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The

Elim Evangel

VOICE OF THE ELIM CHURCHES IN THE BRITISH ISLES
FUNDAMENTAL - PENTECOSTAL - EVANGELICAL

Vol. XL No. 1

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JANUARY 3rd, 1959

A Happy New Year



MT. ST. HELENS & SPIRIT LAKE

To all our Readers



With You Always

Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen

By T. W. Walker

THE not so gentle art of debunking is becoming widespread in our cynical times. Many notable people of the past have been subjected to it in one form or another, and recently a great figure of World War I has been put into the pillory. Earl Haig, it has now been decided, was stubborn, a poor tactician, cruel and dictatorial. The thing about most of the taunts of the angry men (young and otherwise!) is that most of their victims are dead! It is next to impossible fully to recall a deceased person, however familiar. The peculiar manifestations of spiritism, for example, are a very poor substitute for flesh and blood. What if Earl Haig could suddenly confront his critics in the flesh? The throbbing vitality of his personality might make all the difference. We hold no brief for the field marshal, but we recognise that it is unfair to criticise a man from the point of view of the cold, clinical examination of the self-appointed historian. Many firms are not satisfied with the chilly reports of headmasters and friends when contemplating the employment of a young man. They want an interview. They want to see the fellow. His lacking in maths counts much less when they see his sparkling eyes, tidy appearance, quiet courtesy and so on. It is the presence of the person that counts.

We are seeing in another new year. Not one of us has any real idea what 1959 holds. We may guess and conjecture, but we have no real idea of the day-by-day details. Some of us will be entering new ministries while others lay their burdens down. Some will be marrying and to some homes there will come the first child. It may be that pain lies before us, and

even the great call to our final dwelling place. The prospect of 1959 appals some of us even while it thrills others. But whether our view of another twelve months is in hope or in fear, there is a thrill and a blessing for us in the knowledge that Christ is with us *always*. Whether it is A.D. 59 or 1959 He is the same! Christ can fulfil our hopes and He can dispel our fears—and He knows the end from the beginning!

As He uttered the words of our promise, Christ was bidding His followers farewell ere He ascended to be with His Father. They faced an unknown future and were all the more apprehensive because their Master and Lord was leaving them. They had understood but little of His ministry; what of that of the Holy Ghost, of whom they scarcely knew anything? He was a living, throbbing Christ, the One who had shared their every experience, enhancing their joys and standing by them in their sorrows. But He was leaving them! What did He say? "Lo, I am with you always." What a promise! You cannot argue Christ away; He is alive! You cannot daunt the faith of a true Christian, for His Lord is with Him. Let this wonderful promise warm you, bless you! "With you *always*." The great figures of history are gone and they come in for their share of the criticism of an envious succession, but our Master is with us! We do not have to pray that He will presence Himself with us. If we have ears to hear and eyes to see we shall soon be aware that the dynamic vitality of His abiding nearness is a practical reality.

There is something sublime in the old promise of Hebrews 13. It somehow seems to emphasise its appeal by saying, "Jesus Christ the same *yesterday*, and *to day*, and *for ever*." It does not say "the same last year, this year and all the other years" but "yesterday, and to day and for ever." "Sufficient unto the day" asserts the scripture, and life is made up of a continual stream of todays. Someone has said that we could with accuracy say, "Lo, I am with you *all the days*." Some days we call "red letter days," from the custom of printing saints' and other days in red on calendars. Many days are just routine—what we call the daily round. Yet others

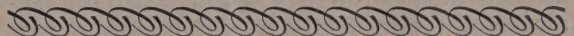
are poignant with longing and still more heavy with anxiety. Hear it again—"with you alway." There is never a day when Christ's living presence is denied to us. If you greet this new year as what we have come to call a "shut-in," take heart from God's Word. You may be denied many opportunities of fellowship, and nothing will completely take the place of attendance at God's house, but for you, in your hospital bed or sick room, there is glorious strength and encouragement in our theme. Just as Christ was not afraid to enter the sick chamber of many a one when He was on earth, He is with you now and will never leave you. He does not slumber; He shares your wakeful nights. He has suffered Himself and is touched with the feeling of your every infirmity. Strengthen yourself in Him!

The main application of our text, however, is to activity. It is not stretching the truth at all to say to the fellow taking his eleven-plus, to the teen-ager taking her first post, the nurse undertaking her first duties, the young married couple just setting up home, that the Master is with you, living with you to help you. As more and more we realise that Christ wants to share all our lives, so the more will we find ourselves living victoriously. We rather tend to divide our experiences into normal activities and spiritual ones. We think of part of our lives belonging to God's service and part being consumed with mundane things. The division is entirely artificial. God wants our lives *as a whole*. Happy indeed are those persons whose daily work is for them a means of service, whose homes are the Lord's and whose hobbies are for His glory. Their work in God's house will be all the better—and such a vision need not be fanciful, for He is with us always.

After disclosing His almighty power by saying "All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth," Jesus gave His famous command to the apostles and, through them, to the Church. "Go ye," said He, "and teach all nations . . . to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." Put in language which we readily understand, the task was and is to preach the Word everywhere. What a vista opens before us! In slum and mansion, town and country, east and west, to learned and ignorant, black and white, rich and poor—the task only ends when we reach the farthest outpost and encompass the last man of the remotest tribe. Were we to seek to preach merely a set of doctrines our task would be overwhelming; but Christianity is Christ! He is with us and as souls are won He is with them always! Our impact on the world seems small and the strength of the Pentecostal churches in our country rather disappointing. We could find causes

for frustration and lassitude, but He is with us! We must rise again and renew our vision. He is not only the Saviour of the tremendous campaign days of the twenties and thirties; He is the Saviour of the perplexing times in which we live. Even in days when it is popular to believe in disbelief, when God is ignored rather than actively opposed, we can turn again to the Bible and rediscover what we should surely know, that God's power is sufficient. If methods long used do not now succeed, God give us grace to present the ageless Gospel by new means, but when we have exhausted every way of presenting the Good News we come right back to this—our real task is to introduce men, women, boys and girls to the living Christ! May the challenge of this new year cause us to rise again, to pray, plan, believe that our God will bless us in souls being saved, bodies healed, Christians baptised with the Holy Ghost and Christ's Name glorified. Come what may, He is with us always.

