FAITHAND ICTORY

Church of God Servant

Unto <u>Him</u> shall the gathering of the people be.

God Is Love YE SHINE AS LIGHTS IN THE WORLD. JESUS SAVES

The night cometh, when no man can work.

Volume 74, No. 11

74th Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

\$1.00 Per Year

Feb., 1997

So Have I - Thus I Am

By Angela Kelly

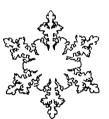
Like the flower that withers and fades, So have I. Fading, losing all dignity and glory.

Fading, losing all dignity and glory. Fading, losing all pride and vanity.

Like the snowflake that melts in the sun, So have I.

Melting away all self-will and distinction.

Melting me into newness of mind.



Like the pliable pots of clay, So am I. Spinning, spinning around being formed By the Master's hands.

ContentsSo Have I—Thus I Am1Praise2What Jesus Taught About Friendship3Editorials4Prayer Requests5Meeting Notices5Letters from the Readers6Foreign Mission Report10In Memoriam10An Effective Kiss13Excerpts From Messages1448 Hours in Hell14Internet News16Window to the Past16

Spinning and waiting.
Waiting to be filled.
Fading, losing, melting, renewing,
spinning, waiting...
Thus I am.



Praise

By Sis. Jeanie Samons
"...Praise God in his sanctuary:... Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord...."

Psalm 150:1.6.

The Bible speaks many times of the word "praise" in regard to our expression of it. In verb form the word "praise" means: to express favorably; noun: an expression of favor. The dictionary word "express" is "to make known the feeling of."

Society has successfully taught us to repress our feelings. In learning good manners, we have become very tactful. Our basic human emotion confuses our individual personalities so that we never quite know whether to "keep it all in" or "let it all out." Sometimes, we get so mixed up about what we are to do with this inner being that we become moody, depressed or what is commonly called, "stressed out!"

Given opportunity, despite personality, each one of us wants to express our feelings. Even those who tend to be very quiet by nature have something that they will become quite vocal about. Have you ever happened upon someone like this and it really surprised you to see that they could become so expressive?

If we are Christians, what could be more exciting than our salvation? One brother in our local congregation was definitely not a conversationalist in social circles, but whenever he had an opportunity to testify in our services, he did it with fervor. His testimony was brimming with praise, and I have never seen a more contented or blessed man. He spent little time talking about his troubles, except possibly in personal prayer, but his life portrayed one who spent much time in praise and gratitude to God and to others.

Could it be that we are spending too much time on our problems and that we have crowded out the praise, honor and thanksgiving commanded in the scripture? Perhaps so many of those spiritual blessings we have been seeking, that overcoming power, or that daily victory, is being hindered because we have lost our praise.

All of us have probably observed those who can dominate a conversation with all of their personal problems and make everyone aware of their daily or weekly hassles, only to sit on the

church pews in silence, except for possibly a long list of prayer requests. Sometimes, folks can become quite verbal at "prayer request" time, but backward at testimony service. Philippians 4:6 instructs us, "...With thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God." If we compared the time given to thanksgiving and that given to asking, I am afraid it would be unbalanced. The entire atmosphere of a church service can be affected by the spirit of devotion, praise, worship and thanksgiving.

Very often, because of physical problems, or just the burdens of life, we tend to go to church services feeling down, hoping to be cheered up. Often we do get encouragement. We will all have these times. But much more could be accomplished if we encouraged ourselves before going to services, so we could be a blessing to someone else. When we go with a song, a thanksgiving, a prayer or a testimony, we will always add inspiration to a service.

The traditions of praising God in public worship by lifting up holy hands, singing and making melody in our hearts, having a ready prayer, a spirited testimony or an exhortation, are not just things to do to hold the Church together. They are individual manifestations of personal victories from the Lord. They are an expression of that close walk with the Lord. If it is a reality, it can't help but come out! If we live privately where we are responding to the Lord and His dealings with us, when we are in public, there will be an automatic response to worship and praise of Him.

Let's not suppress those outlets the Lord has given to us so naturally. If we do, really we are missing the blessings and victories that attend them. Revelation says: "They OVER-CAME by the blood of the lamb and the word of their testimony." Overcoming power in our lives comes by verbalizing our love for the Lord.

