.

The Bible Lessons

Comments on the International Bible Lessons in the Herald of Holiness during 1965 have been prepared by Rev. Brian L. Farmer, pastor of the Church of the Nazarene in Bristol, England. Readers have enjoyed Mr. Farmer's interesting and fresh approach.

Throughout 1966, a somewhat different format will be used. Dr. Ralph Earle, professor of New Testament at Nazarene Theological Seminary, has agreed to provide a series of studies of key words in the Bible lesson each week—going behind the English translation to the deeper meanings of the original terms.

Dr. Earle is well known in evangelical circles as an outstanding scholar and writer. We believe that not only those who depend on the Herald for the lesson exposition each week, but active Sunday school teachers and lovers of the Word, will find much help in this new venture.

The column will appear on page 19 with the "Answer Corner."
Per Capita Giving Reaches $168 . . .

Giving, Enrollment, Training Among Church’s Biggest Gains

By ELDEN RAWLINGS
Managing Editor

Increases in individual giving and Sunday school enrollment, plus a new interest in training, were signs of healthy, and in some cases vigorous, church growth during 1965, according to year-end statistics released this week by General Secretary B. Edgar Johnson.

Following an established pattern, church membership continued to increase. However, the percent of growth was not quite as large as it has been in recent years.

Individual contributions by Nazarenes reached an average of $168.33. This is a record amount, as is the increase of $8.05 over the 1964 average. The growth in giving during 1961 was $1.83 over 1960, but this figure has been growing steadily since. Again, Nazarenes should head the list of denominations of 100,000 members or more, in individual giving. Per capita contributions on ten districts were more than $200.00.

Nazarene Sunday schools, due to the “March to a Million” enrollment emphasis, took another fair-sized step toward the goal of a million by 1968. Enrollment, not including world missionary fields, now stands at 776,992, a percentage increase of 6.35 over 1964. Three districts showed an enrollment increase of more than 20 percent (Southwest Oklahoma, Hawaii, and Gulf Central); another twelve increased by at least 10 percent, and seventeen by at least 7 percent, according to Church Schools Secretary Kenneth Rice. World enrollment was 899,532.

While the domestic increase of 46,000 enrollees is not staggering, it takes on increased significance when compared in a multi-denominational framework having an enrollment trend which, if anything, bends downward. Three of four major denominations have shown a slight decrease for the last two years, and the other—one of the fastest growing—only a .005 percent increase. The trend also holds true among smaller denominations.

“An awareness of and a need for a training program,” according to Christian Service Training Director Bennett Dudney, was largely responsible for the huge 53.15 percent increase in C.S.T. credits being issued during 1965. This does not include another 13,000 credits awarded in institutes and through home study courses, bringing to more than 100,000 the total credits awarded. “Even more significant is the 826 growth in the number of churches participating in C.S.T.,” Dudney said.

Denominational membership, not including world missionary fields, now stands at 355,824, an increase of 6,554, or 1.88 percent growth. The rate of growth has hovered around 2 percent for the past six (Continued on page 14)
### The Church at Work

#### General Statistics for 1965

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<td>1,171</td>
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| **CHURCH MEMBERS** | | |
| United States | 343,380 | |
| British Commonwealth | 11,185 | 1,259 |
| **Total (Domestic)** | 355,824 | 6.554 |
| Net Gain (1.88 Percent) | 68,694 | |
| World Mission Fields (Full and Probationary) | 2,128 | |

| **MINISTERS** | | |
| Ordained Ministers | 6,487 | |
| Licensed Ministers | 1,804 | |
| Missionaries (Under Department of World Missions) | 518 | |

