The Christian
COURIER

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JULY, 1970

FAR WEST CAMP MEETING

Just a few words to let every one know how much they missed by not attending the 1970 session of the camp meeting at Boonville, California.

SUCCESS

The meeting was successful from every standpoint of view. From the attendance standpoint, it began slow, but built up gradually during the week. Attendance at services was excellent.

We were blessed with some very good lessons throughout the week by the following brethren. Brethren: Bill McCay, of Yakima, Wash., Dean Guyer, of Modesto, Calif., J D Logan, of Modesto, Calif., Bill Robison, of Monterey Park, Calif., Bro Brockman, Sr of Cottonwood, Calif., Ron Berry, of Yakima, Wash., Bill Jr, Mike, and Howard McCay of Yakima, Wash.

In addition to the good lessons, we enjoyed the excellent fellowship of many good brethren and sisters, some of which we had not seen for some time, and some whom we had never had the priviledge of meeting before.

There were two additions to the Lord's Church while the meeting was in progress. We welcome the new ones into the fold.

Some have wondered why we should go to all the trouble to arrange for a meeting of this sort. We feel that this form of meeting affords an opportunity unique among meetings in that each member is able to meet others of like precious faith, and spend a small amount of time in close everyday fellowship with them. In an age such as we live in, when there is so much tension in the world and in the church, much can be gained by meeting with brethren closely for a week of good fellowship. We learn much from each other, and profit from what we learn.

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Just think, brethren, how much difficulty in the Church could have been avoided if we had had more of this type meeting. If brethren had attended more meetings of this type, and done less long-distance gossipping, had fellowship with other brethren and discussed the issues of the day with them, how many troubles and difficulties we could have been spared in the past ten years.

Unfortunately, some have felt constrained to criticize the effort, but NEVER SEEM TO COME UP WITH A BETTER SOLUTION to the pressing need of the church today; the need of communication among the brethren. A statement was made at the close of the meeting by one of the brethren from Southern California which I believe to be worthy of the consideration of all the brotherhood. "We're not such bad fellows" was what he said. He was entirely right, but HOW WOULD ANYONE POSSIBLY KNOW THIS unless he had attended and enjoyed the fellowship which we were permitted to enjoy?

Finally, and I believe more important than all other considerations, we have the benefits for our young people. We need to provide the proper invironment for our children. What better means can we provide than the companionship of other Christian children?

Sometimes I am made to wonder at the actions of some of our brethren. They will ignore, or worse yet, criticize an effort of this sort, while all the time their children are keeping company with those of the world, and more often than not, never become members of the Lord's body. In addition, most end up marrying out of the Lord, and a great deal of them end up leaving the Church.

The question is, WHAT DO YOU WANT YOUR CHILDREN TO BECOME IN LIFE? Why not give them the opportunity that others give their children? We sincerely believe this to be one good way of providing the right atmosphere for good Christian growth.

For 1971, our tentative plans are to have the meeting one week later in June. We feel this will afford opportunity for more to attend.

We wish to thank all who attended for their cooperation. There were those from Washington, Oregon, and California. We want to invite you back in 1971, and extend an invitation to all who could not attend this year, to come and be with us next year.

Yours in Christ,
J D Logan.

THE FOUNDATION

(The following is the conclusion of the article begun in the June issue of the Courier. We regret the lack of space, but feel this is a good effort and recommend it to all.)

Matt 7: 26, "And every one that heareth these sayings of mine and doeth them not shall be likened unto a foolish man which built his house upon the sand; and the rains descended and the floods came and the winds blew and beat upon that house and it fell and great was the fall of it.

Earnestly contending for the faith once delivered unto the saints. (Jude 3) I understand this to mean the same today it did in the beginning when, according to ancient history, men and women suffered death and even rejoiced in the fact they were able to contend for their faith in Christ until death, and thereby convinced many of their enemies to accept Christ. (Fox's Book of Myrters)

Your Brother in Christ and fellowlaborer in his cause.

