The Christian
COURIER

Post Office Box 1342
Modesto, California 95353

Published Monthly, by Brethren of the Church of Christ

SEPTEMBER, 1973

OUR CHILDREN

When children are away at school parents rarely know what actually happens to the student, unless he should come home and report the day's activities, or the parent somehow speak with the teacher. Often times the parents do not know what trends are being set in the schools their children attend. I would like to share with you some of the observations I have made in the schools of my city during the past six months. Please keep in mind that schools are much the same in all cities and towns throughout the United States, some worse and some better than others, but basically the same. And also keep in mind that it is our Christian young people and children that also attend these public schools.

I have observed a great deal of disrespect among young people. This, I am sure, comes from the home. No attempt is made in the home to correct a disrespectful child. Consequently, when the child goes to school, he carries that same disrespect with him. He is defiant of authority, and is continually tempting any kind of authority to correct him. In most cases, there is nothing that can be done with a disobedient child. In most cases, the parents will defend their delinquent and offer no assistance in correction, or could care less. So this abusive child is allowed to roam around school infecting other children with his disease.

In the schools, good moral conduct is almost non-existant. Foul language is very commonplace in conversation. Immoral insinuations are written on every desk

and lavatory wall throughout school. (The girls are usually worse for this than the boys). Clothing types are left to the discretion of the students. Many girls leave home fully dressed, and appropriately so, arrive at school, go into the lavatory or locker room, and come out dressed with a revealing bathing suit top and a very short skirt, shorts, or cut-off pants, ready for the days' activities at school. Other girls simply come like that from home. Boys are without shirts, shoes, or combed hair. Boys and girls alike come to school armed with at least one pack of cigarettes (pens and pencils are now unknown).

Another tendency of school aged children is apathy, never caring what happens and never taking interest in anything. They simply exist. They don't want to work, they just want to sit and daydream. The worst part is yet to come: When they see somebody doing something wrong they just turn their head. You ask them what happened or who did it, and they don't know. They know who did it but they aren't saying who. They don't want to be involved. They know the action was wrong, but they think it is worse to tell who did it. It is one of the unwritten laws of school children: Don't tell who did it. And then it is the belief of others that anything you do is alright as long as you don't get caught. I asked one of these thinkers, "What if someone shot and killed you, and there was a witness to the incident, but he refused to tell who did it? Would that be alright or would you want the one who killed you to be brought to justice?" He said he wouldn't want the witness to tell; that he would be dead anyway, so it didn't matter. Is this young thinking ??

Now, let me brighten the picture up a little bit. There are still some "good" kids left in school; but they are getting fewer every day. There is so much bad influence in the schools that a good child can easily turn bad. The obedient, moral, and interested child is easily spotted, like a rose among the thorns. You know the child's parents take interest in him and his conduct. In one of my classes I discovered that one girl (who was always well behaved) was in Christ's body (although they met differently than we). I was very pleased and yet not surprised, because naturally, children raised up in the church are respectful, courteous, and upright. Every day I waited for that class because in it was something special.

It is a very frightening thought to realize that even though we may raise our children right and bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, that

they can still be turned under because of the evil influence of the children of the world. These are our future adults. What can we do to help our own children and the children of the world to reject evil ways? This should be a great concern to all parents and prospective parents. Brothers and Sisters, where are your children right now? Do you know they are always in good company? Do you ever question their activities, their reasons for doing things? Do you take interest in their school activities? Do you invite their friends over to your house; talk to them about the bible? Today, our children need all the help they can get !

Brother Dan Ross,
Yakima Congregation.

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Dear Brethren:

I am Brother Farrell Wilson. My family and I live in Antlers, Oklahoma and attend the Church of Christ at Broken Bow, Oklahoma.

As you all know, I had a series of heart attacks since January of this year, and am still confined, mostly inside the house. I haven't been able to attend church services much lately, because of my health and the distance between my house and the church. I understand, however, that there are a few sick in the church, but I pray none of a very serious nature.

I have had a great faith uplift since my illness and would like to share it with you, but first of all, I would like to say thank you to all who have helped us spiritually and financially during our crisis.

At the beginning of my sickness, I was very low in spirit. I was raised in a denomation that taught give 10% of all earnings, but never really knew what went with the 10%, since the treasury always seemed to be broke. They never helped members of the organization during time of trouble or need. Since I sas a fairly new member of the Church of Christ, it never dawned on me that I would be helped. All I could see was starvation for my family, since I, the breadwinner was laid up unable to work.