| **CHURCH PROPERTY** | | |
| Value of Church Property (Local) | $240,895,606 | |
| Value of Parsonages (Local) | 46,970,188 | |
| **Total (Local)** | $287,865,794 | 2,154,087 |
| Value of Parsonages (District) | 6,716,708 | |
| Value of District Centers | 2,307,717 | |
| **Total (District)** | $11,178,512 | 1,850,000 |
| Value of Headquarters Property | 1,662,728 | |
| Value of Nazarene Publishing House | 2,123,050 | |
| **Total (General)** | $3,512,728 | 15,090,000 |
| Value of Educational Institutions | 23,490,284 | |
| Value of Property on World Mission Fields | 6,716,708 | |
| **Grand Total (All Property)** | $338,750,217 | 17,027 |

| **LOCAL INTERESTS** | | |
| Junior Members | 358,025 | 435,380 |
| Active Members | 3,994 | 6,501,188 |
| Cradle Roll Members | 40,104 | 6,716,708 |
| Home Department Members | 18,587 | |
| Branch Schools | 5,224 | |
| **Total (Domestic)** | $776,992 | 355,824 |
| Increase | 46,381 | |
| Average Weekly Attendance (Including Branch) | 435,318 | |
| Increase | 2,414 | |
| Number on World Mission Fields | 2,745 | |
| **Total** | 776,992 | 46,381 |

| **COMMITTEE MEMBERS** | | |
| NAZARENE YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY | 2,353 | |
| Membership (Inc. Off. & Teach.) | 826 | |
| Membership on World Mission Fields | 47,654 | |
| **Total (Domestic)** | 4,887 | 47,654 |
| Increase | 190 | |
| Number of Churches | 292,745 | |
| Number on World Mission Fields | 2,128 | |
| **Total** | 292,745 | 2,128 |

| **CHRISTIAN SERVICE TRAINING** | | |
| Increase | 14,046 | |
| Number on World Mission Fields | 1,999 | |
| **Total** | 1,999 | 1,953 |
| Increase | 19 | |
| Increase | 1,999 | |
| Net Gain (1.88 Percent) | 10 | |
| Increase | 2,414 | |
| Number on World Mission Fields | 70,873,945 | |
| **Total** | 70,873,945 | 70,873,945 |

| **CHURCH FINANCES** | | |
| Paid Local Interests | $48,389,553 | |
| Increase | $2,982,517 | |
| Paid District Interests | 4,742,553 | |
| Increase | 358,025 | |
| Paid General Interests | 6,763,100 | |
| Increase | 538,218 | |
| **Total Paid All Purposes** | $59,895,206 | |
| Increase | 8,05 | |
| **ANALYSIS OF GRAND TOTAL** | | |
| Paid by the Church | $50,736,626 | |
| Paid by the Church School | 3,798,731 | |
| Paid by the N.Y.P.S. | 609,732 | |
| Paid by the N.W.M.S. | 4,340,144 | |
| Paid Supplemental | 409,973 | |

**Paid by the Church**

| **PER CAPITA GIVING** | | |
| Local Interests | $135,99 | |
| District Interests | 13,33 | |
| General Interests | 19,01 | |
| **All Purposes** | 9.05 | 168,33 |
| Net Gain | 89 | |

| **SUNDAY SCHOOL** | | |
| Number of Sunday Schools | 4,695 | |
| Increase | 3 | |
| Number of Branch Sunday Schools | 97 | |
| Increase | 2 | |

| **NAZARENE WORLD MISSIONARY SOCIETY** | | |
| Number of Societies | 4,048 | |
| Increase | 10 | |

| **NAZARENE YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY** | | |
| Number of Societies | 826 | |
| Increase | 78,600 | |
| Number of Branches | 867,600 | |
| Increase | 30,401 | |

| **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** | | |
| Number of V.B.S.'s | 2,947 | |
| Increase | 190 | |

| **CHRISTIAN SERVICE TRAINING** | | |
| Increase | 2,414 | |
| Number on World Mission Fields | 1,999 | |
| **Total** | 1,999 | 1,999 |

| **CHRISTIAN SERVICE TRAINING** | | |
| Increase | 14,046 | |
| Number on World Mission Fields | 1,999 | |
| **Total** | 1,999 | 1,999 |

| **NAZARENE WORLD MISSIONARY SOCIETY** | | |
| Number of Societies | 4,567 | |
| Increase | 36 | |

| **NAZARENE WORLD MISSIONARY SOCIETY** | | |
| Increase | 14,046 | |
| Number on World Mission Fields | 249,511 | |
| Increase | 10 | |
| Number on World Mission Fields | 889 | |
| Membership on World Mission Fields | 23,962 | |
| **Total** | 10 | 889 |

