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The

Elim Evangel

Voice of the Elim Churches in the British Isles
Fundamental, Pentecostal, Evangelical

Vol. XXXV. No. 5.

THREEPENCE

JANUARY 30TH, 1954.



**FIRST ANNIVERSARY FELLOWSHIP MEETING OF THE
BRANCH CHURCH AT TREHERBERT**

Witnessing to the fulness of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

between hindering the Spirit in His work and being used by the Spirit to forward His work. The native evangelists and elders were one with us in the meetings. Together we learned lessons. Now they are being used in wondrous ways in other places.

Visions were given to the people. Many of these were on the Second Coming of Jesus. One woman saw the Lord coming in the clouds, and heard the trump of God. She saw shining beings. Then she saw crowds of people on the earth looking up. People's feet left the ground and gently they arose to meet the Lord. She saw those left behind, spreading their arms and trying to rise and unable to do so. The look of horror on the faces of those left behind was awful to behold, she said. Folk that heard her describe it were very moved.

In addition to other meetings we had three prayer meetings a week. These prayer meetings have been a mighty powerhouse. What prayers! They were not selfish prayers. We prayed the blessings would spread to other stations. What shouts of praise went up as week by week word was brought us of one station after another being swept by the Spirit of Revival.

The whole congregation pray together. One sister had a vision in which she was told she must not think such united prayers were confusion in the ears of God but such prayers came up to Him as one voice, one human plea, and were pleasing to the Heavenly Father.

The spreading of the revival to districts around has been so encouraging. In one district we saw the mighty workings of the Holy Spirit in the ministry of one of our native evangelists. Five polygamists have set their houses in order. While visiting this station we saw a number of unbelievers who never came to a meeting being struck down by the Spirit and saved. We have since heard that there were only 23 people there that have not yielded to the Lord.

We had many enemies in that place. It is wonderful to see some of them sitting in the meetings, praising the Lord.

There was much devil worship in the community before the revival came. One old man that had a family of sons who followed his lead in witchcraft, is nearly beside himself because most of his sons have accepted the Lord.

We heard that Roman Catholic native teachers are left all alone, since their flock has accepted the Lord and none now believes in the Catholic rituals.

We stand with you all on the different fields for His out-poured blessing in your work and that something of this same breath of revival will spread to your own corner of the work.

—Fred Antony, of the W.E.C.

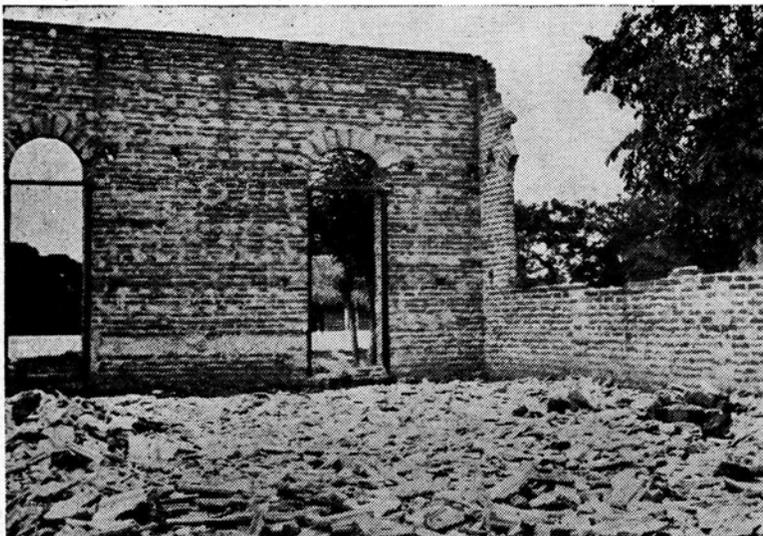
∴ BOOK REVIEW ∴

TRUDY'S COLLEGE DAYS. By Mary Alice Faid. Messrs. Pickering & Inglis (6/- by post 6/4).

This book, another in the ever-popular Trudy series, will be well received by Sunday School superintendents and teachers as helping to meet the need for the right type of book to place in the hands of scholars. The whole aim of this book is to show how the application of Christian principles to life makes for purpose, power, and real pleasure in life. Whilst it may invite ridicule, and even stir up enmity; in the end it always triumphs. As the acceptance of the Cross always demands a temporary loss in order to make a permanent gain, so does the application of the principles of the Cross to life.

Girls between the ages of twelve and fifteen years will really enjoy this book. There are fifteen chapters, and they cover Trudy's first year at College with its hopes and fears, its friendships and rivalries, everything that we recognise as being typical of school life, and finally the triumph of right over wrong. There is a hint at romance which makes this book all the more fascinating for those for whom it is destined.

—S. Homer.



The New Romanist Persecution in Colombia

Here on the left is a picture of the ruins of a Pentecostal Church at Mollinero, Colombia, which was dynamited on August 28, 1953. See the Editorial in our issue of January 9.

[Photo reproduced by courtesy of

The Christian.]

THE ELIM EVANGEL

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EDITORIAL

Separation or Segregation

A world of difference lies between these two terms. Must all classes and creeds be separated from their fellows and bunched into categories? Is racial segregation the answer to the colour problem? If this policy of segregation were to be carried to its ultimate, the population of the world would be segregated into groups all over the geographical outlines of the globe like a patchwork quilt, and barriers built that would ensure complete isolation.

In world economy today such a fallacy has been disproved by the realisation as never before in human history that He "hath made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on the face of the earth," and our lives are interwoven in the fabric of our modern civilisation. Barriers of language, customs, creeds, mountain ranges and sea coasts are being overstepped in the modern means of transport and education, and nations are integrated into one common civilisation as never before.