Will 1959 be the year of the fulfilment of our glorious hope? The day is surely coming when it will not be that He is with us here; we shall be with Him there! The trumpet is going to sound and we shall rise! The victory day is coming and "so shall we ever be with the Lord"—it is literally *always*! We welcome the thought of that blissful day of reunion and rejoicing, and in the days between may our eyes be opened to the encouraging, satisfying truth that His presence is with us in every experience.



The Envoys Trio who took part in a recent service in the Elim Church, Kingston.

EDITORIAL

TWO-FACED the Romans called him—Janus, the god of beginnings, from whom comes the name of our first month, January. The year did not always begin with January, as witness the fact that the names of the last four months are taken from the Latin words for seventh to tenth. Then, when the change was made, who could better suit as patron god of the first month than Janus, mythical first king of Italy, the god of doors which face both ways, with knowledge of both past and future?

Two-faced are we all in a sense at this time, like the man made famous by the petrol advertisements. That's 1958—no, that was! "My days are swifter than a post," says Job, and his words find an echo in our hearts. Among the paradoxes of Scripture are verses such as these: "Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Thessalonians 1:3) and "This one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13, 14).

The constitution and nature of the normal individual gives us some guide as to what is right in the way of remembering and forgetting, for is it not true that on the whole we forget the unpleasant and remember the good? It is a warped mind and personality that goes into reverse on this, and how great its tragedy. The summers of our childhood were always fine and warm, its outlines stand in bold relief, with never a hint of the greyness that so often pervades our day-to-day living. Its giants were immense, its dwarfs diminutive, its joys were great, its sorrows small. What a blessed Divine provision, providing to old age the consolations of dreams to dream of things once so fair. To an even greater extent, as believers, must our memory be selective. Forgotten be the old smart, the wound of yesterday, forgotten the sins which obsessed our unregenerate beginnings, forgotten the tragedies, the tears, forgotten the foolish things in which we once indulged—lost in the sea of a divine forgetfulness. Remembered, however, be the triumphs of faith, the blessings that have filled our mouths with joy and holy laughter, the greatness and the goodness of our God. Let the summit of the new year, with its double vista of past and future, be for us a "rest

and be thankful" before we go to possess the land before us.

We must be selective in the things we remember, but we must also be selective in the time and place given even to the best of memories. Remember the words of Joel: "Your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions" (Joel 2:28). When our dreaming of past glories and blessing takes precedence over our vision for the future, we confess ourselves to be prematurely aged. Yet for this there is no need, whatever our mere natural age may be, for "they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

We face both ways, forgetting and remembering, praising God for the past, trusting Him for the future, raising our Ebenezer memorials as for a moment we pause, that, refreshed and encouraged, we may press forward towards the sunrising of God's eternal day.

* * *

We wish to place on record our sincere appreciation of the work of our dear brother, Pastor Samuel Gorman, during the period of his editorship of the *ELIM EVANGEL*. It is our earnest desire that the Lord's richest blessing may be his portion as he takes over the office of Missionary Secretary. With his great interest in the work overseas and his many years on the Elim Missionary Council, our brother is well fitted for this task. We are glad to know that he will not be leaving editorial work altogether, for Mr. Gorman will in future be editing the *Elim Missionary Evangel*.

THE ELIM EVANGEL

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OVERSEAS MISSIONS



Pastor and Mrs. A. Nicolson (S. Rhodesia)

Our readers have been acquainted for some time of the need for teachers in our schools in Southern Rhodesia. Much prayer has been offered to the end that this need shall be met. In a recent letter Pastor Nicolson draws back the curtain and shows how the boys and girls in the schools at Penhalonga reacted when they learned that there was the possibility of the schools being closed because of the lack of qualified teachers. Pastor Nicolson wrote: "This week has been one of the saddest in my experience. On Wednesday I had to tell the scholars in standard five that there would be no standard six here next year. This news was not so bad for the boys, as some will be able to go to the boarding school at Inyanga North, but it was hard for the girls. Today I had to tell standards three and four that there was little hope of having standards four and five here next year. I had the head teacher with me and it was heartrending to see the tears of these scholars. It seems almost impossible that this has happened. After all the struggles, and the hard-won battles of my predecessors, we are thrown right back in one stroke. I find it hard to believe that our young people, qualified to teach, filled with His love, knowing the need and the dire consequences to the work if the need went unfulfilled, should not come forward. Is it that God has said "No"? Is it really the case that He has cut off this avenue to the souls of young people in their teens, some of whom as recently as last Sunday yielded themselves to Christ? Have we failed to grasp the real importance of holding our lines, with the result that there has been failure to sound the clear note of urgency when we first saw the danger signal? Or is it that some lives back home have heard and they have failed to respond so that today tears have fallen and hearts (and not just those of the scholars) have felt the chill mists of despair? These questions have filled the minds of all of us since last night. Dr. Brien has been here and he went back this morning to Inyanga North with a heavy heart. There is still one beam that shines through the present darkness: God may yet provide an answer. Oh what a joy it would be if at the very last minute we had news of two teachers. What a triumph and testimony it would be. It has happened before; it can happen again!

LATE NEWS

Miss R. Simms (Penhalonga)

We have had quite a tragic happening on the mission station here at Penhalonga. School closed on Friday and in the early afternoon we had a very bad storm, the worst I have seen since I came to Rhodesia; the hailstones were as big as marbles, and amidst it all the head teacher's house was struck by lightning and in a few minutes was enveloped in flames. He has a wife and seven children and also two boys were living with him so that they could attend the school here. Everything was lost, with the exception of a few chairs, including all their bedding, clothes, books and papers. After the fire was out we had to fix them all up with what bedding we had and some woollen items which we had from parcels. I do not know how he will get his home together again. It was pitiful to see them all; they only had the cotton dresses which they had been wearing earlier in the day because of the heat and they were all wet through. The head teacher does not possess one jacket, as his was burnt beyond repair.