Hayse Morris,
128 So Oklahoma St.,
Stilwell, Okla.

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BROKEN BOW, OKLAHOMA

Brethren:

I am late again with the news but I have been sick and didn't feel like writing, but here at last.

The Church here is about as usual, except Sister Watson is in the hospital now. Sister Clements is in the hospital again. They can't seem to do much for her but they keep trying.

The wife and I will leave Saturday for Barron to begin their meeting and hope for good results. Also, we want to announce our meeting here at Broken Bow to begin July fifth to go through one week with Bro James Brown of Barron doing the preaching. All that can, come, be with us here. We welcome all visitors to our services.

There is a lot of activity going on around here now. Industry going in, also new lakes with lots of recreation: boating , fishing, hunting. So come be with us.

We wish all good luck in the camp meetings this yr. We ask the prayers of the Churches for us .

Yours, in Christ, Lloyd Treat

BELLFLOWER, CALIFORNIA

We here at Bellflower Congregation are all well and the Church activities are progressing as usual.

Bro Isaac Ferguson spoke for us June 7. He meets with the Pomona, Cal. Congregation. In turn, Bro Claude Perigen spoke for them the same Lord's Day.

We have had visitors from La Habra also this month. Bro Marion Serrano and his family, also Bro Roy Snodderly and Bro L C England. We always enjoy and appreciate visitors. We also had Sister Minnie Willingham from Pomona Congregation.

Bro and Sis Olen Taylor and Sister, Minnie, along with Bill Taylor and wife, Debra, visited Grants Pass Congregation recently.

Brother Don Dabbs and family were at Somerton, Ariz this past week end. We understand he was to speak there June 12-13-14.

Bro and Sis George meadows and Sis Kellogg are on vacations in Colorado and Yellowstone Natl Park with daughter Bea Barnes and Grandson, Rex.

Bro Jerry Perigen is preparing to leave this Sat. He is going first to Crane, Mo to visit with his grandmother, then for a week's meeting at Furnish Canyon, Colo. We all pray for much good to be done everywhere and that they have a safe return from their journeys.

The Claude Perigens,
Bellflower, Congregation

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SAN PABLO, CALIFORNIA

Brethren:

The Church here, at San Pablo, is doing fine, as usual.

We were blessed with several visitors this last month. Brother and Sister Guyer and daughter from Modesto, (Bro Guyer brought us a wonderful lesson), Bro and Sis J D Logan and Son, Lloyd from Modesto, Bro and Sis Don Foundation, Bro F H Logan and Sister Conder, Bro and Sis McKinney from Yakima, Wash., and Bro and Sis Dallas Mickey from New Mexico.

Bro and Sis McCluskey were here the next Lord's day. He brought a wonderful lesson. Also, Bro Gene McKinney. We were happy to have them all and welcome them back; all are welcome. The Church at San Pablo, California.

A STATEMENT OF POLICY

It has come to our attention in recent months by sincere brethren who are concerned that certain articles have appeared in recent issues of the Courier which were directed toward certain brethren in particular, and/or with personal greviances to air.

In retrospect, we see that this could have been the case (although it is not necessarily obvious at first sight), so, we feel it advisable to set forth again our steadfast policy concerning articles for publication.

It is the policy of the staff of the Courier to promote close communication between brethren of the Church of Christ. We attempt to do this without partiality in every way possible.

When we receive mail that is obviously intended to criticize or vilify any of the brethren, we will NOT publish it.

However, please bear in mind, that it is not always possible to detect hidden meanings and subtilities. So, sometimes they will get past us despite our most diligent efforts.

It is certainly not the right of the Courier to dictate policy for any individual congregation: we do not claim such. It is our desire to work closely with all the brethren, respecting their liberty of conscience and action within the restrictions of the Holy Scriptures.