But the policy of separation—not segregation—must prevail. For the true believer in Christ there can be no possible intermixing with the world: "Come ye out from among them, and be ye separate" is still the clarion call of the Spirit. No one can truly serve Christ unless separated from the world and separated unto Christ. The scriptural term "sanctification" really means separation unto God, and only by a life consecrated absolutely to the principles of the Word of God and to the Person of the Lord Jesus Himself can we fulfil our calling. We must be in the world, but yet not of it. We pursue our pilgrimage through the world, but are never citizens of it, for our citizenship is in heaven, from whence we look for the Lord Jesus.

The modern world with radio, television, and all the scientific provision for mixing with the things that are afar as well as those that are near; with means at our disposal for seeing a theatrical display without going to a theatre, of listening to the popular "shows" without going to a

cinema or music hall, make the policy of separation a paramount need.

The youthful desire for thrills, and adventure, the urge to see life to its full, can never adequately be explored or experienced apart from Christ. The life that is separated unto Him, and lived for Him, provides the greatest thrill, the most glorious adventure that any young man or woman could desire. "Live dangerously" was never so applicable as it is to the Christian life. Live for self, you live in vain; live for Christ, you live again.

We must mingle with all and mix with none. We must never segregate ourselves but ever separate ourselves, so that we may always be His own peculiar treasure in a world that knows Him not.

MISSIONARY FINANCES

Following is the statement for November and December showing the financial needs of the Elim Missionary work and the amount of money received:

1953	Estimated Expenditure	Received
November	£1,200 ...	£745
December	£1,200 ...	£588
	<u>£2,400</u> ...	<u>£1,333</u>

Deficit £1,067.

POWER OF GOD

1. Power to **Give** (II. Pet. i. 3).
2. Power to **Keep** (I. Peter 1: 5).
3. Power to **Uphold** (Heb. i. 3).
4. Power to **Calm** (Col. i. 11).
5. Power to **Equip** (Eph. vi. 10).
6. Power to **Prepare** (Eph. iii. 16).
7. Power to **Use** (Acts i. 8).

OVERSEAS MISSIONS—Continued

thought of the past; so were some of the former members who are still standing true, and tears of joy flowed at the realisation that the same hall where they had enjoyed blessing was again open for the worship of God. For the present we are having two meetings a week and each week we have had new people present. Last Friday five people raised their hands for salvation. In the same meeting was a man who I understand was among the first to be saved in these meetings before the war, but because of the closing of the hall and war conditions, he had fallen into sin. We believe the Lord will revive the work which Pastor Scott had to leave.

"Since the re-opening of the work at Haine-St.-Pierre the Lord has also been blessing at Verviers, new doors have been opened for witness and we have had strangers coming to the meetings. While I am away at Haine-St.-Pierre on Sundays my wife, with the help of two Christians, carries on the work at Verviers." Our missionaries will greatly value prayer on behalf of the work on these fields.



OVERSEAS MISSIONS

A Page of News conducted by Pastor G. H. Thomas (Missionary Secretary)

. . . PRAY YE . . . GIVE YE . . . GO YE . . .

MISSIONARIES ARRIVE ON THE FIELD

Pastor and Mrs. J. Williams
(Penhalonga, S. Rhodesia)

Pastor and Mrs. J. Williams are now back on their station at Penhalonga, following their short furlough in the homeland, and have found that the work has progressed both at Penhalonga and at Inyanga North. Mr. Williams writes: "We had quite a nice voyage out and the 1,200 mile journey from Durban to Penhalonga in the Land Rover was not all bad. When we arrived at Penhalonga there was a funeral service being held in the church. One of our schoolboys had died very suddenly through eating dried fish. He was in school in the morning, seemingly quite well, and died in the afternoon, on the way to the doctor's. So within an hour of our home-coming we were standing with our people at the open grave of little Nyasha, the son of two of our most faithful members. Joy was mixed with sadness as we greeted our people.

"When we arrived at Durban we found a letter awaiting us from the Drs. Brien asking us to visit them as they were anxious for us to see the new buildings, etc. We waited until the schools had closed then went out to North Inyanga. I cannot tell you how amazed we were to see the work that has been accomplished in these last few months in the Briens' district. They have finished the building of the hospital except for the painting and colouring, and it really looks fine. They employed a native builder at a very reasonable figure and he has built the hospital, house and church. Every bit of workmanship is first class and I think you will be surprised when you see the pictures of these buildings later. They are all built with red bricks, made and burnt on the station. Dr. Brien has been rising at 5 a.m. all through the dry season and has spent the whole day hauling sand, water and building materials until sunset in order to get them completed before the rains. Besides that he has taken meetings at night and also at the week-ends. Mrs. Brien has done most of the dispensary work whilst he was so busy. I really don't know how they have stood up to the work of this last year. They were



overjoyed to see us and Dr. Brien, who was just recovering from an attack of malaria, revived at once. Mrs. Brien was suffering with five boils on her back caused by a certain fly which lays its eggs



on one's clothing and a maggot develops under the skin, causing severe boils. When the maggot has fully grown it bursts through the boil, then the thing clears up. However, in spite of these things they were up and doing and we all had a wonderful week together.

"On the Sunday morning the lovely red brick church was comfortably filled with about 250 gathered for the service and we could not help but notice the change in the people. From dirty, sullen, unresponsive people, they are now clean and respectably dressed, and their faces radiate the joy of the Lord. It is wonderful to see the confidence they have in the Doctors Brien as they come for treatment. One night while we were there a woman sent word that she wanted to repent. She had walked several miles to the mission station and would not return until she had made her peace with God.

"The Briens are now living in their new house. Everything was finished except the doors and these we were able to hang while we were there. They also have a two-roomed house ready for Miss Loosemore, who is to join them in their work. They are looking forward very much to her arrival as they are finding the work more than they can manage.

"At Penhalonga we have a big building programme on hand and are anxious to see the work making greater headway not only in the material but also in the spiritual side."