One day one of the Brothers came to visit me and I was telling him of my situation, or what I thought was my situation. He asked me, "Don't you believe the bible? Haven't you read where God will take care of his people with food, raiment, and shelter?" I said sure I believe the Bible, so he told me to leave everything in God's hands. The Bible is God's words. They

are living words, and never doubt them." So we left everything in God's hands and he has provided for us extra well, and is still providing for us, although I didn't get my Social Security in July as I was supposed to.

Since my confinment I have been able to study more and learn more about the Bible that would otherwise have taken me years to learn. I believe all things work for the good of those that love the Lord. Although I may never get to work again, and I still have times of depression and low spirit, I'll keep trusting God for my well being.

In closing, we would again like to express our love and appreciation to all of you. How thankful we are to be a part of a group of people such as you all are, and to be a member of the Church of Christ.

We continue to need your prayers and we pray that you all keep the faith unto the end.

With Christian Love,
Farrell Wilson.

From the Church of Christ of Broken Bow, Oklahoma.
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Brethren:

As you all know, there hasn't been a Courier for quite some time. The simple reason has been that there hasn't been sufficient materiel to print. We have had a little along, but not enough for an issue. Some have been good to write (not many). Some have sent money (for which we are thankful).

It has occured to me and I thought I would take this opportunity to put it before the brethren. Permit me to take the liberty to ask the question.

Do all of the Brethren want a paper such as the Courier ? Does the Brotherhood feel the effort is worth while ? If the answers to the above are both "yes" perhaps the brotherhood should answer the following: Why do so many brethren do NOTHING to help ?

I'm not trying to sound on the negative side, but brethren I know of brethren who are able (more than we) and simply DO NOT WRITE ANYTHING for publication. No news; no articles; no nothing. I can't help wondering if they live in a total vacuum.

Not too long back I wrote a series of questions

with respect to the subject of the propriety of women writing articles for publication. I wrote this because the subject was raised by some sincere brethren and I wanted the counsel of the whole brotherhood. Imagine my shock when we received exactly three replies to the question.

Brethren, permit me to shame you. I do not do this lightly or without thought, nor do I do this with any thought toward elevating myself in anyone's eyes. I have nothing to gain personally in what I am about to say. However, I CAN ONLY ATTRIBUTE THE LACK OF COOPERATION TO THE FACT THAT THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF OUR BRETHREN DO NOT WANT OR DO NOT ATTACH ANY IMPORTANCE TO A PAPER SUCH AS THE COURIER.

If I am wrong, brethren, reproove me. I stand ready and willing to be corrected. I hope and I pray that I am, indeed, wrong. It is discouraging though to know that since 1960 when we began our efforts, one of our preachers has not written ONE word and many congregations have never written ONE word of news. I personally feel that brethren such as this are very selfish. They are depriving us of their fellowship.

Please respond with the answers to these questions brethren, as it is with these answers that I will decide my future course. After all, brethren, if no--one wants a paper, WE'RE ONLY KIDDING OURSELVES IF WE GO AHEAD WITH IT.

With a great love of the Truth

John D Logan,
3700 Mission Road,
Stockton, California.

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PORT ORCHARD, WASHINGTON

Dear Brethers and Sisters:

I am slow in writing, we had our meeting here from June 24th through the 30th and had some really good lessons brought to us by Brother Earl Howe of Texas. Also Sunday morning the 1st of July. Then listened to my brother, Bill McCay Sunday evening. We had different speakers each evening through that week. Were dissapointed that more of our Brethern didn't show up. It did give us an opportunity to listen to two of our youngest members here in the northwest. Bro. Kelly McCay, youngest son of Bro. Bill McCay and Bro. Wayne Ornendorff, son of Bro. Wes Orendorff. Each brought us a really good lesson.

My brothers, Bill and Howard of Yakima, also Bro. Richard Johnston each brought us good lessons.

There were others here, but not as speakers. My brother-in-law, Ellis Forsman and I had to each take a turn. We would have much rather listened to other brethern, as I expect the few that are here each Sunday would have much rather listened to other speakers.

We really enjoyed the Brothers and Sisters that were here and we hope that the Howe's enjoyed themselves enough they will wish to come back.

During the first week of the meeting, my wife's sister and her family were out from South Carolina.