*Canal Zone, Middle European, Samoa, Bermuda, and South Africa.*

B. EDGAR JOHNSON
General Secretary

DECEMBER 29, 1965 • (941) 13
Church Gains...

years, but this is the first time for it to dip below that mark. Nazarenes on world missionary fields totalled 68,694, which brought the total membership figure to 424,518. There were more than 240,000 pupils enrolled in vacation Bible schools, 7.95 percent more than in 1964. "Improved materials and better communication between district and local directors are two reasons for the increase," V.B.S. Curriculum Director Mary Latham said. In addition to the 14,000-pupil increase among domestic churches, world missionary vacation Bible schools enjoyed a 13.25 percent increase in enrollment.

The church raised for all purposes $59.6 million during the 1965 assembly year, a gain of $4.1 million. To be a 10 percent church for world evangelism Nazarenes would have contributed about $5.4 million in General Budget and approved special offerings. They did more than that: $6.7 million. The 10 percent goal was made easier to hit when the 1964 General Assembly voted to deduct the amount paid on General Budget and approved specials from the total raised for all purposes before the 10 percent is figured. Now, while the ball is the same size, we are shooting at a bigger basket.

Nazarene World Missionary Society members increased in number nearly 6 percent to 249,511. Out of the 4,567 societies reporting, 2,916 achieved a "star" rating. There were 27 district societies given "star" ratings.

. . . OF LOCAL INTEREST

Dr. Russell V. DeLong, Tampa, Florida, Nazarene evangelist and educator, has reentered the field of union evangelism. His more recent crusades have been in Cleveland, Ohio; Lansing, Michigan; Ironton, Ohio; New Bedford-Fall River, Massachusetts; and Blythe, California. Dr. DeLong has had a total of seventy-eight city union crusades.

Twenty-two persons found spiritual victory in a recent revival meeting at the Canaan Hill Church near Lawson, Missouri, according to Pastor M. L. Brown. The Glenn Ide, Jr., Evangelistic Party were the special workers.

Forty persons sought spiritual help and seven new members were welcomed into membership at the New Martinsville, West Virginia, church during a revival with Evangelist Garnald D. Dennis and Music Directors Darrell and Betty Dennis. Rev. Ray E. Whitteman is pastor.

The Arlington (Virginia) Calvary Church recently experienced a "heart-stirring revival meeting with Rev. L. H. Roebuck," according to Marion Schenke, reporter. "Many times the altar was lined with seekers." Mrs. Schenke said. Rev. Samuel R. Brown has recently succeeded Rev. Curtis Withrow, who was pastor for nine and one-half years.

Rev. Edward H. Timmer has resigned from the pastorate of the American Indian Mission in Tucson, Arizona, to become pastor of the Canon City (Colorado) Lincoln Park Church. Rev. and Mrs. Curtis Shook, formerly of the Watonga, Oklahoma, Indian mission, are now at the Tucson mission.

Rev. T. J. Farlow, Robertsdale, Alabama, pastor, was elected president of

JANUARY

Hymn of the Month

We've a Story to Tell to the Nations

Count Gnaws H. Ernest Nichol.

1. We've a story to tell to the nations That shall turn their hearts to the right.
2. We've a song to be sung to the nations That shall lift their hearts to the Lord.
3. We've a message to give to the nations That the Lord who reigns hath sent us His Son to save us.
4. We've a lesson to show to the nations Who the path of sorrow and the spear shall never-more break through.

A story of truth and mercy. A song that shall come true. A message that all the world's great men have taught. A lesson that shall never-more break through their hearts to the right.

to the right. A song that shall come true. A message that all the world's great men have taught. A lesson that shall never-more break through their hearts to the right.