EXTENDING THE GOSPEL IN BELGIUM

Pastor and Mrs. T. Evans (Vervier)

For a number of years Pastor and Mrs. Evans have laboured in the town of Verviers and have enjoyed a measure of blessing, and recently have also taken on the responsibility of a work in Haine-St.-Pierre. Mr. Evans writes: "We are glad to be able to give a little report of the re-opening of the work at Haine-St.-Pierre. What a joy it gave us all as we re-opened the hall which before the war was the birthplace of many souls and where Pastor and Mrs. Archie Scott worked so faithfully. Since the war the hall has been used for various purposes, but we praise the Lord that the way has now opened up for us to have this place for services. With the kind help of a few Christians from another town we soon got the hall ready and on 14th November it was re-opened for the preaching of the Gospel, when we had with us Pastor and Mrs. Viquerat and some of his members from Charleroi. Mrs. Viquerat was moved as she prayed and



(Continued on previous page)

ARE YOU A BACKSLIDER? You are? Then I want to chat with you about your condition and God's cure. I want to tell you that despite everything, there is hope.

Now, there are not many who will be honest enough to admit a broken fellowship with God. The majority remind me of the terrible mistake a Scotch preacher friend of mine once made. Speaking of man's depravity and utter guilt, he finally challenged: "I'll give five pounds to any man who can stand up and say he has never sinned." At that point a man stood up, came forward, said he had never sinned—and collected! You see, profession is not a sure test of our spiritual state. If God is going to use me to help you with regard to this condition we call "backsliding," you will have to expose your need in humble heart-searching before the Spirit of God.

In order to be as helpful as possible, I will try to be practical and personal. If you are a backsliding child of God, you know that you are spoiled for both worlds! As such, you are scraping the bottom of misery. We will have to talk clearly to remove hindering misconceptions and to provide the God-prescribed remedy.

First of all, please look up my text—Jeremiah iii. 22—in your own Bible. I have a reason for asking you to do this. This text is peculiarly the backslider's hope. You see, "backsliding" as a Bible word is exclusively Old Testament. Of the seventeen references, thirteen are found in Jeremiah. When you look up these thirteen, you discover that more than half (seven) are located in Jeremiah chapter three! And Jeremiah iii. 22, is a sort of climax and summary of all this emphasis: "Return, ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings." Get this into your heart. Let this word from God soak deep down.

What is a Backslider?

You will probably answer, "Somebody who has slid backwards!" You are quite right—but **backwards from what?** There are two possibilities: (1) You may be backslidden as a true child of God. Peter and his denial of our Lord is a good illustration of such a person. (2) You may be backslidden from what has never been more than a religious profession. Judas, as one of the twelve, demonstrates this condition. Now I can't possibly know your personal relationship to God. But I can give you a simple test. In what or whom are you trusting for acceptance before a holy God? Don't bring up the experiences of the past. Can you say: "as best I know my heart before God, **right now** I am still trusting solely and wholly in the Lord Jesus Christ as my Saviour and Lord?" If you can say this, God is saying: "Return . . . and I will heal your backslidings."

For those who cannot truthfully confess a present trust in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, the gospel invitation still stands: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts xvi. 31). Do not let old experiences or anything else keep you from closing in with Christ. Remember our Lord's words to those trusting in their profession and demonstration: "Then will I profess unto them,

Is there Any Hope for the B

By REV

"Return, ye backsliding children,"

I never knew you; depart from Me, ye that work iniquity" (Matt. vii. 23).

This distinction between a true believer and a fake pretender is basic. From this point on, I shall assume that you are a born-again child of God and speak to you accordingly. Now listen carefully—when a Christian sins, **his salvation is unaffected**; his fellowship only is spoiled! You need to know this. If you are conscious of backsliding, the remedy is not in getting saved all over again but in obedience to the Divine requirements that govern our walk with the living Lord. Perhaps I can best explain this by illustration.

A backslider is like a non-speaking husband. He has union without communion. The fault does not lie with the marriage contract, but with conduct which spoils the communion.

A backslider is like a prodigal son. As one of the re-deemed you are accepted in Christ as a child of God. But in your spiritual relapse, though you are accepted as a member of the family, you are not acceptable in your behaviour. Every parent knows what I mean.

A backslider is like a prince in a cocktail bar. The Christian has a perfect standing because given the righteousness of Christ, but it is possible to get into a state unworthy of one in such a position.

Such is backsliding, and our discerning Lord is forced to say: "Thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men" (Matt. xvi. 23). Is this your condition?

What Causes Backsliding?

I am not thinking of a long list of things which may be specifically to blame, but of the more general factors that grease the skids for the backslider. The Bible reveals the causes by illustration.

Backsliding is caused by **being plugged into the wrong control room!** "And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ" (I. Cor. iii. 1). They were ruled by the flesh instead of being led of the Spirit. Their behaviour reflected the clay of Adam instead of the gold of Christ. Your life, too, can be plugged into the wrong control room. Christ is not Lord of your life. He should be! He must be!

Backsliding is caused by **a forgotten honeymoon!** Rev. ii. 4 reads: "Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left [not 'lost'] thy first love." The joy is gone. The thrill is missing. Service that was once a

BACKSLIDER?

BOEHMER

Heal your backslidings " (Jer. iii. 22).

blessing becomes a burden. The same progress that causes husbands and wives to sit hugging the door-handles of opposite sides of the car when once you couldn't see a hairbreadth between, is an evidence spiritually.

Backsliding is caused by neglecting to wash your ears! "Ye are dull of hearing," the writer to the Hebrews says and adds: "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God" (Heb. v. 11-12). Old truths, even basic truths, have become stale. But the staleness is in you, not in the truths of the grace of God. You have become a Dead Sea.