This head teacher was the one who was talking to Mr. Bradley in the picture published in the *Missionary Evangel*; he has been with us many years and has always been faithful to Elim.

IBRA RADIO

Radio Africa, Tangier

Listen to "This is Life," presented by the Elim Church
SHORT WAVE: 20.2, 26.1, 32.3 metres

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7th, 1959, at 9.15 p.m.

Speaker: John Lancaster (Eastbourne)

Subject: "Christ in the back seat"

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Geoff. Cooper at the piano

SATURDAY (each week) at 6.45 a.m.

Broadcast presented by the Elim Missionary Society for Spanish listeners on medium wave (321 metres).

Programmes produced by

DOUGLAS B. GRAY (Director of Music)

from the Elim Studio, London

Friends are invited to join the IBRA Listeners' Federation and thus help in this great world-wide missionary radio enterprise. Write for full particulars. Your gifts towards the Elim radio work are urgently needed. Please address your correspondence to the Elim Radio Department, 20 Clarence Avenue, London, S.W.4.



Calling Boys and Girls

By Bernard Norris

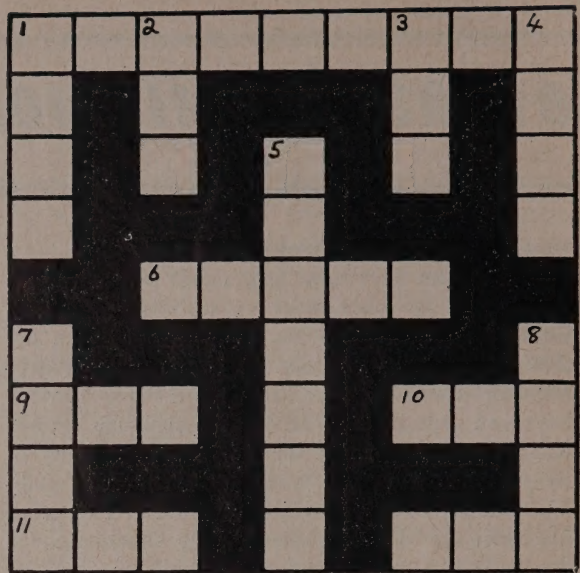
Hello again!

A happy New Year to you all, and especially to our new Editor, Pastor A. D. Hathaway.

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas, and that you are going to do all you can this year to serve the Lord. How grand it would be if one of your friends was converted this first month! Why don't you choose one particular friend and pray that God will save him or her this very month? Then try to get him or her to church, and see God answer your prayer. Let me know what happens, won't you.

Now you know I had spent ages working out a Christmas crossword, and at the end there wasn't room for it on our Christmas page. Well, it seems a shame to waste it, and I can't wait right round until next year, so let's have it now. It is not a competition, so don't send in the answers, but I am keeping them until next week. Here we go.

Across. 1. Where He was born. 6. The city of



—, 9. No room there. 10. Warned — dream (two words). 11. Let us — go. 12. Departed another —.

Down. 1. The — lying in a manger. 2. Had to pay. 3. Whose star? 4. Name for wise men. 5. Jesus is. 7. Star was one. 8. His mother.

There we are, and I hope you enjoy working out the answers. Let me know if you like crosswords, and we'll have some more.

Cheerio and God bless you.

BERNARD.

CHURCH NEWS

“IRREVERENT? NO—BUT IT'S DIFFERENT”

says press reporter who visited Bristol's Elim Church on occasion of visit of E. J. Phillips (President)

SIX years ago the Elim Movement arrived in Bristol. The membership: nil. Today the Movement has 500 devout followers in the city.

I went along to the City Temple in Jamaica Street on Sunday to join these 500 in worship to find out what is so attractive about this religion which many criticise as irreverent. . . .

I was a little early for the service. So were a lot of others. Well before the start of the service chairs were being put in the aisles to accommodate the congregation. . . .

The usual choral service that precedes the evening ritual was going on. On the platform was a man, wearing a warm grin, vigorously conducting the congregation through a series of hymns. . . .

As it appeared that one was not frowned on if one whispered during the choral service I asked the man on the left why he came to the Elim church.

“There's nothing stuck-up about it. Some churches and chapels are stuck-up with their religion. They are normal here—it is very nice on a Sunday evening,” he said. . . .

The sermon was . . . by Rev. E. J. Phillips, a former general secretary of the movement, and this year's president. Its message was that sin is our greatest enemy.

During the final hymn Mr. Jones asked members of the congregation who had “taken the decision to let the Lord guide them” to raise their hands. . . . Four people “took the decision” on that one night.

. . . I asked Mr. Jones if the Movement catered especially for young people. “I hold the view that it is vital to get young people along. They are the life-blood,” he said.

As I moved to go, Mr. Jones asked: “There's nothing irreverent about it, is there?” I had to agree that *it was different—but not irreverent.*

Bristol Evening World.

GILTBROOK—NORTH MIDLANDS PRESBYTERY REGIONAL RALLY

A very successful rally, which was well supported by many churches in the area, was held recently in the Gilt Hill Primary School, Giltbrook.

Pastor and Mrs. Frank Waite and church members worked hard to give us an enjoyable day.

Pastor R. Morrell convened the afternoon service, at which a Bible quiz between two teams of young people was held. The questions, which were put to the teams by Pastor T. Broomhall, were well chosen and aroused much interest and response from teams and members of the audience alike!

Our guest speaker, Pastor J. Osman, in a challenging word, urged us to seek a greater experience of God's reviving power. He also, together with Mrs. Osman, ministered in song.

During the tea interval an open air witness was conducted by Pastor A. Biddle, the District Superintendent. Time between the meetings was found for those who wished to seek God.