July the 14th I ran down to Eugene, Oregon where Bro. J.D. Logan was to start a weeks meeting the 15th. I got to listen to Bro. J.D. for five lessons and enjoyed them all, and the opportunity of being with J.D and Fern again. At Eugene I also got to meet the Bro. Jim Bryant family of Klamath Falls, Oregon. I came home Wed. night after services. I had to be here Sunday as Ellis Forsman and family wished to go down for the week-end to see and hear Brother J.D. at Eugene. One of us has to be here each Lord's day.

No more news for now, but I would like to keep the invitation in force, that if any of our Brothers or Sisters can ever be with us, our door is always open.

Yours in Christ,
Brother Robert E. McCay
22A Creek View Drive
Port Orchard, Washington98366

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BROKEN BOW, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren of the Church:

I will write the news again here at Broken Bow. We had a wonderful meeting with Brother Jack Morris. We had good attendance all through the meeting. Had visitors from Delta, Colorado, Bro.& Sis. Ken Baldwin, also Sis. Baldwin's aunt from Modesto, California, Sister Lula Way. Some came from Randlette, Okla. the little church where we went and held a meeting with 4 being baptized in that meeting. We had visitors from Stilwell, Okla. with a lot of good singing. Then Sunday July 1st. Bro. Gene Noey & family was with us from Aztec New Mexico. We sure are thankful for all that came and made the meeting a success.

Brother Allgood and family from Poteau, Okla. was here last Sunday and he brought a good lesson.

We want to express our thanks to all the brethren, also the Churches that have sent help to Brother Farrell Wilson of Antlers, Okla. If there was ever anyone in need he and his family are ones. He would write to the paper and thank all for their help, but is not able as yet, so he wanted me to try to express his feelings to you all for your help. So far we have not been able to get his Socail Security started, but are looking to get it sometime this month. Again Thanks to all. He is young

in the faith and young in years also.So you can imagine how much this help has given him proof of your love for him and for Christ the one who died for all. May the love of God and his blessings be with you all and help you through your love for him. We can't have the space here to write all the names that have sent help, so please except our thanks to all.

In love of our Lord and for his family.
Sincerely,
Lloyd & Sue Treat and
The Wilsons.

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SAN PABLO, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brethren:

The San Pablo congregation is few in number but we are still very thankful to the Heavenly Father that we all have our health. We are especially thankful for Brother and Sister McCluskey, who visit us frequently. They met with us June 24,1973. As always he brought a wonderful message.

Brother and Sister Jack Cooper left in June for a vacation in Arkansas. We miss them when they are gone because Brother Cooper has for many years had the pleasant job of holding the congregation together. I guess we look to Brother Jack for too many things, but he is a most be-Brother, and so is Sister Cooper a beloved Sister.

It grieves us to hear of Brother Stroud's passing. But what better place could we ask for when we leave this world, than at the Lord's House? We are sad, but also rejoice that Brother Stroud was in the Lord when he left this world.

Let us all contend for the faith and always be looking for that great and glorious coming of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, so when it is our time to leave this life,we too will have a home with God that lasts forever.

Written in love of the truth.
Brother Homer Bryant

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GRASS VALLEY,CALIFORNIA

Dear Courier Readers:

Just a few lines to let you know the Indian Springs Congregation, west of Grass Valley is still meeting and growing. Every member meets to study the Bible one night a week, besides our Lord's Day service.

We recently baptized three ernest, studious boys: Mike De Vore, Eric Harper, and Jimmy Ford. This makes us four interested youthful members, who are working at developing their talents for the Lord. Bro. Kevin Harper had obeyed the Gospel earlier. Both Mike and Kevin have prepared and delivered short lessons, to be followed by mature teachers. They both show talent. All the boys lead

songs, and join in the Bible study, which is a round table type, held in a private home of some members.

Any one passing by, is invited to stop, worship and visit with us.

In Christian Love,
The Indian Springs Chruch of Christ,
(for information contact, K.I. Harper, 104 Quiet Way Penn Valley, Smartville, Calif. 95977. Phone:273-6356)
EDITORS NOTE: a personal letter from Sister Harper, the daughter of Bro. McCluskey, Aug.17,1973, states that Brother McCluskey came up, just two weeks after he had a severe heart attack, brought his oxygen , and brought a wonderful lesson on the responsibility of being a "Watchman" for Christ. Afterward all went to Bro.Harpers for dinner singing and Bible discussion. Afterward Bro. McCluskey went home to Sacramento,safely. The Jim Bryant family from Klamath Falls, Oregon and Sister Severe and family from Eugene, Oregon were there for that day also. The last word we have here at the Courier was from Bro. & Sis. Earl Broadway when they stopped by our home here in Stockton, in late Aug. concerning Bro. McCluskey,& at that time, he was still very weak, but improving very slowly. Our prayers are with him and Sister McCluskey that he will soon be well and strong again. Editor.)