You are not alone in this condition. Many, many others are in the same boat tossed by the same storm. As a pastor I meet such folk constantly and long to help them. In dealing with those that have wandered away from the path and place of blessing, I usually ask simple questions:

"If you have the assurance of your salvation, are you expectantly looking to your Lord for victory in your daily need?" Some people's salvation was love at first sight, and they seem to think they don't need to take another look! On the contrary, the whole Christian life requires us to wait on the Lord by His Spirit and to get everything from Him and of Him.

"Are you reading your Bible as God's Word to you—reading it with an aim and for heart application?" When I get nothing out of my Bible reading, it is because I sought nothing.

"Have you learned to pray to your Heavenly Father?" I know this seems too simple, but I discover that some Christians have never gotten beyond their childhood prayer methods. There is no sense of actual fellowship with God. Prayer is a monotonous monologue instead of a communion and conversation.

"Do you openly identify yourself before others as one of Christ's?" Secret discipleship is the baby carriage for backsliders. Failure to speak usually results in failure to stand.

"Is there some 'thin end of the wedge,' some root cause for your backslidings?" You may not be conscious of anything definite. On the other hand, many can trace their whole collapse to some one thing which they have withheld from God, some one area in which they have said "No." Your spiritual growth is like taking a course by correspondence—you cannot expect to have the second lesson until you report on the first. Obedience in little things is the first step. Disobedience in anything brings defeat in everything.

The Hope of Backsliders

You haven't forgotten our text, have you? The backslider's verse—Jeremiah iii. 22—"return, ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings." Learn once and for all the sufficient basis for your hope, the simple condition, and the sure result.

The sufficient basis on which the hope of backsliders rests is the **grace of God**. Victory in every spiritual problem comes through a simple confidence in the grace and power of Another. Base your hope on the sufficiency of the grace of God. God will always restore the repentant, returning backslider because He deals with us by grace alone! Remember that just as God saves us from sin by grace alone through the Cross of our Lord Jesus, so God restores us to fellowship on this same grace basis.

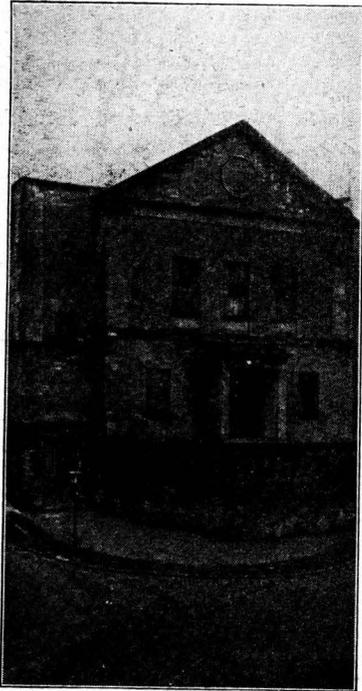
You who are being tormented by the thought that you are beyond God's forgiveness—think for a moment. If you are a parent and your child comes and asks forgiveness for his disobedience, do you withhold what is sought? No, never! And neither will the Heavenly Father turn one of His erring children away when they seek a restored fellowship.

The simple condition is to "return." "Turn ye unto Me, saith the Lord of Hosts, and I will turn unto you" (Zech. i. 3). This returning, of course, has its confession aspect, and its cleansing aspect. "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper; but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy" (Prov. xxviii. 13); "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (I. John i. 9). Take your stand right here. In faith return to the Lord. Renew your fellowship. Enter once again into the joy of the Lord.

The sure result is affirmed in our text: "Return . . . and I will heal your backslidings." God has pledged Himself. The promise is true.

Does it seem too simple? Then remember that the problem of your sin was not simple to God. To provide a way for men with their sin to be forgiven and to fellowship eternally with Himself, God had to give up His only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus; the Lord Jesus had to give up His own blood as your Substitute; the tomb had to give up our Lord's crucified, buried body. And now God in grace—grace set free because of the perfect provision of the Cross—can and will receive you. He can do no less. You could not ask for more. Are you still hesitating? Is there still some lingering doubt in your mind as to whether there is hope for you? Oh, if Christ had not died for all our sins; if the pardon were only partial; if the finished work were not finished; if our victorious Advocate were not the righteous One; and if our mighty Intercessor were not faithful and just, it might be conceivable for God to refuse to restore to fellowship an erring child. But all is done! Every provision has been made. The Father watches for the first sight of your return. He longs to bestow the kiss of welcome. "Return, ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings."

New Year Convention at Greenock



The Greenock Church continues to bear witness to the truths of the Gospel and to interest others in the Kingdom of God.

The Sisterhood Anniversary was exceptionally well attended and the gallery of this spacious church had to be opened to accommodate those visiting from other churches; it was truly an inspiring sight. Pastor J. McAvoy was the special speaker.

The prize-giving and Christmas treats are worthy of mention. Altogether, about 250 children were catered for, and the various items on the programmes were ably

carried through by the scholars to the enjoyment of all.

The New Year Convention follows on as worthy of note. Pastor Gordon Wright of Eastbourne, and Pastor Cowdery of Blackheath, were this year's speakers and their ministry in word and song was appreciated by all. The ministry of the Word deserves special mention, and if put into effect by the hearers, should contribute greatly to future spiritual development.

The Church here is facing the New Year with great confidence in God.

More baptisms at Hove

On the last Sunday in 1953 another baptismal service was held in the church at Hove, when five candidates were immersed. This is the third baptismal service since the summer and the folk here are much encouraged to see many of the new converts and young people following the Lord in this way.

During the past three months many new members have been received into fellowship. At one service twelve were given the right hand of fellowship.

Crusader meetings, too, have been most encouraging. To see new young people attending the services and taking a keen interest in the Monday evenings has been an inspiration.

There is a great spirit of expectation in the services, and

Sunday evenings especially see a good congregation coming together. The choir under the leadership of Mr. R. Robbins, one of the deacons, has done excellent service and its endeavours have been much appreciated.