In the evening service, convened by Pastor P. Dyson, Pastor F. Lavender (Youth Commissioner) introduced a brains trust, consisting of four ministers with Pastor L. Tiller as chairman. The brethren replied to spontaneous questions concerning youth

work from the congregation. The Sandiacre choir exhorted us to "Lead another soul to God," and Pastor Osman, ministering with evident liberty, exalted Christ.

Pastor Waite summed it all up aptly by suggesting that it was a long time since we had been to school and enjoyed it so much!

G. HARPIN.



Children from Holme Wood estate who are brought to the Bradford Elim Sunday school by special bus each Sunday.

You Must Not Miss your Copy of

Elim Missionary Evangel

This Quarter's Special Features include :

In Journeyings Often . . . In Perils

Pulling Down the Strongholds

Evangelism by Trained Teachers

You will also enjoy Pictorial News, with latest pictures of our missionaries and their work, together with the regular features : Youth Page, World Missionary Itinerary, Through an Eastern Window and news letters from the field.

January-March issue now on sale

STANDING upon the threshold of the new year with its untried way reaching out before us, bounded by the horizon of the unknown, bringing to all the stirring call of Christian service and the challenge of trial and temptation, no word of Christ speaks more directly to our condition than His offer of rest in toil.

We are taken in imagination to the carpenter's shop in Nazareth where Jesus laboured making various articles of furniture and wooden instruments for the agricultural needs of the community. Among the things He made were the yokes for the oxen. These yokes consisted of a cross-bar of wood with bows of wood at each end which rested upon the shoulders and encircled the necks of the beasts of burden. At best they were clumsy contrivances and if badly made would chafe the neck of the poor beast. But we can depend upon it that no rough, ill-fitting yoke ever left His shop. All His yokes were "kindly" yokes because they were so smooth and well-made.

The people before Him reminded Him of those patient oxen straining at the plough beneath yokes that chafed and galled them. It was the pathos of the crowd He chiefly noticed. He had the faculty of penetrating the mere externals of human nature and reading the heart. He saw the multitude of burdened, harassed and distressed souls. In His carpentry days His compassion found expression in those well-fitting, comfortable yokes, so now He is filled with a deep concern to lighten the load which was crushing the minds and hearts of the people.

In our text we have a gracious

EXCHANGE OF YOKES

for the Saviour bids the people come and exchange their heavy yokes for His. Commentators have pointed out that the Jews were wearing a triple yoke. They were wearing the iron yoke of Rome. Many in Palestine chafed beneath this tyrannical domination. Nationalism, so prevalent in the world today, is a fierce kind of passion. Men resent alien rule and to achieve independence and freedom are willing to lay down their lives. They were also oppressed by the cumbersome yoke of the law of Moses. The law given at Sinai had brought a sense of condemnation and guilt but offered no power of deliverance. It had also been overlaid by minute and multitudinous demands, and the tradition of the elders had made religion a burdensome thing. To these heavy yokes was added a third—the degrading yoke of sin. The people could find no deliverance from the crushing, despairing enslavement of sin.

Our blessed Lord invited these poor, distressed souls to make an exchange of yokes. A yoke of some kind we must all bear. The choice is between an irksome, galling one and a congenial one—the yoke of self or the yoke of Christ. The yoke of self may take many shapes. In one it may be the love of money, in another it may be the love of power, in another it may be the lust of the eyes and of the flesh. The yoke of self is a heavy and grievous yoke.

A GREAT PURPOSE LIVING UNDER

Text: *Take My yoke upon you . . .*
(Matth 23:13)

By **H. B. . .**
(Vice-President of . . .)

Many are seeking emancipation by flinging aside old restraints and casting off old prohibitions. If people imagine that they are going to achieve freedom in this way they are deceiving themselves. The art of life consists not in repudiating all masteries—nobody can accomplish that—but in finding the right one. Our Lord Himself was wearing a yoke beneath which He found freedom and overflowing joy of heart, and He invites all men to find this happiness and satisfaction in the same service.

This leads us to ask a question: What is the

NATURE OF HIS YOKE ?

What precisely was the yoke He was wearing? In a sentence it was the yoke of loving obedience to His Father's will. "My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me, and to finish His work" (John 4:34). "I came down from heaven, not to do Mine own will, but the will of Him that sent Me" (John 6:38). He was tempted in the wilderness and at other times to refuse God's way and take a course of His own. Satan suggested a short cut to the kingdom and a way which would have by-passed the Cross when he showed Him all the kingdoms of the world, saying, "All these things will I give Thee, if Thou wilt fall down and worship me." To this insidious temptation the Lord Jesus replied without a moment's hesitation, "Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve."

There were times when the road of the Divine will was terribly rough. There were hills to climb. There were the long trudge of the moor and fen and the perilous hazard of the crag and torrent. There were bleak stretches which had to be travelled alone, conflicts to be waged, suffering to be endured, struggles to be borne. Finally the road for His feet descended into the mysterious gloom of the Garden of Gethsemane and rose steeply to the awful heights

up his cross daily, and follow Me" (Luke 9:23). Paul is a shining example of this paradox. "We are handicapped on all sides, but we are never frustrated; we are puzzled, but never in despair. We are persecuted, but we never have to stand alone. We may be knocked down, but we are never knocked out!" (2 Corinthians 4:8,9, Phillips's translation). Mark it well—the real test of our love to Christ is what we are prepared to suffer for Him.

In this invitation our Lord offers the

GOD'S RULE

FOR 1959

And ye shall find rest unto your souls
(11:29)

n-Haynes
the Elim Church)

of Golgotha, where He was crucified for our sins. Nothing could shake His determination to take the rough road, and His courageous resolve is expressed in the words: "Not as I will, but as Thou wilt."

The yoke He offers to all who come to Him is the yoke of the Father's will. It may startle us to hear Him describe that yoke as being "easy." Easy is not the best translation. "Kindly" or "congenial" is better: a yoke that perfectly fits human life and does not chafe the spirit.