5. That shall turn the story of peace and light. And show us God is love. Might come to the truth of God.

For the darkness shall turn to dawning. And the dawning to noon-day bright.

And Christ's great kingdom shall come to earth. The Kingdom of love and light.

WE'VE A STORY TO TELL TO THE NATIONS . . . missionary hymn, with strong emphasis on Christ's coming kingdom on earth, is from the pen of the Oxford-educated English musician H. Ernest Nichol, 1862-1928. The lyric, like many that he authored, was attributed to his pseudonym, "Colin Sterne." Appearing first in 1896, this challenging number has stirred evangelical Christians throughout the world. The tune, which is an adaptation, was prepared by Nichol especially for this song.

—Floyd W. Hawkins, Music Editor
DECEMBER 29, 1965

DEATHS

REV. PAUL POTTS, forty-one, died October 5, in Franklin, Tennessee, from a brain tumor. He had been ill many months. Rev. E. W. McDowell and Rev. Paul Petrick officiated at the funeral service. He is survived by his wife; two sons, Russell and Ray; and two daughters, Sandra and Faye.

MARTHA ANN AVANTER, ninety-one, died October 11 in Bethany, Oklahoma. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Roy Bickford and Rev. Bobby Ferguson. He is survived by his wife, Ethel; three sons: Homer, Jr., Donald, and Dennis; seven daughters: Mrs. Rose Ellen Storman, Mrs. Lois Thaxter, Mrs. Eunice Fechner, Mrs. Alice Jorgerin, Grace Cloud, Mrs. Hope Smith, and Mrs. Sharon Grillith; two brothers; and four sisters.

HOMER FAY CLOUD, sixty-seven, died November 8 following a heart attack he suffered the failure of his heart. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Roy Bickford and Rev. Bobby Ferguson. He is survived by his wife, Ethel; three sons: Homer, Jr., Donald, and Dennis; seven daughters: Mrs. Rose Ellen Storman, Mrs. Lois Thaxter, Mrs. Eunice Fechner, Mrs. Alice Jorgerin, Grace Cloud, Mrs. Hope Smith, and Mrs. Sharon Grillith; two brothers; and four sisters.

REV. ANDREW ROGERS, seventy-four, died November 15 in Bristow, Oklahoma, following a brief illness. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Hurley Hill and Rev. C. H. Carroll. He is survived by his wife, Ethel; three sons: Earl, Leon, and John; one daughter, Mrs. Gerri Foster; three brothers; and fourteen grandchildren.

ANDREW YOUNG, Sr., eighty-six, died November 25, in Tucson, Arizona. Funeral services were conducted by Dr. M. L. Mann, Arizona District superintendent, assisted by General Superintendent Samuel Young and Rev. James Young, nephew of the deceased. Rev. L. D. Smith, and Rev. A. J. Tosti. Survivors include three sons, Rev. Andrew, Robert, and Hugh; one daughter, Mrs. Helen Shorer; ten grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

MRS. DOROTHY LINDEMAN, fifty-seven, died November 12 in Canton, Ohio, following a long illness. Funeral services were conducted in First Church there. Survivors include her husband, Rev. C. W. Lindemann; a daughter, Mrs. Mary Bickett; a son, Richard; and three grandchildren.

ARTHUR A. MEEDS, sixty-two, died November 14 in Bethany, Oklahoma. His funeral service was conducted by Rev. August Ed. Heubner; and one son, William.

MRS. EMMA PARKINSON, eighty-four, died November 15 in Bristow, Oklahoma, following a brief illness. Services were conducted by Rev. L. D. Smith, and Rev. A. J. Tosti. Survivors include three sons, Rev. Andrew, Robert, and Russell; and two daughters, Sandra and Donna.

Deaths

BAILEY, Clarence and Thelma. Song Evangelists, 137 V. W. Arch St., Portland, Or.

Benson, John M. 601 E. 5th St., Bedford, Ind.