Quite recently a number of seekers had been baptised with the Spirit. Three members of one family received in one week. The Lord has been pleased to manifest some new gifts of prophecy and interpretation in the worship and prayer meetings. It is inspiring to see the folk going on with the Lord in this way.

Teenagers Baptised at Huddersfield

A hearty welcome was given to Pastor and Mrs. G. K. Steele recently at the Huddersfield Church, when they took over the Pastorate. Pastor J. Gardiner conducted the Induction service. Pastor J. H. Gee gave the Word.

For years the folk here have been burdened for the Sunday School scholars. The Lord has answered prayer, for recently the Crusader branch was reformed. It was a great occasion when the Halifax Crusaders came along to take the first meeting. They brought much encouragement by their enthusiasm.

The Sunday School workers rejoice in having the zealous co-operation of Pastor and Mrs. Steele.

During Christmas week, the friends here were privileged to take the Good News, in the form of Carol services, to two local hospitals.

With the beginning of the New Year it was a joy to see eight young people confessing Christ in going through the waters of baptism. Six of them were teenagers from the Sunday School, one of whom has been the subject of much earnest prayer. Great was the joy when she was saved some months ago. The baptismal service, held in a local Baptist Church, was taken by Pastor Steele. It was blessed of God.

New Converts and New Members

Special week-end services have recently been held to mark the occasion of the redecoration and improvement of the church at West Bromwich. It was a pleasure to have a visit from an old friend and former minister, Pastor E. Harford, whose ministry was a challenge to all present. Hearts were deeply stirred as he recalled how, some years ago, the Lord opened up the way for the assembly here to use the present building when there was nowhere else to worship, and how the building was made usable after lying derelict and damaged by bombs.

Again the Lord has undertaken in a wonderful way. The people from whom the building is rented have given £250 towards the cost of renovating it. There is much cause for thanksgiving for the Lord truly has been gracious.

(Continued on page 59)

Elim Youth Page

We are Crusading for Christ — We "Fight the good fight,"

Conducted by Pastor J. HYWEL DAVIES (National Youth Secretary)

SPORT - How far should I go?



Allow me to introduce Reg. D. Ballard, writer of this week's feature. (District Youth Commissioner for the Bournemouth and District Presbytery). Mr. Ballard was a keen sportsman—ex-school and college boxing champion, won his college colours for rugger, cricket and soccer—he has been a schoolmaster, soldier and is now a sales representative. Recently married to the Winton Crusader Secretary, he writes "Now got diploma for washing up!"

To some young people whose minds are made up and whose views are formed on this subject, the question which leads this short article presents no problem at all; for others, whose natural inclination does not lead them into the realm of sport, the matter rarely arises; but, to the vast majority of young people who want to be the best for God and to live to please Him, there comes the question, not once, but many times: "How far should I go in the realm of sport?"

The Bible does not have much to say about sport, but in a broader way the Bible does help us, for it lays down the principles which enable us to make the right decisions.

Let us look at two Scriptures. Matthew vi. 33, reads: "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness . . ." Can then, sport help us in seeking first God's Kingdom?

Colossians iii. 17 says: "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him." Can we take part in sport in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks unto the Father by Him? I believe the answer to both of these questions is "Yes." Now let us look at the reasons.

All of us would agree that we are made up of body, mind and spirit and that each has its part of play. How often have we spoken of unsaved folk neglecting the most important of these three; but are we not, as Christians, often guilty in some degree of failing to look after our bodily side? A really healthy body, if we have been blessed with such, and have looked after it, is glorifying to

God. I. Cor. vi. 19, 20, will help us to understand this. Lord Baden-Powell, in writing to young people, stressed that one of the finest ways of relaxing the mind was to exercise the body. Paul, writing in I. Tim. iv. 8, says: "Bodily exercise profiteth for a little time (marginal rendering) but godliness is profitable unto all things." Truly we agree that spiritual exercise is the vital thing, but that does not mean that we should neglect bodily exercise!

The question then is: "If sport is right, how far should I go? What games should I play and with whom should I play them?"

Taking the second question first, what a host of games come to mind! Soccer, Rugger, Hockey, Netball, Cricket, Tennis, Swimming, and many others! Personally, I believe there are very few games that, in themselves, are not fine and healthy. Generally it is the wrong association that has brought them into disrepute. But why don't you apply the tests we first spoke of and let us have your views?

With whom should I play? Some have joined outside clubs with the pure motive of witnessing to its members and have been blessed, but generally, I would say, without doubt that the best people for Christian young folk to play with are those of like faith and thought.

How far should I go? Let us look again at God's Word. Paul, in writing in I. Cor. ix. 25, says: "And every man that striveth for the mastery, is temperate in all things," and here, I believe, is the answer. Sport should be our servant, and not our master, and this can only be so when it is kept in its proper place. If at any time we found that sport, in any shape or form, was taking our interest away from spiritual things and coming between us and God, then we should know that we had gone too far.

One of the happiest things that I have learned from the Scriptures is that Christ has called us to be free and to look upon Him as our Father. "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear but ye have received the spirit of adoption whereby we cry Abba Father" (Rom. viii. 15).

Let us rejoice in the freedom which God has given to us and share the joys of healthy sport with our Father who loves us and cares for us.



The Family Altar and Elim Prayer Circle

A page for your daily meditations
and prayer

Scripture Union Portions. Notes by Pastor T. W. Walker.

SUNDAY, January 31st. Revelation v. 1-14.

"The Lion" (v. 5); "a Lamb" (v. 6).