We also wish to be realists. We want to work with all brethren who practice the public worship as directed by God's Word. We realize that there will be differences of opinions on many matters. It is not our policy to take sides in such opinions, but to give all opportunity to express themselves.

But one thing we will not do is to print articles, no matter how sincere appearing, that refer to the faithful brethren as "sinners","digressive", etc. We do not feel that this reflects the true spirit of Christ, and do not intend to be party to it.

And while we are on the subject, permit us to invade another area to which we have not given notice before. In talking with a brother in Texas some time ago we were astounded and somewhat shocked to hear him say with apparent conviction, "--well, you brethren have control of the paper now and we have no voice---" Frankly, this is beyond our comprehension.

We realize that some time ago there was no little controversy among the loyal brethren on the subject of

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the dispersal of the money collected in the contribution, and the proper means of supporting faithful preachers in their evangelistic work.

We have our own opinions as well as others have theirs. WE DO NOT INTEND TO FORCE-FEED OUR OPINIONS ON OUR BRETHREN, AND LIKEWISE WILL NOT BE A PARTY TO OTHERS DOING SO.

Unfortunately, some feel that there is a division in the Church over this matter. WE DO NOT FEEL THIS WAY. Some, feeling that there is a division, have alienated themselves from the other brethren, and refuse to write and communicate at all. We would welcome the opportunity to print good constructive articles from these brethren, however, we are not going to open old wounds by delving into personalities and personal opinions which can only alienate further.

We would like to at this time make a personal appeal to all those brethren who feel they have no voice to write good constructive articles which can build up and heal the wounds in the church, and send them to us. Then we will all see if they have no voice.

We know that there are in the Church men of superior ability to ourselves. They have, however, been silent thus far, and we are all the poorer for it.

Finally, brethren, the harvest is truly white and the reapers FAR too few. We cannot afford to waste any opportunities. Let us lay aside all the old petty differences and personal enmities and all strive together for the good of the cause of Christ.

Yours for the cause of Christ,
The staff of the Christian Courier.

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HAMBURGERS AT COMMUNION?

The following article was gleaned from a local newspaper recently.

"The use of hamburgers and a soft drink at communion is acceptable if these items have religious significance for the communicant, Methodist Bishop James Thomas of Des Moines, Iowa, said Tuesday.

"It is proper to say that this time-honored sacrament must be interpreted with meaning and vitality in every age," Bishop Thomas said at a session of the first United Methodist Convocation on Worship.

He spoke at one of three experimental Holy Communion services held during the convocation. "We are determined," he said, "not to continue doing the things that have no

meaning in the modern world."

This is a straightforeward declaration of modern progressive denominationalism. This is of course the basic tenent of the denominationalist. Man's needs change, so we must change the worship and doctrine of the Church.

Sad it is to see a "bishop" of one of the largest denominations in America advocating such a far-out travesty of the Gospel. I would like to predict it will never be accepted by the people, but in all probability, it will be. At least by a large number. What next? PIZZA and BURGIE??

The last paragraph really is the heart of all the trouble in all the denominational world today, and, sad to say, in much of the Church of the Lord also.
"We are determined not to continue doing the things that have no meaning in the modern world."

While we must be somewhat shocked by this bit of foolishness, we must not be too over-awed, for we have become accustomed to seeing such actions from these people.

What is sad indeed, is to recognize the same spirit working in the Church of Christ today. THE VERY SAME CONSENSUS OF THOUGHT IS PREVALENT IN THE LORD'S BODY TODAY.
Was it not an attempt to "interpret with meaning and vitality in every age (our own)" that caused some brethren to introduce the plurality of cups in the Communion long ago, and others to accept it. Why, some say indignantly, don't you know we must progress with the times?

Was it not for this reason that brethren introduced the instrumental music, and the Sunday School form of teaching as well as all forms of modernism into the Church.