It sounds paradoxical to say that a yoke that may involve you in trouble like persecution or misunderstanding can be a "congenial yoke."

"THE PURSUIT OF COMFORT,"

says a writer, "does not make for real happiness in life. The poet has written of 'plucking the flower of safety of the nettle of danger.' And is it not true that men pluck the flower of joy from the nettle of hardship and difficulty and privation?" Recently Mount Everest was conquered by men who faced every hazard and hardship to achieve their ambition, and they confessed to experiencing a fierce joy in it all. There is no cause so exalted as the cause of God's kingdom.

When a man gives himself to the service of Christ he is certainly not in for a comfortable time. Jesus was very emphatic upon that point. "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take

SHARING OF HIS YOKE

The yoke pictured here is a double yoke. Oxen were yoked together in pairs and between them they pulled the plough or the cart across the field. Borrowing this homely illustration from the countryside, Jesus calls us to submit our wills to the will of God. In this submission we experience a glorious partnership—the partnership of the Son of God. Doing the will of God in a world which is diametrically opposed, both morally and spiritually, to His righteous purposes will be no easy matter, but in the execution of it we can count upon the unfailing partnership of Christ Himself. He will give strength, wisdom and comfort for every step of the way and we shall be enabled to say with Paul: "I am able [made strong] for all things through the one who is constantly infusing strength into me" (Philippians 4:13).

The character of our Partner is revealed in His words, "I am meek and lowly in heart." Partnership in every walk of life depends for its success upon a close affinity of heart and mind. When Jesus drew this picture He may have visualised the strong ox yoked with the weaker, untried animal. All the time the weaker keeps level with the stronger, just pulling his own weight, the responsibility of making a straight furrow and reaching the end of it is being borne by the latter. But if he should pull out into a direction of his own the yoke will chafe his shoulders and the burden become heavy. If we are self-opinionated, if we are proud and self-assertive, if we say "I'm going my own way," we shall find that the yoke will chafe our shoulders. If we walk with Him in meekness and humility we shall prove the sufficiency of His strength and the burden will be light.

In

FELLOWSHIP WITH CHRIST

we shall know a deep heart-rest. "I will give you rest," He says. What is meant by that word "rest"? It is as difficult to analyse rest as it is to analyse a sunbeam or a tear. You may pass a sunbeam through a prism and divide it into the seven colours of the

rainbow, but that does not explain a sunbeam. A chemist may analyse a tear-drop and declare that it consists of a little sodium and a few other salts, but that is no description of a tear. I may tell you something about His rest, but I cannot describe it. A Christian writer has said: "Peace is not a merely unambitious contentment with life. Still less is peace any escape from its pressure and burdens. Peace is harmony with the will and purpose and government of God. Peace is that harmony with God which qualifies me for serious duty, for ceaseless conflict, for fruitful service, and for bright witness in the world."

The rule of God is not that of a dictator which reduces us to the level of a cow in a paddock. His rule does not relieve us of responsibility or of the necessity to think for ourselves. It is a voluntary

submission to His will and an intelligent co-operation with the Holy Spirit in which we become not His abject slaves but His privileged sons sharing with His only begotten Son the burden of redeeming a fallen creation. Our humanity with all its frailty, limitation and infirmity is linked with God in a sacred fellowship whereby we can attempt service for Him far beyond our natural resources or human ability. What we lack, He will supply; and because He bears us, as well as our burden, the burden He asks us to accept is the lightest burden of all, for He bears all. His service is perfect freedom, and under His glorious rule we become most fully ourselves. His rule brings rest—the inner quietness in which our hearts are at peace.

Living under God's rule! Let this be our aim and purpose each day through the coming year.



Women's Column

By Gladys Gorton

NEW THINGS

AT times the heart of every woman longs for something new, say a new hat, or a new dress to "go places." At a function to which I was invited, it was striking to notice the hats which the ladies wore. I guessed that most had bought a new hat to wear for this special "do," and somehow I felt that each one had chosen the hat which suited and perhaps added distinction and charm to her personality.

Surely we women are often scheming something new: new curtains for the dining room, a fresh coat of paint to brighten things up a bit, new loose covers for the three-piece suite. Oh, so much we do to make things look fresh and new. We could not say, "Today is Saturday, I needn't cook a roast dinner or make an apple pie and bake a batch of scones because I made them last Saturday." Last Saturday's cooking has had its day! It is the fresh cooking which meets the demands of a hungry family.

We are entering into a new year, but it is how every new month, every new week, every new day, every new hour and every new moment is lived and utilised which matters. The compassion and faithfulness of God come to us as fresh breezes every new day (Lamentations 3:22, 23).

"I cannot forget the past; it is continually haunting me," she confided to me. Her life holds a tragic past. "But God has forgotten it now you are trusting Him. When God forgives He forgets. You must try to do the same," I confidently told her. "You must begin again with Him. The past shall be forgotten, a present joy be given."

Have you received a new birth? Jesus said "Ye must be born again." To become a Christian means a change of heart. "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17). The born-again person receives a new heart (Ezekiel 36:20), a new name (Isaiah 62:2) and a new song (Psalm 40:3).

And what is more, we are journeying to a new home—heaven. "And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem." There nothing will become dilapidated or decrepit, for eternity is ageless. There too, at the culmination of all things to do with time, God will perform a wondrous act and with it make a new declaration. "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And He that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new" (Revelation 21:4, 5).

THIS CHANGING WORLD

Clippings and Comments by W. G. Hathaway

Christmas—and Starvation

Thinking back to Christmas, it is tragic to consider the terrible want and privation there is in this present world. All over the globe people have not enough to keep body and soul together. It is also recognised that there are 900,000,000 (nine hundred million) children in the world, and of these two-thirds have not enough to eat.