Battin, Balfour, 3015 47th St., Lubbock, Tex. 79413

Bolton, Orchard, 3rd, Jan. 2-9; Wilkinsburg, Jan. 20-23; Wilkinsburg, Jan. 31-Feb. 6

Benner Evangelistic Party, James U. 800 E. 13th St., Tulsa, Okla.

Benjamin, Floyd H. Evangelist and Musician, 466 South Franks Ave., Elko, Nev.

Bertolets, The Musical (Fred and Grace), 1349 Parklakem Ave., Reading, Pa.: Eureka, Ill., Jan. 2-9; Charles­ ville, Ind., Jan. 10-16; Vincennes, Ind., Jan. 21-30

Beshin, R. J., Jr., 4459 Warren St., Bridgeport, Mich.

Bishop, Joe, 1515 S. Jensen, El Reno, Okla.

Blythe, Ellis G. c/o NPH*: Orlando, Fla. (1st), Jan. 1-9

Brown, G. B. Willison, 78 E. Frances Ave., Columbus, Ohio

Browning, Joe. 1515 S. Jensen, El Reno, Okla.

Budde, Robert F. c/o NPH*: Hermosa Beach, Calif.

Burnam, Russell, 129 Tibet Rd., Columbus, Ohio

Burnam, Russell, 129 Tibet Rd., Columbus, Ohio

Clay, Gene. 176 Olivet St., Bourbonnais, Ill.


Clift, Norvie O., c/o NPH*: Sanger, Calif.

Clift, Normie O. c/o NPH*: Sanger, Calif.

Cooper, Joe. 1515 S. Jensen, El Reno, Okla.

Cox, Gene. 1515 S. Jensen, El Reno, Okla.

Cox, Darrel and Ann. Box 1007, Ashland, Ky.

Crist, John E. 1324 47th St., Lubbock, Tex.

Cuff, Karen. 1420 Ogden Ave., Danville, Ill.

Custer, H. A. and Helen, Evangelist, Singers, Musi­cians, c/o NPH*: Chicago, Ill.

Darrin, Shawn, on November 22.

Davies, Frank. 4105 N. Wheeler, Bethany, Okla.

DeLong, G. B. 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, Mo.

DeLong, G. B. 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, Mo.

DeLong, G. B. 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, Mo.


Dill, J. W. 1324 47th St., Lubbock, Tex.

Dodson, Gene. 104 Waddell St., Findlay, Ohio

Donovan, Mrs. Alice, 4121 Dayton St., Sacramento, Calif.

Douglas, Demon, 1324 47th St., Lubbock, Tex.

Dowdle, John. 4105 N. Wheeler, Bethany, Okla.

Duckworth, J. W. 1324 47th St., Lubbock, Tex.

Dukin, J. W. 1324 47th St., Lubbock, Tex.

Ducot, Clyde C. 6121 Dayton St., Sacramento, Calif.

Duggan, J. W. 1324 47th St., Lubbock, Tex.

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Son of Missionaries Cited for Excellence

Dennis Schmelzcnbach, teen-age son of Rev. and Mrs. Elmer Schmelzenbach, missionaries in Africa, has been named to two honors—one conferred by teachers, the other by students—in his high school of about two thousand students in Nelspruit, Eastern Transvaal.

Dennis was elected a "prefect" by the faculty, a position determined by scholastic and leadership qualities, and has as its purpose to help maintain school disciplines. The second laurel was voted by the student body. He is serving as president of the high school student government. Not only a top scholar, Dennis has gained recognition through athletics.

During the last two years he has won first prize for original oratory on the subjects: "The Bible, Fact or Fantasy" and "Conservation of Wild Game." He plans to become a missionary minister, and will enroll in one of the U.S. Nazarene colleges upon completion of his high school work.

Missionary children, according to Dr. Howard Hamlin, medical missionary in Africa, "have been a distinct asset to us, and are as fine a group of youngsters as I have seen anywhere."