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YAKIMA, WASHINGTON

Brethren:

We are happy to report on the success of our recent gospel meeting.

We were sorry that Bro. Harry Dye was unable to hold our meeting as we had anticipated. We have looked forward to listening to Bro. Dye for many years but work commitments prevented him from being with us.

However we are grateful to our Father for such wonderful Christians as Bro.and Sis. Al Way, who on a very short notice made the long journey from Huntington Beach, California to Yakima to be with us in our meeting.Bro. Way is an excellent speaker who has a good knowledge of the Bible and is a pleasure to listen to. He gave us many good sermons and three souls were added to the body of Christ as well as all of us being uplifted. Those being baptized were two fine young people, Linde Howe and Waybe Hinkley and the father of Sis. Alyce Ross, Harry Jacobson-Praise be to God. We would like to thank all those who came and supporte this meeting.

We were also able to attend a portion of the meeting at the Glenwood congregation at Port Orchard, Wash.and really enjoyed hearing Bro. Earl Howe and visiting with him and his family once again. We only regret that there were not more people in attendance at this meeting.These brethern are very zealous and it is a pleasure to visit with them.

It was also a pleasure to be able to attend one service of Bro. J.D.Logans meeting with the Springfield,Ore. congregation. We really enjoy meeting with and visiting our Bros. and Sis. in other congregations. I cannot understand the thinking of those who would pass up the opportunity to attend a gospel meeting and visiting with brethren and being built up by the teaching of Gods Word. I am afraid that this is just a part of the trend that we seem to be experiencing of drifting away from the closeness that the Church once had.

We seem to want to just go our own separate ways and do our own thing as the saying is. Instead of seeing how much we can accomplish for the Lord and how close we can follow his teachings, we don't pay any attention to his word at all.

We are told not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together (Heb 10:25) Where are we when the church meets? We would rather be elsewhere.

We are told to be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers(2Cor. 6:14) Whom do we marry? We are more concerned with what the world calls a good match,(wealth, power, station, good looks) than what the Lord tells us through his word,(a christian character). We are more concerned as parents about getting our children "safely" married off-or out from underfoot, than we are about how they are going to live the rest of their natural lives and consequently too often, "how will they spend eternity?"

We are told to do good, especially to them of the household of faith(Gal.6:10) With whom do we associate-we would rathe not be bothered with the problems of our brethren.

We are told to first seek after the things of God and we will be provided for(Luke 12:31) To what do we devote the greatest amount of time and energy in this life? Each person has to answer for himself. Our goals and aspirations can easily be seen by those around us, by the way that we live.

Let's take a good look at ourselves. Are we truly Christians with all that the word entails or are we just going through the motions? Gal. 1:10 "For do I now persuade men or God, or do I seek to please men, for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ."

The list could go on and on but time and space do not permit.

Please let us obey the words of Christ and all obtain that home in heaven after a good life on this earth.

Submitted in Christian Love,
Bill G. McCay
Yakima, Washington.

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NOTE: There are two or three articles that will not appear in this issue, news will get old.Use thm in next issue. Ed

MODESTO, CALIFORNIA

Modesto congregation had a very good meeting with Brother Sammy Boen of Muldrow, Oklahoma speaking, June 17th through the 24th. No visable results but attendance and attention was good. Everyone enjoyed Brother and Sister Boen & son Keith, sorry that their eldest son had to work and could not be with us too. Hope to have them in our midst again soon and maybe Mickie can come then.

We wish to thank the many visitors before, during and since our meeting that has seen fit to stop by with us either in worship or in our homes. We have had visitors from many states and all over California, please come again any time.

Sister Minnie Stephens has been weak and not able to attend worship for quite a long while. Sister Mae Johnson too, hasn't been able to attend in a long while. Both of these sisters are home at the present time. Siste Adell Stark is in a convalesc. hospital in Modesto, unable to attend services. We at Modesto congregation miss these sisters very much.

Bro.& Sis Weakley are able to be at worship most every Lord's Day now that they are improved some and the weather is warmer.