Don't be concerned with what others think. People make fools of themselves over many frivolous things. Be concerned with your desire to be blessed and the chance to encourage

"Much more could be accomplished if we encouraged ourselves before going to services, so we could be a blessing to someone else."

others of your brothers and sisters toward this "aliveness."

It is true that all of our public praise should be done in decency and in order. We should be careful that our timing of words and emotions are in the control of the Holy Spirit. God is not the author of confusion. It is also true that unless your personal life portrays a godly message, a public image of religious fervor will be less than impressive. It must first begin in the heart, in the home and in the personal prayer closet. If these are blessed, it will naturally extend beyond those bounds.

Each of us should consider our own contribution to the Church. To make if effective, we must each do our part. Praise is necessary. God wants it; He needs it; even commands it.

Consider yourself. Do you respond to the

true message of the songs by raising heart and hands to the Lord? (This is scriptural.) Do you contribute to public prayer with a real burdenbearing spirit or do you wait for others to carry that? (Prayer is not a gift.) Do you faithfully praise the Lord through public thanksgiving, testimony and agreement of the Word at every opportunity? These are all expressions of praise to the One who is worthy to be praised!

If you find yourself coming up short, remember that "...Praise is comely." (Psalm 33:1.) Or in other words, becoming. Praise graces and beautifies the Church. It is what makes it attractive to others.

All of us have emotions that God created to be released. Let's honor, praise and worship God from the depths of our heart and watch ourselves grow and the Church prosper!

What Jesus Taught About Friendship

By Earl L. Martin

(Taken from: Young People's Friend—1928 Published by the **Gospel Trumpet Company**)

Jesus has taught us about friendship by speech and by parable, by act and deed, and most of all, by becoming a Friend Himself. Jesus was a friend. Jesus had friends. Jesus is a friend. Jesus has friends. He wants to be a

friend to us. He wants us to be His friends. And He wants us to be friends to each other.

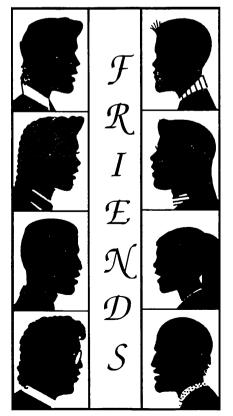
Jesus had a genius for friendship-a gift for understanding the feeling of man and entering into those feelings. He did not deal in mere abstractions about friendship—He was a friend. Not a "friend of man" in the abstract conventional way that Frost has so sentimentally written of in his poem, one line of which is, "Let me live in the house by the side of the road. And be a friend of man." Jesus was not that kind of a friend. He did not choose a "house by the side of the road" but got right out where men were, mingled with the masses and with individuals, "where cross the crowded ways of life," walked the road with men, sailed the sea with men.

tramped over the mountain and through the valleys with men, He sought men and women and men and women sought Him, by the well curb, in the temple, on the street, by the seaside, everywhere. They even came quietly seek-

ing Him, Nicodemus like, as the evening shadows fell. Everywhere and always they sought Him and He sought them. And it is not in the past. He is the same way today.

He respected people. A respect for people is one of the first requisites for friendship. He respected men's personalities. He never "rushes" the human spirit. Men, to Him, are not just so many pawns in the game of life. It is not of the masses that He thinks, but of the individual. The masses appeal to Him, but it is because the mass is made up of so many individuals. "I have prayed for thee," He said to Peter. He had time to pray intensely for one individual. It gives us an idea of His gifts in friendship. He had faith in

(Continued on page 11.)



FAITH AND VICTORY 16 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY

This non-sectarian paper is edited and published in the interest of the universal CHURCH OF GOD each month (except August of each year, and we omit an issue that month to attend camp meetings), by Wayne Murphey, and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK 73044 (USPS184-660).

(Periodical postage paid at Guthrie, OK)

Notice to subscribers: Whenever you move or change your address, please write us at once, giving your old and new address, and include your zip code number. The post office now charges 50* to notify us of each change of address.

Dated copy for publication must be received by the 18th of the month prior to the month of issue.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

•••••

This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21, and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ-the same gospel that Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced, including divine healing for the body. James 5:14-15.

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the restoration and promulgation of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning Church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: separation from the sinful world and entire devotion to the service and will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God, and no test of fellowship but the indwelling Spirit of Christ.