Carl Henry Speaks to Seminarians, Editors

Dr. Carl F. H. Henry, editor of Christianity Today and a leading evangelical theologian, lectured on "The Names of God" at Nazarene Theological Seminary, December 7 and 8.

In addition to four chapel lectures, Dr. Henry met the editorial staffs of Nazarene publications in an informal luncheon sponsored by the Nazarene Publishing House. At another luncheon after the concluding lecture, the Washington editor led a valuable discussion period.

In his opening lecture Dr. Henry commented that "the death-of-God theologians now summoning modern man to the funeral of Deity are really signing their own death certificates," since if there is no God there are no theologians.

Offering Total Above Last Year's Receipts

Although the number of remittances is behind by 80, the Thanksgiving Offering moved slightly ahead of last year's total after the fourteenth day of receipts. The offering totalled $926,222.36, compared to $910,321.86 at the same time last year. To this date there were 5,245 remittances, compared to 5,386 for the same period last year.

The number of remittances represents more than the number of churches reporting, since many congregations send in their contributions in various stages of the offering.

Theologian Under Fire For God-Is-Dead Views

ATLANTA (EP) — Pressure was building here for the dismissal of an exponent of the "God is dead" theology from the faculty of Emory University, a Methodist institution.

Under attack from an influential retired Methodist bishop, and prospective benefactors of the university—was Dr. Thomas J. J. Altizer, proponent of a theological view that finds little hospitality in this fundamentalist part of the country.

The thirty-eight-year-old associate professor was thrust into national prominence when Time, the national news magazine, identified him as one of the exponents of the "God is dead" movement, a theological position earnestly advocated by a number of younger theologians in recent months.

Upholds Jury Oath Law

BALTIMORE (FP) — A Maryland court of appeals decision that prospective jury members need not swear a belief in God does not affect the traditional oath required of witnesses in court. The state Attorney General declared here.

Thomas B. Finan said that witnesses who are believers must still swear to tell the truth "in the presence of God," and that atheists and other nonbelievers need only "affirm" to give the truth. This usual practice, he said, will continue.

. . . Of People and Places

Dr. Donald Young, associate professor of English at Pasadena College, has been named academic dean at Eastern Nazarene College. However, it may be more than a year before he assumes his new duties. Dr. Young has applied for a one-year internship in academic administration, and if accepted will not begin at E.N.C. until the fall of 1967. Dr. Harvey J. S. Blaney is the acting dean, taking the place of Dr. Donald Starr, who resigned recently.

According to Servicemen's Secretary Paul Skiles there are sixty Nazarenes serving in Vietnam with the U.S. Army, and another estimated fifty to sixty serving in other branches of the service who are involved in the war.

Mrs. Jack Bierce, wife of Song Evangelist Jack Bierce, underwent emergency surgery December 3 in Monticello, Indiana. Her husband requested prayer for her "complete recovery."

More than a dozen chaplains are expected to attend the Nazarene Chaplains' Conference, January 14, the day following the close of the Conference on Evangelism in Kansas City, according to Servicemen's Secretary Paul Skiles.

Mrs. Kate D. Floyd, eighty-seven, mother of Mrs. Mary Stevens, died December 9 in Pasadena, California. Mrs. Stevens, who about two years ago suffered the loss of her husband, Dr. Roy Stevens, who was then Kansas City District superintendent, is on the general N.W.M.S. staff in Kansas City.

Four Nazarene chaplains recently received the rank of commander according to an announcement by the Department of the Navy. They are Reginald A. Berry, San Diego, California; LeRoy A. Bevan, Cambridge, Massachusetts; W. W. Huffman, Fallon, Nevada; and Henry W. Stroman, who is aboard the U.S.S. "Constellation" on duty off the southeast Asian coast. Two army chaplains will retire soon. They are Everett D. Penrod, Sarton Air Force Base, California; and James E. Morris, Fort Ord, California.