What a revelation of the maladministration of the distribution of the necessities of life, and what a challenge to the Christians of the world. There is plenty of food in the world to feed all its people, but the evil is rooted in selfishness and greed. While granaries in some countries are spilling over, in others there is not enough to go around.

Miss Gladys Aylward

The film "The Inn of the Sixth Happiness" which is now being shown in London is reputed to be a magnificent portrayal of the courage and daring of this little woman with a big faith in God. One writer commenting on the film says: "This film is the story of a saint—not a stained-glass stereotype of sainthood but the real article. From the beginning of the story the dynamic force within this apparently very ordinary woman makes itself felt. The breath-taking audacity of an ill-educated servant girl setting out alone across two continents reminds us that the foolishness of God is wiser than men."

If we could only know the facts we would find in almost every case that truth is stranger than fiction. Miss Aylward is indeed a small woman, but an exceedingly great one, as all who have heard her will know. Speaking of the film from her mission station in Formosa she said: "They tell me that there are love scenes in the film, for I have not seen it myself. I can only tell you that I have never had a love scene at any time in my life."

United States Politics

The November elections in the U.S.A., which brought disaster to the Republican Party and, in the words of the *Wall Street Journal*, caused it to disintegrate so that "the wreckage was strewn across 3,000 miles of countryside," have come as the result, as many think, of the vacillating policy of the U.S. Administration.

The strong lead of the President in world affairs during his first term, which resulted in peace in Korea and a limitation of the Indo-China war in 1954, has been, according to many commentators, sadly lacking in his second term of office in the changeable policy of the Administration.

Whether this is the result of the President's illness or his inability to give clear direction to the Administration in foreign affairs is hard to say. Obviously the landings in Lebanon and the threat to stand by Quemoy whatever the cost are difficult to reconcile with the earlier demand that we abandon our Suez project. The changing political situation in the Middle East is a

factor which will not escape the notice of believers who watch the rapidly with which Bible predictions are being fulfilled before our very eyes.

Treason Trials

After the postponement of the trial of sixty-one Africans who were originally charged with high treason, there remain thirty who will be tried in Pretoria on January 19th. The rest are to be tried later, in the month of April. Apparently the second trial cannot begin until the courts have decided the first cases. The fact that these Africans have been detained for two years and have not yet been brought to trial is, to say the least, a blot on the reputation of those in South Africa who claim to be the custodians of justice.

The present policy of the South African Government is one which Christians everywhere will view with deep concern. Admittedly there are racial problems which have to be solved, but to keep the Africans and the mixed races of coloured people as "hewers of wood and drawers of water" to the white races is a policy based on the outdated ideas of slavery and serfdom and not in keeping with the New Testament teaching regarding the dignity of human personality, and the right to equality of every section of the human race. To try to hold down vast masses of Africans in South Africa is to adopt the ostrich-like policy of burying one's head in the sand, or perhaps could be more tragically described as camping in the crater of an active volcano.

The Church and Television

The B.B.C. and the A.B.C. Television network have taken the initiative in seeking to have a steady stream of clergymen and ministers fully trained in the use of the medium of television, who can become accustomed not only to appear before the television cameras but to think, speak and write according to the demands of this new medium of action. A.B.C. Television has already arranged for twelve Anglicans, twelve Free Church ministers and twelve Roman Catholic priests to go through a course of training in the spring. The scheme has been welcomed by Church leaders.

So the Christian Church is on the threshold of great adventure in the desire to harness this new avenue of witness to the cause of Christ. And why not? In Fort Smith, Arkansas, where we were privileged to take part in the Assemblies of God weekly television programme, we were informed that over 50,000 people in and around Fort Smith were contacted each week through this means. We were told that it was the Church's greatest opportunity of reaching the folk who normally do not attend church, or whose church attendance was spasmodic. What an audience to preach to, and what an opportunity television affords, provided it is properly used for the propagation of the Gospel.

Is the Y.M.C.A. Christian?

A dispute as to who could vote at the annual meeting of the local Y.M.C.A. in Lowestoft turned into a dispute as to

whether the Y should be a distinctly Christian organisation. The divisional secretary pointed out that only those who signed a declaration of their belief in Christianity could enjoy full membership and have voting privileges. Although there were 165 in the local association, only ten were full members.

Said the secretary, "Only declared Christians should govern a Christian body." He added, "The Y.M.C.A. was not built up by billiards and table tennis, but by people interested in the Christian ideal."

D. L. Moody, as a result of whose campaigns the Y.M.C.A. was started, would turn in his grave if he could see the drift in this once vital force in evangelising young men for Christ. Obviously it is not Christ who is the attraction today, but billiards and table tennis, if we are to take this report as being an indication of the general trend, as we rather fear it is. Pentecostals beware!

Slides depict Christ as an African

It is surprising how easily some ministers can sacrifice truth for the sake of expediency. A mission teacher in Southern Rhodesia has produced a series of slides in which Christ and His disciples are depicted as black-skinned. He says his African pupils disliked the white Christ depicted in visual aid materials.

This can hardly be called a white lie. It seems more like a black one, and deep black at that.

Funeral service for worms

The public health society in Nagoya, Japan, recently held Buddhist requiem rites for the 7,000,000 worms it has liquidated during the past quarter-century. In front of an altar on which stood a bottle with twelve different species of worms, a Buddhist priest intoned: "We are very sorry for you, but we must keep up our war of annihilation against you for the happiness of mankind. May your spirits rest in peace."

The memorial service was held after several staff members of the Society for Protection of Public Health reported deaths in their families. To guard against further deaths they endeavoured to appease the vengeful spirits of the slain worms by piling on the altar offerings of the worms' favourite foods—cabbage, spinach and apples.

Sort of worm's-eye view of the matter!

War against Christians

An extermination campaign has been launched in Ceylon by militant Buddhists and other extremist groups. European Christians, Moslems and Hindus are the targets. Bhikkus, monks who have renounced Buddha's doctrine of pacifism, have threatened European Christians with death, have rendered an estimated 15,000 Tamils homeless, and have said to Christians in general: "You are the people who brought foreign religions to Ceylon. We the orthodox Buddhists feel that unless and until we liquidate you we will not be able to stop the spread of Christianity and Islam in Ceylon. If you do not quit Ceylon this year you will be liquidated."