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Cooperation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way as the Bible and the Holy Spirit teach you to do or stir your heart. "Freely ye have received, freely give." Read Ex. 25:2; I Chron. 29:9; II Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

Freewill offerings sent in to the work will be thankfully received as from the Lord. Checks and money orders should be made payable to Faith Publishing House. All donations are tax deductible.

A separate Missionary Fund is maintained in order to relay missionary funds from our readers to the support of home and foreign missionaries and evangelists.

In order to comply with the Oklahoma laws as a non-profit religious work, the Faith Publishing House is incorporated thereunder.

FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

P. O. Box 518, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK 73044 Office phone numbers: 405-282-1479, 800-767-1479; fax number: 405-282-6318; home phone: 405-282-6170. Internet address: http://www.theshop.net/faithpub

Postmaster: Please send address corrections to: Faith Publishing House, P. O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044.



Where are the Good Samaritans?...

"I would dedicate the nation to the policy of the Good Samaritan."

This statement, made by President Roosevelt in his inaugural address, indicates that the parable recorded in Luke 10:25-37 impacted his thinking.

I doubt few would question the benefit to society if we were blessed with more good Samaritans. But many are still asking the question which the lawyer put to Jesus, "...who is my neighbour?" Luke 10:29.

The very fact that the lawyer made such an inquiry reveals his lack of ability or understanding on how to be a good Samaritan. It takes a Christian actively following the example of Christ, with the true love of God abiding in his heart, to fill this position.

Just a profession of Christianity won't make the grade, as the priest and Levite proved. No doubt they believed in good deeds also, as long as they could work within their comfort zone, and not violate their conscience, which was trained by the law spoken by the rabbis of that day.

When one has the love of Christ within, the question of "who is my neighbour," won't be a difficult one, for there will be an interest in every person with whom they come in contact. Unmeasured service to all mankind is the love of God.

A striking feature of this parable is that Christ dignifies the Samaritan. "Samaritan" was the name given in derision to mixed people who colonized Samaria after the deportation of the tribes of Israel to Babylon. It was a word used scornfully and with hatred. To be called a Samaritan was considered a great insult. But Christ, in this intriguing parable, rescued that word from ridicule.

Perhaps Jesus was teaching that in order for us to be able to help others as we should.

we must be humble. And not with a false humility fostered by a religious creed, but one generated by a genuine feeling of being unworthy of God's love. This humility should lead us to view people in sin not as individuals to avoid, but as precious souls in need of the gospel of our Lord.

As we show this pure "Good Samaritan" love toward others, it will serve as a great stimulus to us personally, and the church will prosper also.

One student of human behavior wrote, "All emotional problems could be summed up in one particular kind of behavior: It's a person walking around screaming, 'For God's sake, love me! Love me! Love me! That's all!' He goes through manipulations to get somebody to love him. Love cures all, both the one who gives it and the one who receives it."

It was a great blessing to me to get to be with the saints at the California State Assembly Meeting in Pacoima the last of December. I had not been there since I was a young boy, so it was a real privilege to enjoy a mutual fellowship in the Lord. I welcomed the chance to get to know some of the saints who correspond with the Print Shop, and the opportunity to put faces to names. Our prayers are for the continued spiritual prosperity of the saints in that region of the country.

On January 7, Bro. Ken Elwell joined the Print Shop family to run the printing press Bro. Michael Smith operated before taking the pastorate at Shawnee, OK.

Bro. Ken has been a part of the Guthrie congregation for some months, having moved here from Gladstone, OR. He is learning the printing trade very quickly and has been a real blessing to the work. We are thankful God has given him this burden to work for the Lord.

Some of our readers will soon be planning their vacations to coincide with different Camp Meetings. Therefore we plan to print as complete of a list of meeting dates as possible in the March Faith and Victory.

If you would like your Camp Meeting to be on this list, please send the necessary information to this office by the 20th of February.

—Wayne Murphey



AZ—"I would like to send in a few prayer requests. God has definitely been working in Arizona. This past week at work I had a chance to work with the boss' son. His name is Michael. He is deaf. I really enjoyed spending time with him and talking to him about the goodness of our Lord. He claims to have pled the blood last August. Unfortunately his understanding is limited. I ask the saints to pray for this hungry soul.