Recent changes on the Chicago Central District involved three pastors: Rev. Simon Smith has moved to the Atascadero, California, church. Rev. Smith had been pastor at Danville, Illinois, for twenty-five years. Rev. Samuel Smith, formerly at Chicago Emerald Avenue, is the new pastor at Danville. Rev. Fred MacMillan, formerly at Mundelein, Illinois, has accepted the Emerald Avenue Church, and will begin his ministry there January 22.

Rev. A. O. Hendricks Dies

Rev. A. O. Hendricks, eighty-five, pioneer pastor, educator, and missionary, died December 11 in Los Angeles. Dr. D. Shelby Corlett officiated at the funeral held December 14 in Pasadena First Church. Survivors include his wife, Mamie, of the home, one daughter, and three sons.
An invitation to Sunday school or church is fine, but we really want to know how to invite people to Jesus. If you can tell us how to have a lay institute of personal evangelism in our area, please do so. We are eager to start.

Good. A desire to start is the first important step.

I would suggest that several nearby churches go together and contact Dr. Edward Lawlor, Department of Evangelism, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, Missouri 64131, for suggestions about available workers in the area of personal evangelism.

However, I call special attention to the denomination-wide study during February and March, 1966, of the C.S.T. Unit 162.3a, "Personal Evangelism," using a new C.S.T. text entitled Meet My Saviour. This is a class you can have in your own church.

The new text has been developed by C.S.T. Director Bennett Dudnev, assisted in the early stages by an outstanding panel of laymen and ministers, in cooperation with the Department of Evangelism.

The course involves six or more sessions with the sub-topics: "Introducing Jesus;" "Empowered by the Holy Spirit;" "Person to Person;" "A Soul Winning Plan;" "Other Guidelines;" and "Now, Let's Try."

Almost all our local churches will be having these classes in February and March during the Sunday school hour, at six or sixty-three Sunday evening, or in place of the Bible study during the midweek service. If for any reason your church does not, you can take the study by correspondence through the Christian Service Training Office, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, Missouri 64131.

Do you believe that the waters of the Flood of Noah's time covered the whole earth as we know it now? For example, was Mount Everest covered?

I think that the waters covered that part of the known world at that time.

Since the purpose of the Flood was a judgment upon a race hopelessly wicked (Genesis 6:7, 11-13, 17), I would take it to be sufficient that it covered the entire inhabited earth. In fact, the word "earth" is sometimes used in the Bible with the same meaning as "man-kind" (Genesis 11:1; Psalms 96:1). However, there is little doubt but that some tremendous geological phenomena were used by God to bring about the Flood. "All the fountains of the great deep" were "broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened" (Genesis 7:11). In fact, the earth still shows many signs of tremendous cataclysmic forces in the past, some of which may be included in the very brief Bible account of what happened.

Would you please explain John 3:5 to me? When it speaks of the water, is this referring to the act of baptism?

There is a sharp difference of opinion at this point. The verse in question reads: "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

It is possible that Jesus meant the water of baptism, administered as a sign of the birth of the Spirit. I am sure there is no trace of "baptismal regeneration" here, which would attribute some sort of efficacy to the water itself.

On the other hand, it is more likely from the parallel verse which follows, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit," as well as the question in verse 4 which Jesus was answering, that the water stands for the natural birth which results in a creature of flesh, in contrast with the birth of the Spirit, the second birth.

It has been claimed that Jesus went to the synagogue school as a boy. Yet John 7:15 says, "And the Jews marvelled, saying, How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?"

There is no necessary contradiction.

The "learning" in question is seen in John 7:16 to be what Jesus taught about His Heavenly Father. Such truth could be included in the very brief Bible account of what happened.

Some tremendous geological phenomena were used by God to bring about the Flood. "All the fountains of the great deep" were "broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened" (Genesis 7:11). In fact, the earth still shows many signs of tremendous cataclysmic forces in the past, some of which may be included in the very brief Bible account of what happened.
Learn how YOU can be an effective soul winner

Participate in
the denomination-wide study
during February and March of

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The official Christian Service Training text for Unit 162.3a, "Personal Evangelism." Special attention is given to the urgency of witnessing and the most effective methods for soul winning.

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