Here is all the mystery of the incarnation. Kingly, divine, all powerful, yet innocent, defenceless, appealing, dependent, a Babe—all the wonder of Bethlehem is implied. Worshipped by rough shepherds and eastern potentates, Christ was one with all of us. In the midst of heaven's glories, is a Lamb as it had been slain. Christ will demonstrate His condescension and His regality in His millennial kingdom on earth, for lion and lamb will eat and sleep together. We first saw Him as the Lamb slain for us. We have learned to serve Him as our King. Despised, rejected torn and bleeding on Calvary, but He was in command. He could have called for legions of angels to ravage the dastardly opponents of His redemption—but He so loved as to give Himself for the unworthy, for even me.

MONDAY, February 1st. Revelation vi. 1-17.

"The wrath of the Lamb" (v. 16).

Righteous indignation is a passion terrible to behold. The picture of the understanding, sympathetic Saviour driving out the black marketeers of the Temple is a most awe-inspiring one. The vengeance of a holy God because it is deserved and just is all the more dreadful. We do not like to dwell upon this side of the truth. We dismiss it as an Old Testament outlook. The appeal of the day of grace must never be presented in such a way as to lead to the idea that salvation through Christ is a matter of whim or fancy. The plain fact is that it is the only way. Unless the higher law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus intervenes upon our acceptance of His love, the law of restitution will have its dread way. "Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men" (II. Cor. v. 11).

TUESDAY, February 2nd. Revelation vii. 1-17.

"White in the blood of the Lamb" (v. 14).

Again occurs this theme of redemption through the blood of Jesus. Let those who deny the power of the blood meditate long upon this book. In most scenes there is some reference to the atoning work of Christ. These persecuted ones, who have overcome great tribulation and trial, are present in the praising throng, not because of their brave stand but because of the blood of Jesus. There will be none who will enjoy the blessings of Beulah who have not known the cleansing of that fountain filled with blood. The finest religious service cannot save, nor can martyrdom. Only in the atonement of the Cross is there salvation.

WEDNESDAY, February 3rd. Revelation xix. 5-16.

"His wife" (v. 7).

Here is a link with the poetic and picturesque language of the Old Testament prophets. If anything were needed to illustrate the desire of God in creation to make for Himself a people who would voluntarily commune with Him, surely it is found in this tender picture. Think of the wonder of two young Christians plighting their troth in God's House. Who can fail to be moved by the simple glory of it? Love has brought them to the place of avowal and dedication. They feel they cannot live apart; they must be one. This is the metaphor used by the Bible to tell of Christ's desire towards the members of His Church. Seeing the marriage of the Lamb which is still future, John revealed that the bride had made herself ready. In this period of our betrothal to the Lamb, the Faithful and True, this is our happy task.

THURSDAY, February 4th. Revelation xx. 1-15.

"The second death" (v. 6, 14).

To many who unthinkingly ask in national crisis why God does not intervene, this chapter must come as a warning. If He were to act, the resultant judgment would be terrible in the extreme.

Though men slight Him and forget Him, He still leaves the Spirit and the Bride to seek to invite them: to accept His mercy. These verses must inspire us to evangelism. It is bluntly true that the second, everlasting death holds no terrors only for those who are saved. Destruction arouses in our minds thoughts of carnage, wreckage, and the unleashing of mighty forces. The lot of the unregenerate is everlasting destruction—as everlasting as the throne of God. The saving message is known and experienced by us. Can we, dare we, withhold it from the unsaved at home, and abroad?

FRIDAY, February 5th. Revelation xxi. 1-14.

"It is done" (v. 6).

When God finished creating, He looked out and saw that all things were very good. Before He dismissed His spirit, our Lord cried, "It is finished." Here we arrive at another focal point in the Divine plan. You will notice that John is here addressed by the Occupant of the throne (v. 5) who, in words strangely reminiscent of those from the Cross, signalled the completion of all things, the ushering in of the era of the new heaven and the new earth. How stimulating it is to contemplate the faithfulness of God! We often remind ourselves that Christ Jesus went every step of the way to Calvary; it is gloriously, equally true to say that God has always gone every step of the way—and He always will!

SATURDAY, February 6th. Revelation xxi. 15-27.

"No night there" (v. 25).

This phrase is very descriptive of the perfection of the future communion of Christ with the redeemed. It is foreshadowed in our present experience of salvation for we are "not of the night, nor of darkness" (I. Thess. v. 5). We have been called "out of darkness into His marvellous light" (I. Pet. ii. 9). Darkness obscured the Cross when sin had its dread way with the Saviour. He, in whom is no darkness at all, was made so unspeakable that His passion was hid from mortal eyes. The result of His magnificent offering is found in the lyrical words of this chapter. No temple, no sun, no moon, no shut gates, no night, nothing that defiles will be found when God has accomplished all things.

IS IT WRONG?

Susannah Wesley answered the question "Is it wrong?" for her son, John Wesley, as follows:

"Whatever weakens your reason

Whatever impairs your tenderness of conscience

Whatever obscures your sense of God

Whatever increases the strength and authority of your
body over your mind

That thing to you is wrong, however innocent it may
be in itself."

PROSPECT

The old year has ended,
The new lies ahead;
Let's ask God to guide us,
As onward we tread.

Let's ask Him for grace,
And new power within;
That others around us,
To Him we might win.

Let's serve Him much better,
Then one day above,
We'll see all around Him,
The fruits of His love.

—D. J. FRANCIS.

COMING EVENTS

BARKING. Feb. 7. Salvation Army Youth Hall, Horley Road. Pastor's Third Anniversary. Speaker: Pastor H. W. Greenway, 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

BELFAST (Ulster Temple). Continuing. Ulster Temple, Ravenhill Road. Campaign by Russell Richardson, Canadian Evangelist. Suns., 7 p.m. Week-nights (except Fri.), 8.

BIRMINGHAM. Jan. 30. Elim Full Gospel Church, Muntz Street, Small Heath. Great Amalgamation Rally. Conveners: Pastors J. Dyke and W. Millington. 7.30 p.m.

