LITTLE LOVE LETTER

JULY & AUG. '69

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MANY,O LORD-GOD-THY WONDERFUL WORKS

HERE WE ARE, IN OREGON: NINE HUNDRED MILES TO the north of the G. G. address. (But address us GG) We stopped at the Church "Meeting"in progress at Grants Pass, visited a while with our good brethren there that evening. We safely arrived at Roseburg Wednesday. We hope to make this "headquarters" for awhile; visiting three sons and families, and etc. On Sundays, and other times, too, we want to be in Eugene largely- as God may grant us more such care.

"MANY, O LORD MY GOD, ARE THY WONDERFUL WORKS which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to us-ward:--" "He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered: the Lord is gracious and full of compassion." In this issuance of Little Love Letter I will try to tell my Brethren whom I love in Christ a few of the things of which I am thinking.

"ON THE OREGON TRAIL", SANG THE EARLY PIONEERS; and the present-time pioneers can very well continue singing. I have said for many years that this is the last pioneer state of the Union, and I can't be very far from aright. No other place can attest to the fact better, that here, yet, is real open"WEST". Comparatively few people; growing-visibly contented. Little money, but working hard thereon. Some of the most beautiful scenery on God's green earth is here. Even on my little Roseburg one-fourth acre there are sixty or more trees, together with underbrush galore and more. My brand-new Oregon scythe will never get rid of it enough so one can see and enjoy the lot.

NO I DIDN'T GO TO SLEEP, ON THAT LAST LINE. Matter-of-factly, good cause here for one to do so. It's raining right now--has been since yesterday. That's why I can sit here at this typewriter again, this time trying to tell you about a "pioneer state". Now, don't all of you good brethren make a rush to "Go westward, young man." This letter is not to so say so. But by the way, if y'want a green lot, just lookmeup. And, as every where, here can very well stand for more Churches of Christ, congregations of loyal Brethren. Where ever they are, the Heavenly Father takes care of HIS People. The Lord was with the "church in the wilderness". With all my heart I believe God was with my folks back in 1904, as even before, when we moved from Texas to Oregon.

WE WERE PIONEERS

IN THE BEGINNING OF MY RECOLLECTIONS MY DAD was a "share-cropper" at Minerva, Texas. He had one man-made religion and my Mother had another, when they moved there from Huntsville, Alabama-with one daughter. At Minerva they heard a Church of Christ preacher "That was really preaching from the Bible". They were baptized. I can remember seeing my mother being baptized, and I remember,also, the Church.

ONE BROTHER STARTED IT WHEN HE RETURNED FROM a trip to "look-see" in Oregon; saying he had rather be in Oregon with nothing than in Texas with ALL that he had. Dad said, "I am going to Oregon." So as the result several families got off the train at Eugene, Oregon in the early fall of 1904. That Oct. I was 7 years old- and Dad had paid down about $150. on 15 acres 9 miles out of town. The moving dray had to maneuver around stumps in the main road. That 15 acres was the Senior HUNTS' home for 51 years. You can see why I came back again this summer, as often before. But I want to tell more about the Church.

EUGENE CHURCH OF CHRIST

THE EUGENE CHURCH OF CHRIST, TO MY KNOWLEDGE, was the one and only church in all Oregon at that time. In 1904 and for many years after they met in "Frank's Hall" up stairs over some stores. We from Texas were Hunts, Prices, Cottons, Howards; and

already at Eugene were "Little Jimmie" Moore and family, Wm Humphrey Family, James Humphrey Family, and the David Humphrey's. Perhaps others that I do not remember. Later in my life, about 1913, I worked in Eugene and attended high school, and was able to go to church regularly. At that time were many new ones of the congregation: Bro. Clede C. Addleman's family, Bro. Roddie Addleman and wife and daughters, Bro. Stout's, Bro. Drake's, (Albert Drake is now my brother-in-law) and old Bro. Cook. AND on crutches from his wheel-chair up those stairs every Lord's Day was Brother Louie Gibbs. His niece and family (The Olan & Burdette Taylors) are now active members of the Bellflower, Calif. Church. Later members of the Eugene Church varied considerably. Many came and went, too numerous to name. Those who have remained include families of: the Earl Jones, the McCays, the Dale Roberts. At times quite a few are at worship.

THAT LITTLE CONGREGATION IS STILL GOING, AND just last Sunday (as I write this) my dear wife and I were with them. I preached on the subject "How Does YOUR Light SO SHINE". All of us must ever "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." One little flicker and it is darkness.

At Eugene, as at many loyal congregations, has not always been beds of ease (or roses). Truely we must "watch and pray", and let our light so shine.

Many flickers, and darkness of this world, and lust for man-made modernisms have caused all too numerous "other churches"-- branched off from the original "Pioneer" Congregation. They left in whims.

EMPHASIS,ONLY, IS NOT ENOUGH. "I WOULD THOU wert cold or hot", saith the Amen. Jude said,"it was needful--exhort--earnestly contend for THE FAITH--". Saith HE that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars;--"BE watchful, and strengthen the things which remain,--". Peter,an apostle of Jesus Christ, "Humble yourselves therefore--mighty hand of God,-- "CASTING all your care upon him; for he careth forU"

WE ARE HOME NOW

WE CAME BY BOONVILLE CAMP MEET FOR FIVE DAYS, & God was with us. HE is with all His People forever. I have written these three pages to stir by way of remembrances. "BELOVED, now are we the sons of God,".

SINCE
LAST LITTLE LOVE LETTER

SINCE SUMMER SOLSTICE that season is about one-half gone. Time marches on. We, my Louise & I, had enjoyable vacation. We hope that some good ensued. Hope all of you reading this had a vacation, also.

"Let's illuminate the past; expose all wrong of the present; look for a positive future" IN CHRIST.

On April 9th I conducted the funeral of Carl E. Way. He had received fatal burns in his truck in Los Angeles seven days before his death. His mother is Sister Lula Way, and his brother is Bro. Al (Jay) Way, both of the Bellflower Congregation.

On April 22 in Yuma, Arizona I helped to lay away our Sister in Christ, Carrie J. Long of the Somerton Congregation. She had lived in Yuma and in Somerton for about 49 years, passing away at the age of 85 years 6 months. She was a faithful member of Christ's Church for about 70 years.

Gospel Meetings of several congregations have already come and gone. Since my last report I know of several but I am sorry to be unable to tell you news of all the results. Brother McCLUSKEY gave the lessons at Grants Pass. The preaching at Yakima was done by Brother BOEN of Fort Smith, Arkansas. The Boonville Meeting had many speakers and resulted in one baptism and 5 who came up for repentance and prayers of the Brethren. Brother J. D. LOGAN was conducting the meeting at Stilwell, Oklahoma July 13 to 20, at the same time that Brother BILL McCAY was holding the meeting here at Bellflower. Results at Bellflower were: 5 baptized and one renewed. The Waterford preaching was by BRO.GRAY; one baptized.

At Bellflower, July 19, "Chapel of the Bells", Brother BILL TAYLOR and Sister DEBRA DABBS were united in marriage. There were many relatives and friends present; from far Eureka, New Mexico, San Diego, Modesto, Arizona. I hope I haven't missed, as it was a large gathering to wish them a happy marriage. It was happiness to me to unite the ties (solemnize the bans) of their wedding.

Delta Meeting Dates, remember, AUGUST 3 THRU 10.

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