"In the same week, I learned that my Aunt Nancy has 'incurable' cancer of the liver. I ask for prayer for her." —Bro. Don Elwell

WI—"I fell and broke my hip. My husband had a stroke three years ago and we can't drive the car now. Please pray for us."

-Sis. Rudy Schmidt

CA—"Would you pray for me? I have an inner ear equilibrium problem. Some days I do well, but other days it is very hard to walk."

-Nelson Markam

IN—"I would like for you to remember me in prayer. I guess I have had the flu, and I can't seem to get over it. Also, remember my unsaved loved ones."

—Dessie Wilson

WV—Sis. Tammy Clevenger is in a severe battle of affliction.

PA—"Pray for my nephew who has cancer."

-Ruth Godshall

PA—Sis. Ruth Godshall needs the saints' prayers for herself, her husband and her daughter

NC—Pray for Sis. Rhoda Blevins who is suffering with arthritis, as well as other ailments. She also has other burdens that she desires the saints to share in.

Meeting Notices BAKERSFIELD, CA REVIVAL

Lord willing, our annual revival will be held, February 12-16. We are fasting and praying for a special visitation from the Lord. We are expecting souls to be saved, believers sanctified, bodies healed and for the saints to be edified, encouraged and more dedicated to the service of the Lord.

Pray that God will send gospel workers of His choosing to help in this battle against sin. We hope that many of you will come and join us in these services.

There will be nightly services at 7:00, Wednesday through Saturday. There will also be a midday service on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday if there are enough people present. There will be a 10:30 morning service on Saturday. On Sunday there will be Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., morning worship service at 10:30 and an afternoon service at 2:30.

If you are unable to attend, please pray for the success of the meeting.

For more information contact Bro. A. W. Sherman at (805) 871-1636.

NOWATA, OK REGULAR SERVICES ANNOUNCED

Beginning the first Sunday in February, there will be regular Sunday services at Nowata, OK. A hearty invitation is extended to all the saints to come and support this effort.

For more information, you may contact Bro. Gordon Humphrey, 339 S. Hickory, Nowata, OK 74048, (918) 273-1615.

DENVER, CO CHURCH SERVICES

Greetings from Denver, Colorado. We are thankful to report that regular church services are now being held here each Sunday. Please pray for us here and our efforts for God!

For more information concerning these services, contact Bro. Thomas Davis, 3650 Cook St., Denver, CO 80205, (303) 321-2924.



Now available, on a 90 minute cassette tape, is a "Special Singing" tape from the 1996 Oklahoma State

Assembly Meeting. The cost is \$1.50 which includes the cost of postage. Also available are message tapes of the meeting. For a complete list of messages, or to order the singing tape, please write to:

Mike Woodruff, 924 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, OK 73044.

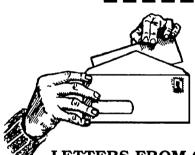
White the second second

Devotions Still Needed

I would like to thank everyone who has contributed an inspirational piece for the devotional book I am in the process of assembling. All that have been received are appreciated.

However, I would also urge anyone who would still like to send in a devotion to do so as soon as possible. It should consist of approximately 100 words and include a verse of scripture which has meant something special to you.

Send your devotions to: 320 N. 2nd St., Guthrie, OK 73044.—Connie Sorrell



LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

CA—As Christians we have no choice but to march to the beat of the Holy Spirit. By following the measured steps of righteousness, we please God. As I suffer in my body, I seem to remember that the stripes were put on Christ's body for the healing of mine. In prayer, my pain and discomfort take a back seat to the Holy Spirit. I listen intently and hear Him say, "No matter what happens, I will care for you."

I have much thanksgiving to God for allowing me to attend the Guthrie Assembly Meeting. I sought for the healing of my body at this meeting, and once again I was reminded that I must march to the beat of the Holy Spirit. It doesn't march to mine.

I love the Lord with all my heart and I am learning to lean on Jesus. Continue to lift my name up in prayer for strength, endurance, courage and patience.

In Christian love and faithfulness,

—Loyce Davenport

CA—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings to you in Christian love. May His strength and power be in you to speak the Word with boldness.