Once again the Devil strikes out against Christ in the form of this bitter campaign. Obviously Buddhism will not be safe while Christianity survives. If only Christians could be induced to follow the example of the early church believers who "went everywhere preaching the word" the spread of the Gospel in our day would be assured and the blood of the martyrs again be the seed of the church.



ARE YOU GOOD LOOKING?

"MY, oh, my," whispered the girl, "he's a hunk of handsomeness!" . . . "Wow," exclaimed the boy, "she's a real beauty." And so begins another tale.

Later on in life folk learn a little wisdom. The result? Little sayings flit out on to the pages of life and we learn: "Handsome is as handsome does"—that's for the boy side of the story. And for the girl? "Beauty is only skin deep." But the "wise" young men reply: "You quote the words of the disillusioned, the frustrated, the failures." Well, that may be so, but wisdom is often born of sorrow. But why shouldn't a boy be a "hunk of handsomeness" and behave handsomely, and the girl be a real beauty, an eye-catcher of the first order, yet possess the deeper beauty of the soul?

But let us concern ourselves with a higher level than the physical, the temporal.

What sort of Christians are we to be in 1959? Good lookin'?

We've got the finest message in the world, but when we tell it the listeners sit back and weigh up our behaviour alongside, and they remember the old adage "Handsome is as handsome does." They want the facts as well as the theory. *And you are the facts, young Christian.*

It was almost at the end of the old year, and I was standing in the pulpit of a village church tucked away in Scotland. He was sitting in the congregation, and as soon as I started to preach I noticed him. You would not call him handsome. He had rugged features, but from them came a glow which spoke to me of an extraordinary condition within. He reminded me of an incident which occurred some years ago when a person went to see a great preacher and was shown into the waiting room by one of the stewards of the church. When this person met the great preacher he apologised for troubling him and said he would have left had the steward not been so persistent, adding, "He must have mistaken me for a seeker after salvation," to which the great preacher replied, "The steward could not have made such a mistake with such an expression of Christian joy on your face."

On leaving the pulpit at the end of this meeting I was informed that the wife of this man who had caught my attention wished to receive Christ as her Saviour, and I had the joy of pointing her to Christ. It was then that I discovered a present-day example of the scripture "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things have passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17). I quoted this verse to the lady, and when I asked her if she believed it to be true she replied, "I cannot help but believe this, for it has been fulfilled in my home during these last few weeks." Her husband was an habitual drunkard and home life suffered accordingly. Jim Black, that is his name, was the victim of his drinking habits and his whole family suffered.

The climax came when he was involved in a drunken brawl at the end of a day's celebrations on the occasion of the Highland Games in his village, and he found himself in the hands of the police once again. He was released on bail. Then for two weeks he experienced such conviction of sin that prevented him from sleeping at night or obtaining any peace of mind during the day, until in desperation he sought out some Christian people he had heard about, and who he felt would be able to help him. And so Jim Black found Christ as his Saviour. That was seven weeks before my meeting him, which was long enough for his wife to feel the impact of the change which God had made upon his life, their home and even her own thinking. It was with a great depth of feeling that she replied to my question about that verse, "I know the verse to be true, for I have proved it in my own home." The real impact made was through changed behaviour, different interests and the power to overcome the vile habits which had enslaved the man for years of his life.

There may be only one Jim Black, but there are thousands of Elym youth throughout the British Isles who can bring a similar impact to bear upon their workmates, their school and college chums and the people in their own homes. It is not enough to say that we believe in Christ, for the man of the world. We must show him by our conduct as well as our

confession that we really do believe in His way to the extent that we walk in His way.

What is success for the Christian? To be a great evangelist? A powerful preacher? An active church worker? A mighty prayer warrior? These are, of course, great avenues of service in the kingdom of God, but we are instructed in the Word of God to let our lights shine, and this means nothing less than revealing the character of Christ through our daily living, and this we can all do irrespective of our talents, our circumstances or our material resources.

Are you good looking and good living?

INSPIRING NEWS FROM ANDOVER

Pastor D. W. Cartwright writes:

"I am writing to let you know that we have started a Junior Crusader meeting in Andover. We actually started on October 8th and it is now settling down very well.

"On the opening night we hired a room in a nearby school, but it proved to be too small! I went to see the headmaster before we opened, and when he asked me how many we thought would turn up I said, 'About fifty to sixty.' He said, 'I should not count on that many. Activities of this kind don't attract big numbers in Andover.' Anyway we had 400 cards printed and gave them out at the schools for the ages eleven to sixteen. The cards were given out on the Tuesday and the youth meeting opened on the Wednesday. When the youth leaders arrived at the school there were 150 teenagers there! We have had to transfer the meeting to the church while we are waiting for a larger hall to become available.

"Now the meeting is settling down and we are getting between sixty and seventy every Wednesday night.

"One of the girls has had a definite experience of salvation and has been to the gospel service for the past three weeks. She is even bringing her parents now."

AND A BRIEF LINE FROM ABERDARE

Pastor David Le Page writes:

"Here are just a few lines to let you know that the Sunday school in the Aberdare Elim Church has reopened, also that a weekly children's service has commenced.

HAVE YOU BOOKED YOUR COACH?

*Thousands will be
coming to this
year's Easter Rallies
at the Royal Albert
Hall—avoid
disappointment
by preparing now*

Our Guest Speaker :

DR. J. H. SAAYMAN

*(General Superintendent of the Full Gospel Church
of God, South Africa)*

Elim's Easter Monday Rallies—March 30th

"This has been made possible through our recent children's campaign, and we are endeavouring by prayer and work to see this very important sphere of the church grow stronger, both spiritually and numerically."