Sister Lula Way had to be in the hospital a few days for tests and exrays but is home now feeling some better and able to be back with us at services.

Sister Annis Brown of Esacalon, Calif. underwent surgery in early June, but is doing nicely now.

Sister Charlotte Burtis has missed a few Sundays due to illness, but is too feeling better now.

The congregation was made very happy to see Sister Mae Watson back in our midst a few Sundays ago, after she had moved up to northern California with her son, due to illness over a year ago.

On May 26th, Brother Lloyd Logan son of J.D. & Fern Logan was married in Stockton to JoAnn Gutierrez. They now reside in Stockton. Congratulations!

Now to the sad news: Brother Ed Stroud passed from this life June 10th at the church building, just before morning worship. He was a fine brother and is greatly missed by all of us. Then three weeks and two days later, his brother-in-law, Brother Riley Floyd Morse passed from this life, July 3rd in a local hospital. Bro.Morse attended Waterford congregation along with his wife, Sister Mae Morse and others of the family. Brother Donald Dabbs was conducting a week of gospel preaching at Waterford that week and conducted the services for Bro. Morse, he too will be greatly missed by all of us. Our pryers go to all the bereaved of these families.

Any one passing this way stop and be with us in the worship services at Glenn and Dallas St. 10:30 A.M. & 7 P.M. each Sunday. All are Welcome.

IS SATAN BOUND?

Job 1:7, "And the Lord said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it." Satan's first appearance was in the form of a serpant Thus he was in a physical state.

1Peter 5:8 Gives us an altogether different picture, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:" In Job 1:12 the Lord gave Satan permission to torment Job except he must not take his life. Now if Satan was free to do as he pleased, he would not have had to get permission.

Rev. 20:1-3, "And I saw an angel come down from heanen having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent which is the Devil, and Satan, and boumd him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years be fulfilled:and after that he must be loosed a little season." This thousand years could not apply to our time, for we are being deceived by the thousands.

If this thousand years being fulfilled is the end of time, how can Satan fool the nations after that?

Rev. 9:1-3, "And the fifth angel soumded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: And unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power." There is only one bottomless pit mentioned so we would have to consider the one mentioned in Rev. 20:1 to be the same as in Rev. 9:1. Eph6:12,"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities,against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

The Old Law being physical Satan was also and against flesh and blood. Smoke being darkness and the locusts and scorpions had power; thus we have powers and darkness.

This is Satan, which has been loosed, a spiritual devil. Spiritual wickedness in high places is in the church. There is no higher place than the Kingdom of God.

John 16:8, Judgement of this world is by the Word of God. John 12:31,"Now is the judgement of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out." Cast into the Pit: Cast out of the Pit. Notice in John 14:30"Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me."

Now if he is cast out and he has come, he must be

loose now. The Christian life is a battle, it is referred to as a war, throughout the New Testament. Now if Satan is bound I would hate to see what it would be like if he was loose. Also would like to know who we are fighting, if he is not loosed??

L.E.Arnett
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SHARPENING YOUR BIBLE VOCABULARY.

By Dan Ross

Words are used to convey thoughts from one person to another. Before thoughts can be successfully translated by words, the words have to have a common meaning to those engaged in the conversation. Words are also written to be read by others. We cannot understand what we read unless we know the menaing of the words. Below, are some words either used in the Bible or referring to Bibical activities. Do you know their meaning?

ACRE- amount of land a yoke of oxen could plow in a day.

BOTTLE - a container made of goat skin, sewed up with the hair outside and used for carrying water(Gen. 21: 14-19).

CONFECTION- perfume(Ex. 30:35).

DUKE- leader of a clan or a tribal chief(Gen.36:15).

FAN- a fork with two or more prongs used to throw grain into the air after it has been threshed, so the chaff will be blown away.

GENESIS- Beginning

HALL- the court of the high priest's palace(Lk.22:55).

JOT- the smallest letter in the Hebrew alphabet.

LOIN- part of the body between the ribs and the hip bones (on the side) (Matt.3:4).

MEMPHIS- the first capital of Egypt(Hos. 9:6).

PATMOS- tiny island to which the Apostle John was banished (Rev. 1 9).

RING- an article of jewelry that was a symbol of authority(Gen. 41:42-43, Lk. 15:22).

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If we live like there is a God and there isn't a God, we haven't lost anything. If we live like there is a God & there is a God, we've gained everything. But, if we live like there isn't a God and there is, we've LOST EVERYTHING.