CAMBERWELL. March 13. Elim Church, Benhill Road. South London District Presbytery Rally. 7 p.m. Special speaker: Pastor G. Stormont. Musical ministry by the Woodlands Trio.

DORKING. Feb. 6. Elim Church, Willow Walk. South London District Presbytery Rally 7 p.m. Speaker: Pastor A. R. Boston.

HASTINGS. Feb. 7. Elim Church, Silverhill Hall, St. Leonards. Pastor's Anniversary. Special speaker: Pastor G. M. Every, Margate.

HAYES. Feb. 6. Elim Church, Keith Road. Visit of the London Crusader Choir. 7 p.m.

LEYTON. Jan. 23-Feb. 7. Elim Church, Vicarage Road, Sat. (23rd), 3 and 6.30. East London Revival Rally. Sun., 11 and 6.30. Mon., 7.30, Pastor S. Gorman. Second Advent Series (until Feb. 7, Fris. excepted).

LOWESTOFT. March 20-22. Elim Church, Milton Road. Pastor's fifteenth anniversary services. Special speaker Pastor F. A. Hodge. Sat. and Mon., 7.30 p.m. Sun., 11 a.m., 3 (Divine Healing) and 6.30 p.m..

MANSFIELD. Feb. 12th-17th. Elim Church, Co-operative Hall, Clerkson Street. Second Anniversary. Speakers: Pastors L. Lambert and J. Hywel Davies. Convener: Pastor J. C. Mulvagh. Fri., Mon., Wed., in Quaker Lane Hall, 7.30 p.m. Sun., 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Tues., 7.30 p.m. Clerkson Street Hall.

RANDALSTOWN. Continuing. Elim Church. Campaign by Pastor A. Wilson. Suns., 7 p.m. Week-nights (except Fri.), 8.

ROTHERHAM. Feb. 13-18. Elim Revival Centre. College Road. Missionary Exhibition. Week-nights, 7. Sun., 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Speakers: Pastors L. Wigglesworth (Congo), S. W. Law (India), G. H. Thomas (Missionary Secretary). Missionary films and film strips.

SELLY OAK. Feb. 6 Elim Church, Alton Road, Selly Oak. Birmingham and District Presbytery Rally. Speaker: Pastor F. J. Slemming. Convener: Pastor J. Osman. 3.30 and 7 p.m. (cups of tea).

SWINDON. Jan 30, 31. Coronation Temple, Osborne Street. Miss Vera McGillivray, Elim missionary to Formosa. Sat., 7 p.m. Sun., 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

WALTHAM ABBEY. Feb. 13. Elim Church, Silver Street. North London Presbytery Rally, 7 p.m. Speaker: Pastor Hemmingway. Leyton Ladies' Choir and testimonies from Wood Green.

MISSIONARY ITINERARIES

Miss L. W. Loosemore, prospective Elim missionary to Southern Rhodesia will visit the following churches:

Feb. 4—Eastbourne. 6—Hove. 7, 8—Worthing. 9—Portsmouth. 10—Canada. 11—Eastleigh. 14, 15—Bournemouth (Springbourne).

Miss F. Grossen, Elim missionary on furlough from the Transvaal, will visit the following churches:

Jan. 30—Dewsbury, 31—Huddersfield. Feb. 2—Wrenthorpe.

NEW CONVERTS AND NEW MEMBERS—Continued

Pastor H. Fisher has put in a lot of work on the building with untiring efforts, but to quote his own words: "We glory not in the building, but trust it will be a means to an end, and that the unsaved will be attracted to come and hear the gospel of saving grace."

During recent months three of one family have decided for Jesus Christ, and several new members have been received into fellowship, also Pastor Fisher has commenced a branch Sunday School in an outlying housing estate. The attendance is very encouraging and has resulted in a number of teenagers from that area coming along to the gospel services.

—Ethel Truby.

"THE GREAT PHYSICIAN"

Christ is the only refuge. If you were very sick, and there was only one medicine that would cure you, how anxious you would be to get that medicine.

If you were in a storm at sea, and you found that the ship could not weather it, and there was only one harbour, how anxious you would be to get into that harbour.

Oh, sin-sick soul, Christ is the only medicine! Oh, storm-tossed soul, Christ is the only harbour!—Sel.

SAVING HIS LIFE

By C. D. Carter

EDWARD WATLAND was working under his car when it suddenly slipped off the jack and landed on his chest. He could not get out, and it was slowly crushing his life out.

Then Russell Nylander, who weighed only 140 pounds, came and picked up one end of the automobile single handed, and lifted it off the man's chest.

Watland managed to struggle from under the machine, gasping for breath. Nylander dropped the car, took a few steps, and collapsed in great agony. At the hospital an examination showed that he had suffered a fractured spine. He literally broke his back to save the other man. His condition was very serious, but he was expected to recover after several months in a cast.

In like manner, I had a very heavy load of sins which was more than I could bear. It was slowly crushing me. And if this great burden of sins had not been removed, they would have crushed out my life and sunk me into hell before this time.

But along came the Lord Jesus, and in His love He

reached down and lifted my burden of sins, and then put them all away from me for ever. And He has given me new life I never had before.

But in removing my heavy load of sins, He laid down His own sinless life as a result. For no sin can be removed until an innocent Substitute bears the punishment for them in place of the guilty. So a little over 1,900 years ago, the Lord Jesus went to the Cross, and there He suffered and died under my heavy burden of sins. "Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the Just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God" (1 Peter iii. 18).

Has He removed your sins and guilt, dear friend? If not, then why not look to the Saviour today, and let Him save you and make you one of His own dear children, "children of God by faith in Christ Jesus" (Gal. ii. 26)? Trust His great sacrifice for you, receive Him as your Saviour and Lord and your burden of sin will be lifted and put away for ever. And then you can "walk in newness of life" (Rom. vi. 4).