When brethren talk of making the worship more modern and appealing to the world: when they introduce another man-made innovation into the worship to be a "help" to the Gospel: are they not really saying as this Methodist Bishop says? "We are determined not to continue doing the things that have no meaning in the modern world."

Think it over, my brethren who practice such. It is not too late to change. Give it up and we will all be richer for the loss. What you have now is a poor imitation of denominationalism. By giving it up, you would be settling for nothing more than the "engrafted word which is able to save your souls. J D Logan.
Yours for the one true faith

IT ISN'T THE CHURCH, IT'S YOU

If you want to have the kind of church
Like the kind of church you like,
You needn't slip your clothes in a grip
And start on a long, long hike.

You'll only find what you left behind,
For there's nothing really new.
It's a knock at yourself when you knock your church;
It isn't the church -- it's you.

When everything seems to be going wrong,
And trouble seems everywhere brewing;
When prayer meeting, young people's meeting and all,
Seems simmering slowly-stewing,

Just take a look at yourself and say,
"What's the use of being blue?"
Are you doing your "bit" to make things "hit"
It isn't the church -- it's you.

It's really strange sometimes, don't you know,
That things go as well as they do,
When we think of the little-the very small mite-
We add to the work of the few.

We sit, and stand around, and complain of what's done,
And do very little but fuss.
Are we bearing our share of the burdens to bear?
It isn't the church -- it's us.

So, if you want to have the kind of church
Like the kind of church you like
Put off your guile, and put on your best smile,
And hike, my brother, just hike,

To the work in hand that has to be done,
The work of saving a few.
It isn't the church that is wrong, my boy,
It isn't the church -- it's you.

--Author Unknown

Ed. note: Recently in one of our Southern States I heard the following statement, "In my opinion, we do not have anymore loyal preachers. It's almost impossible to get the services of a faithful preacher anymore."

Well, it shocked me somewhat, to say the least. To this brother and all who feel the same, I respectfully dedicate the above poem. J D L

A TERRIBLE DISEASE, INDEED !

We read much in the Scriptures of leprosy. It seems it was a terrible disease and much dreaded by the people. Naaman was a proud Syrian Nobleman inflicted with this plague, and we see how he finally was willing to do anything, even to the putting away of his fierce pride, to divest himself of its enivitable consequenses.

But it seems we have discovered another disease which, although it is more subtle and hard to diagnose, is much more common than we had supposed and far more detrimental to our spiritual welfare.

We read of this disease recently in a small religious publication, the author of which is, for obvious reasons anonomous. He states that this disease "seems to be sweeping the church. It is called "Cirrhosis of the Giver."

"This disease was discovered in 34 A D by the husband and wife team of Ananias and Sapphira. It is an acute condition which renders the patient's hands immobile when he is called upon to move them in the direction of his billfold or her purse, and from thence to the offering plate. The strange malady is clinically unobservable in such surroundings as the golf club, supermarket, clothing store, or restaurant.

Some try to use a false remedy, pointing out to the patients how income tax deductions can be claimed for giving. The best therapy, and that which leads to a sure and lasting cure, is to get the individual's heart right with God.

This affliction is really a symptom of a more basic need of the soul. There are all too many people whose lives have been lacking God's blessings because they have been unwilling to yield their money to the Lord's work. The Bible tells us that the Lord loveth a cheerful giver, and that it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful."

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KINGS AND PRIESTS UNTO GOD

In Rev 1: 5-6, "Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and the Father; unto Him be glory and dominion forever and forever, Amen."

Now let us turn to Rev 5: 8, "And when he (Christ) had taken the book, the four beasts and the four and

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twenty elders fell down before the lamb. And they sang a new song saying, thou art worthy to take the book and to open the seals thereof, for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood, out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; and hast made us unto our God, kings and priests: and we shall reign with him on the earth.