I have some things that I would like to relate to you. The Lord has put on my heart that perhaps there are people who need someone to encourage them in the Lord through correspondence. As I was considering this, I was grieved because I had this need myself. I began to ask the Lord why no one seems to want to do these kinds of things. I spoke to a minister and he said that a lot of times the Lord will express a need in our hearts because it is something He wants us to do. After I began to ponder what he said, the Lord showed me that I can't expect someone else to do something that I am not willing to do. So the Lord has laid it on my heart to send out an invitation to serve in this way. Maybe there are not a lot of people that want this, but maybe there is one....

I want to encourage you to continue to let the Word go forth in the power of the Spirit. Sometimes the thing that concerns me is that the people that have the truth aren't doing anything with it. They aren't proclaiming it on the house-tops....

I truly believe that the Lord wants His truth to be boldly spoken.

With love in Christ, —Marvin Moles Jr. H-58177, P.O. Box 8503 C5-250, Coalinga, CA 93210.

OK—Dear Saints: We have much to praise the Lord for. He has gently led us back to Oklahoma through a series of trials and victories. He has protected our family in many, many instances from serious injuries and fatalities in the past year as we moved and built our house. He has been wonderful and marvelous to us.

The Lord is really blessing the congregation here in Sapulpa, OK. We have marveled at God's presence and His blessings in the services each week.

We had opportunity to go to Mexico to visit Bro. James and Sis. Charlotte Huskey and go around to different churches with preaching, testimonies and songs of the Church of God Evening Light, in Spanish. Bro. Marvin Probst and all of his family, Monica and Amber Whitson, Kasie Montgomery, Angela Sallee, Kristy Johnston, Wesley and Annette Porter, Tenai Moaning, Jenna Mathunni, Stephanie Huskey and our family traveled together in a couple of large vans Bro. Tim Huskey loaned us. We stayed in the homes of the brethren and traveled to eight different towns and had services. The Lord blessed with good messages and sev-

eral were saved. We were made aware of several needs for financial support among the brethren and widows there. We appreciate so much our parents being there and giving their time and love to the poor saints. There is much to be done. Workers and support in prayers and finances are needed for the continued progress of the work in Mexico. Bro. Adelfo, from Culiacan, desires a group to come to his area for a meeting the week before Easter. This new work is worthy of our support and prayers. A more thorough report will be in the *Lamp of Youth*.

Thank you for all your love, prayers and patience with us as we made our move and resettled. We love you all.

-James and Tricia Bell and boys

WV—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings to you all there. I trust the Lord is blessing and keeping you encouraged to press on for the crown which is at the end of the way.

I thought the Assembly Meeting at Guthrie was good.

We are in a great battle here and need a miracle from God. I can't accept that the days of miracles are passed. Agree in prayer with us.

I still have my cough, but am much encouraged to keep on keeping on, as we always have. Thank God for the way.

Pray for us, —Bro. Mart Samons

KS—Dear saints everywhere: Holy greetings in Jesus dear name. I am still saved and thankful that I can report victory in my soul. I can truly say from my heart that "The life of a Christian suits me, I'm happy, redeemed and free."

I would like to tell of a healing. I had a growth in my mouth which caused discomfort in trying to eat. I took the matter to our God in prayer by faith and in obedience to James 5:14-15. I was anointed and prayed for. The Lord healed me. He removed the painful growth, thank the Lord. He is our Great Physician.

I thank God for His love and great power that is still being manifested to the world and among His saints. In Jeremiah 32:17, Jeremiah said, "Ah Lord God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee." Isn't it wonderful to know and to be able to witness that there is nothing too hard for our God to do? There is no sickness that He cannot heal. He is a great God and has proven

it many times in our lives. He has been my everything for 46 years of my life. I have been saved since the age of 17 years.... I have a happy married life of one year. On December 23, 1995, the Lord gave me a good, kind husband and I thank God for him. Pray for us that we will be in this life what God would have us to be.

Yours in Christ.

—Sis. Clara Phillips (Barnett)

WA—Dear Brother and staff: I am yet encouraged to live for God. He is watching over me, for which I am thankful.

Due to illness, and a possible loss of job, I am now living at a new place. I do enjoy the Senior Citizen's place. Everything is real nice. The Faith and Victory and Guthrie church tapes which Bro. Michael Woodruff sends are enjoyable and a real help to me.