Classified Advertisements

All advertisements should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, Elim Publishing Co., Ltd., Clapham Crescent, London, S.W.4, and should arrive **WEDNESDAY** mornings for issue a week the following Saturday.

30 words (minimum) 5s. per insertion and 2d. for every additional word. Box number 6d. per insertion extra; also allow for 6 words to be added to your advertisement. Series discounts: 5 per cent for 6 insertions, 10 per cent for 13 insertions. Classified advertisements **MUST** be prepaid.

Advertisers under "Board-Residence, etc.," must send with the advertisement the name of an Elim minister to whom we can write for reference. These advertisements should reach us a few days early to give us time to take up the reference. The insertion of an advertisement in this column does not imply any guarantee from us.

BOARD-RESIDENCE, ETC.

Bangor, N. Ireland.—Rathmore House, 194, Sealcliffe Road. Sea-front; adjacent sandy beach, putting and tennis greens; h. & c., spring interiors; superior catering. Special quotations for parties. Enquiries: Pastor and Mrs. Wesley Gilpin. 'Phone 1405. C.10

Bournemouth.—Crosbie Hall, Florence Road, Boscombe; open all year; homely, Christian fellowship; moderate inclusive terms; good food; h. & c., gas fires, interior springs, all rooms; few minutes sea; 'Phone 34714. Brown. C.12

Bridlington.—Booking now at the house of many happy returns; sea front. H. & c.; spring interiors; good food; personal supervision; terms reasonable. Pensioners £3 10s. 0d. per week—May 22nd to June 5th. Barraclough & Riley, 21, Albion Terrace. 'Phone: 5276. C.4

Guernsey.—Come to sunny Guernsey. Christian fellowship; central, near bays, town, Elim Church, bus routes; h. & c. bathroom. Mrs. Ogier, Minden Villa Guest House, Rocquettes, St. Peter Port. 'Phone: Guernsey 489. C.11

Ilfracombe, Devon.—Restful holidays; happy Christian fellowship; almost level with sea-front; near shops, and places of worship; highly recommended. Please write for illustrated brochure to Mr. and Mrs. Puddicombe, "Maranatha," Torrs Park. C.1

London.—Visitors welcomed for long or short periods at the Elim Bible College; spiritual fellowship and home comforts; a limited number of residents received.—Apply enclosing stamped addressed envelope to The Matron, Elim Woodlands, Clarence Ave., Clapham Park, London, S.W.4.

Newquay, Cornwall.—Delightfully situated Christian Guest House; happy fellowship; excellent catering; own farm produce; Guernsey cows; modern amenities; tennis, putting. Special welcome to the Lord's people. Apply:—Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Hooper, The Place, Newquay. 'Phone: Newquay 2526. C.8

Torquay.—Torquay Christian Guest House; near railway station, buses, sea, shops and assembly; lovely view; happy fellowship; good food; every comfort. Mrs. Bawtree "Bethany," 14, Sherwell Lane, Chelston. 'Phone: Torquay 65555. C.9

MISCELLANEOUS

For Sale, Record case (to hold 50)—and several records, including American; nearly all in good condition: £4 4s. 0d. Box 748 "Elim Evangel" Office. C.13

MARRIAGE

Weir: Jennings.—On January 12th, at Elim Church, Rathfriland, by Pastors R. J. George, W. H. Holohan, and W. J. Martin; Joseph Alexander Weir to Anona Ruth Jennings.

WITH CHRIST

Burroughs.—On January 10th, Edith Rhoda Burroughs, aged 85. Funeral conducted by Pastor George Backhouse. "With Christ . . . far better."

Dawson.—On January 10th, George Edward Dawson, Elder of A.o.G. Norwich, and several years at Elim Church, Lowestoft. Funeral conducted by Pastors Robert Fairnie, J. Quattrill and George Backhouse. "Life's work well done."

Gallidge.—On January 8th, Miss Phillis Gallidge, aged 27, member, Cadet Leader, and Crusader, of Elim Church, Wells, called suddenly into the presence of her Lord; missed by all. Funeral conducted by Pastor A. M. Clarke.

Grayson.—On January 9th, John Walter Grayson, aged 57, beloved member of Elim Church, Sheffield, passed into the presence of the Lord, after much suffering patiently borne. Now re-united with his daughter Betty. Funeral conducted by Pastor S. Penney. "With Christ which is far better."

Coles.—On January 8th, Thomas Coles (father of Mrs. J. R. Knight), aged 74; member of Elim Church, Salisbury. Funeral conducted by Pastors J. R. Knight and F. J. Slemming. "Absent from the body—present with the Lord."

Macnamara.—On December 20th at York, Lt.-Col. Macnamara, M.B.E. (father of Mrs. Ken. Matthew). Funeral conducted by Rev. Redvers Sampson.

Williams.—On January 1st, Mrs. Williams, aged 78, member of Elim Church, Southend-on-Sea. Funeral service (by cremation) conducted by Pastor G. Stormont. "At rest with the Lord."

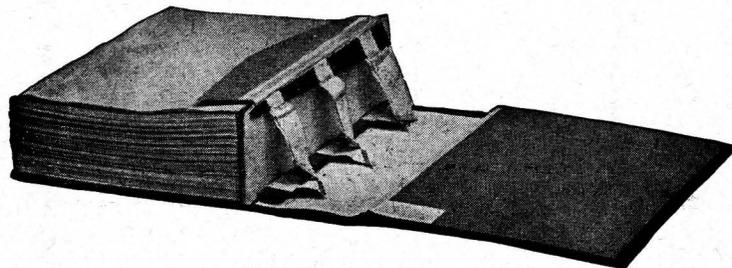
BIRTH

Morgan.—On December 10th, to Mr. and Mrs. P. B. Morgan, Pontypridd, God's gift of a daughter, Susan.

ONLY A FEW LEFT

We have just a small number of the binders for two years' copies of "The Elim Evangel."

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