Under the Old Testament, the High Priest had certain duties to perform in the sacrifices and offerings, especially the yearly sacrifice, made for his own sins and the sins of the people, as we read in Heb 9: 7. "But into the second (the most holy place) went the High Priest once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins of the people. Verse 8, "The Holy Ghost thus signifying that the way into the holiest of all- (The New Testament) was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing."

CHRIST OUR HIGH PRIEST--Heb 9: 11

But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and a more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say not of this building." Verse 24, "For Christ is not entered in the Holy Place made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us."

Verse 12, "But by his own blood he entered in once into the Holy Place, having obtained eternal redemption for us." Verse 28, "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many." Verse 25, "Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the High Priest entered into the Holy Place every year with the blood of others."

Heb 10: 19, "Having therefore boldness brethren, to enter into the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the vail, that is to say his flesh:" Verse 22, "Let us draw near with a true heart, in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water." Verse 23, "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without waivering."

HAVE WE BEEN MADE COMMON PRIESTS ?

As we noticed from Rev 1: 5-6, being addressed to the seven churches in Asia, he washed and cleansed us from our sins in his own blood. Acts 20: 28, he purchased the church with his own blood--Rom 5: 9, justified by his blood- Heb 13: 12, sanctified the people with his own blood."

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Also this reference in Rev 1: 5-6 tells us that we have been made kings and priests unto God. Then we read in Rev 20: 6, Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection; on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years."

Now let us turn to 1 Peter 2: 5, "Ye also as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." Now, what are these spiritual sacrifices we are to offer ? Turn to Rom 12: 1, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may proove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect will of God."
Col 3: 5, "Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleaness, inordinate affection, evil concupisence, and covetousness which is idolotry."

1 Peter 2: 11, "Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts that war against the soul." 1 Pet 4: 2, "Forasmuch as then Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin; that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God."
Phil 4: 18, "Paul, referring to the help he had received from the Phillipeans, "--the things which were sent from you, an odour of sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing to God. Heb 13: 16, "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to his name."

By these references we surely are required to make sacrifices. But how many of us sacrifice our pleasures to comply with God's will ? How many of us are strict in meeting with the ones Christ died for, to keep his death in remembrance ?

BROTHER LACKEY HAS WRITTEN A GOOD ARTICLE, FILLED WITH TIMELY EDIFICATION. WE REGRET THE LACK OF SPACE IN THIS ISSUE.

HOWEVER WE WILL CONTINUE HIS ARTICLE IN THE AUGUST ISSUE OF THE COURIER.

THE REASON FOR OUR LACK OF SPACE IS THE IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT APPEARING ON PAGE 12.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CAMP MEETING
(DELTA CAMP MEETING)

DATE: August 2nd to 9th, 1970
PLACE: Church of Christ, Cedaredge, Colo.

The date is getting close for our annual Camp Meeting and get-together in the Rockies.
Combine your vacation with a week of Christian Fellowship, love, plenty of good gospel singing and learning.

Camp grounds will be provided south of the Church, along a beautiful stream, for campers, trailers and tents. Lots of fishing and wading for the children to enjoy.

It is 10 miles to Grand Mesa, largest flat top mountain in the world with over 250 trout lakes for fishing, boating, hiking etc.
Paved roads all the way if you would rather camp in the pines.

We have rooms for you that do not have camping facilities.

THERE WILL BE NO CHARGE THIS YEAR.

Bring plenty of bedding, sleeping bags etc --the nights are cool in the rockies.

LET US KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

CLIP & MAIL BY JULY 15TH, 1970

Date you plan to come:_____
Will you bring a camper?____ trailer?____ tent?_____
Will you need a room?_____ How many in family?_____
Do you plan to stay at church camp grounds?_____

Mail to:
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Bud Wilkerson,
(Evenings)
856-3703
Cedaredge, Colo

We, of the Courier hope you will give this worthy effort your hearty co-operation. We know, from past experience that you will receive abundant blessings from a visit with these brethren. BEND AN EFFORT AND GO.!!