May God bless you and your staff. Please remember me in your prayers. I am determined to make heaven my home. —Sis. Naomi Jones

CA—Dear Ones: Greetings in our Lord and Savior's name. This finds us both pressing on for the Lord in this troubled world. Jesus told us to watch and pray. Prayer is our greatest weapon that we have to fight against the enemy of our souls....

In Christian love.

-Bro. Hubert and Sis. Elizabeth Corteway

LA—Dear Church Family: Thank God for all the blessings of the past year, especially for His working, faithful servants! This past year we have very much enjoyed the Sunday School lessons. Just when we think all has been said that can be said to express God's Word to us, He gives us new and living streams of water that flow out into everlasting life....

Many blessings and Happy New Year!
—Sis. Marie Schofield

LA—Dear Brother Wayne and all who are faithfully working at the Print Shop: Happy New Year and greetings to all! I thank the Lord for the Faith and Victory and all the effort you put forth to spread the truth. "Every day with Jesus, His riches are more dear." I thank the Lord that He got my attention and gave me a deep, heartfelt desire to go all the way with Him.

The Lord has blessed me for seventy-six years. He saved me over fifty years ago, and by faith in Him I have been healed many times. I

have been strengthened by the storms, and am determined to be faithful to the end.

There was a statement I made, "If you can't breathe, nothing else is worth anything." I want to say, when we get to the end of life's way, "Without God, nothing else is worth anything." "O soul, be afraid, thou shalt reckon with God."

I praise the Lord for the good Assembly Meeting at Loranger we had over the Thanksgiving holiday. There were good results and we thank the Lord for the many spiritual blessings, and thank everyone who came. Do come again.

In Christian love, —Sister Gladys S. Cashio

MO—Greetings! I trust this finds the staff and workers encouraged to press on.

A new year is before each of us and may we put our heavenly Father first in all things! He is a wonderful Father, one that I can depend on. I want to be found faithful.

May the Lord bless each one there, and as you think of me—pray for me.

Love and prayers, —Wanda L. Atnip

MO—Bro. Murphey and workers at the Print Shop: Greeting in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Friend for all our needs. I am 84 years old and handicapped. I live alone. On New Year's morning, I was lonely and sat thinking of my family. (I have only one son left to care for me, the rest are buried nearby.) I wiped away a tear when my mind quickly filled with three words—faith, hope and charity. As I pondered on those words and their deep spiritual meaning, I picked up my Bible and read I Corinthians 13. My heart filled with joy and praise unto the Lord for His understanding of the needs of my mind and soul at that moment.

When the Faith and Victory paper came, there it was in print, on page two, by Sis. Connie Sorrell. So I had a second blessing—and a deeper understanding of the subject. The proper interpretation of the scriptures by the Holy Spirit is gracious and full of His love for us. Even I, who only have an 8th grade education, can learn the depth of the love our Savior has for His people.

May the harvest be great for all His workers.

—Lucille Lisby

NC—Dear Bro. Wayne and faithful workers: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. We praise His holy name. He is so wonderful. We trust all is well at the Print Shop. We trust the building project is moving along smoothly, too.

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude and thanksgiving to the dear saints who carried a burden during my affliction of a heart attack.

We want to thank all for their prayers, offerings, cards, letters and phone calls in our time of need. The love, care and concern of the saints is so precious. God's people have been endeared to my heart in a greater way. The Lord has answered prayer and completely healed me. I am a well man, glory to God!

The Lord impressed me that if I went to the Guthrie Assembly Meeting, He would heal me. I went looking for the Lord to heal me at healing service on Thursday, but He healed me the first Sunday of the meeting. Praise the Lord!

We desire your continued prayers for the Lord's guidance for our lives as we owe our all to Him.

—Bro. Frankie Millis

KY—Dear Bro. Murphey and Print Shop workers: Greeting in Jesus' precious name.

The good Lord has seen us through another year. He has brought us through many things and has been right there for us.

I appreciate all you dear ones there at the Print Shop, and all of the other dear saints, for praying for my family, husband and me. I have been afflicted for a long time. The battle has been long and hot, but glory to His precious name, He has given me grace to stay true! I have been trusting God for years and He has done great things for my family and me.