* * *

These churches are in difficult areas. I know that we all think our area is the most difficult, but success has come slowly at Andover and Aberdare these post-war years, and it is very encouraging to read such reports. Youth work is the answer in the majority of areas. It is surprising what happens when you try. Have you inquired about the use of the day-school premises in your vicinity or on the outskirts of your town? If you would like advice, why not write to the National Youth Director, Elim Youth Movement, 20 Clarence Avenue, London, S.W.4?

Elim youth movement CRUSADING FOR CHRIST

COMING EVENTS

(Please pray for these services)

BRIXTON HILL. January 4. Elim Church, Milstead Street. Latest AUCA coloured sound-strip "Unforgettable Friday." The Widow of Nate Saint tells the story from the widows' angle. 6.30 p.m.

January 16. Film, "The Facts of Faith." 8 p.m.

COULSDON. January 17. Elim Church, Chipstead Valley Road. Monthly United Pentecostal Rally. Speaker: C. S. Marsh. Leader: R. A. Gordon. Singing party from Thornton Heath Elim Church. 7.

CROYDON. January 10 and 11. Elim Church, Stanley Road. Special visit of Mr. Donald Gee. Sat. 7 (supported by Kenley Bible Students), Sun. 11 and 6.30.

GLASGOW. December 31—January 4. Elim Church, Butterbiggins Road. New Year Convention. Wed. 11 p.m., watch-night. Thurs. 3.30 and 6.30. Fri. 7. Sat. 7.30. Sun. 11 and 6.30. Speakers: Richard Lighton, Alan Brewster and W. Docherty. Tea provided on New Year's Day.

LONDON CRUSADER CHOIR

Director of Music: Douglas B. Gray, F.R.S.A.

January 4, Maidstone prison; 6, Hackney (Rally); 11, Broadmoor Institution; 17, Kingston-on-Thames (Rally); 25, Holloway prison; February 21, 22, Hastings; March 7, 8, Ipswich; 21, 22, Bradford.

SUNNY BLUNDELL TOUR

January 3-8, High Wycombe; 10-15, Swansea; 17-22, Tumble; 24-29, Mountain Ash; 31—February 5, Erdington; 8, Liverpool (farewell service).

Good News of Easter

Our 1959 guest speaker for the Royal
Albert Hall meetings is to be

Dr. Saayman
(of South Africa)

an outstanding personality

Book the date

EASTER MONDAY, MARCH 27

MISSIONARY ITINERARY

Miss C. M. Paint, Elim missionary on furlough from India, will visit the following churches: January 3, Leicester; 4, Loughborough a.m., Burton-on-Trent p.m.; 5, Ashbourne; 6, Rotherham; 7, Barnsley; 8, Sheffield; 10, Sandiacre; 11, Beeston a.m., Mansfield p.m.

Miss Paint will also visit the following churches in Ireland: January 18, Portadown, 11.30 and 7; 19, Markethill, 8 p.m.; 20, Armagh, 8 p.m.; 21, Annaghanoon, 8 p.m.; 22, Banbridge, 8 p.m.; 23, Megabberly, 8 p.m.; 24, Lurgan, 8 p.m.; 25, Ulster Temple, 11.30 and 7; 26, Apsley Street, Belfast; 27, Melbourne Street, Belfast; 28, Ballysillan, 8 p.m.; 29, Beersbridge Road, Belfast, 8 p.m.; 31, Ballymoney, 8 p.m.

Commencing Sunday, January 11th

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BOARD-RESIDENCE, ETC.

Eastbourne. The Elim Guest House is open all the year round; one minute from sea, with views of both sea and Downs; spiritual fellowship and home comforts; hot water and gas fires in bedrooms; special off-season rates. Residents also received. Illustrated brochure from Miss Phillips, Lascelles Private Hotel, Lascelles Terrace. Phone 633.

Exmouth, S. Devon. "Haldon Court." Real comfort; enjoyable programme for all ages; reasonable tariff; evangelical ministry. A Christian Holiday Centre worth visiting. C.20

Ilfracombe, Devon. Maranatha Christian Hotel, Torrs Park. Phone 876. We welcome all the Lord's people; evening Bible reading and prayers. Recommended for homely Christian atmosphere. Write for illustrated brochure: Mr. and Mrs. Puddicombe. C.18

Paignton. Torbay Court for your 1959 holidays. This undenominational Christian Hotel, capacity 100, offers chef-cooked food, good fellowship—in fact everything you need; only 200 yards from sea. Phone 57835, or write for brochure: Ewart J. Maggs, Torbay Court, Paignton, Devon. C.16

St. Austell, Cornwall. Spend your early holiday in South Cornwall. Book early for summer. Christian fellowship; every comfort. Send stamp for brochure: Mr. and Mrs. A. Stretch, "Moorlands." Phone 3060. C.15

BIRTH

Spurling. On December 7th, to Malcolm and Grace Spurling (members of Elim Church, Leigh-on-Sea); God's gift of a daughter, Carol Yvonne; a sister for Alan, Norma, John and Andrew. C.19

MARRIAGE

Rodrigues : Gibbs. On December 6th, at Elim Church, Kingston, Brian Rodrigues to Sylvaine Gibbs. Officiating minister, F. J. Slemming.

Brambleby : Murray. On November 29th, at Elim Tabernacle, Eastbourne; Rev. William Napoleon Brambleby to Margaret Mary Murray. Officiating minister: J. Lancaster.

SITUATIONS VACANT

School teachers required for Pentecostal Schools in Newfoundland, Canada's newest province. Transportation assistance, good salaries, opportunities for Christian service. Address your airmail letter inquiries to: Pentecostal Superintendent, Department of Education, St. John's, Newfoundland. C.21

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CONGRATULATIONS

Hearty congratulations to Miss Lilian Jones, of Elim Church, Stanley Road, Croydon, on her appointment as Headmistress of Hungerford Girls' School, N.7. C.17

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Danger, Saints at Work!

By Jean A. Rees

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