My husband and I were staying with my mother while my father was having heart surgery. He had four bypasses. Mother had the flu at the time, and I have no doubt she had pneumonia. Well, my husband and I came down with the flu too, and had to come home. My sister had to take our place. We prayed that she wouldn't take the flu and she hasn't. The Lord brought Mother through and healed her. The doctors almost lost my father in surgery. He had a stroke either in surgery or after. They told him he wouldn't live to see Christmas if he didn't have the surgery. Well, he lived, but he will never be the same. They said he could still have strokes or heart attacks.... Please pray for Dad.

I want to thank all the saints who prayed for us. Some dear saints are still calling, asking about my health and to say they are still praying for my healing. Dear ones, you will not lose your reward if you stay true. When we were going through the sickness with the flu, I called Bro. Keith Fuller, Bro. Toney Samons and Sis. Mary Murphey at 4:00 a.m. My mother was choking. After getting off the phone I knew they would be praying, so I started praying too. God came on the scene.

Recently my dear son who has three children was driving down the road in Ohio where he lives. A woman hit the back of his car. They were taken to a hospital. My son, Tim, called me from the hospital. He said they checked the two little girls and they were just shaken up, but the little 12 year old boy was on an I.V. and wasn't responding very well. He had hit his head on the windshield. They were sending him to a larger hospital. I called Sis. Opal Kelly for prayer, and the Oklahoma State Assembly Meeting was going on so she called the chapel as service was going on. I also called Bro. and Sis. Curtis Williams and Sis. Blanche Stephens.

My son called after they had gotten to the other hospital. He said, "Mom, we are coming home. Seth has been dismissed." He had started coming to himself before they got to the hospital. What a mighty God we serve!

Remember our congregation here, my husband and me.

Christian love, —Sis. Mary Hughes

MO—Dear Bro. Wayne and Sis. Mary: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I hope all is well with you. God is so very good to me. While there is so much sickness around, God has kept me well, for which I am so thankful....

Please remember me in your prayers.
Christian love, —Sis. Mamie Butcher

OR—Dear Bro. Wayne and all at the Print Shop: Greetings once more in the name of our dear Savior. May His peace abide in your hearts forever. How precious is that peace that Jesus promised and gives to those who know Him as their Savior. I can never thank Him enough for this peace in my heart, and because He has given me this peace I know that I can rely on all the promises of His Word.

I appreciated the thoughts of Bro. McMurrin in the December issue of the Faith and Victory, about Cain's sacrifice. God surely knows the intents of our hearts in all of our dealings with Him.

In Romans 12:1, we are told what we need to offer to be acceptable. "... Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which

is your reasonable service." We need to present our bodies, give them wholly, with all the abilities they are capable of, nothing withheld. And He wants a living sacrifice, not a dead one; with all of the attributes He has given us used for His will and purpose. To be holy we must have the Holy Spirit living in us and this requires total consecration and surrender to our heavenly Father's will.

May God bless you all in a very special way is my constant prayer.

With Christian love, —Bro. Bill Busch

MO—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings in the name of Jesus, our risen Lord. I hope all is going well with you and yours.

I am glad I was privileged to go through the new Print Shop building while I was at the Oklahoma State Assembly Meeting. I am glad for higher ground and plenty of room for the Print Shop. I trust there will be much good, wholesome literature to go out from there, teaching people how to live and prepare for Jesus' soon coming.

I have just recently been meditating about what the Bible said concerning Christ's coming. In Philippians 3:20-21, it says, "For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself."

That certainly will be a great day! Paul spoke of Christ's coming as the day in which he would receive a crown of life, and he said there was a crown awaiting all that loved His appearing. It is our happy and blessed privilege to live so that we can love His appearing.

Your brother in Christ, —T. V. McMillian

FOREIGN MISSION REPORT

From Ghana...

January 6, 1997—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings in the name of Jesus, our Lord, and our soon coming King. I trust this letter finds you and all the brethren and sisters in good health, continuously laboring in His vineyard.

I am writing this letter from Accra, where I have spent a few days with the brethren and sisters who have embraced the truth. We praise God for the tremendous revival we have experienced in the midst of the brethren here. We have

seen a greater commitment within the members and there is a desire of all the brethren and sisters to work to win souls. We have been receiving new souls every day, and soon we will have to expand our "coast." Please continue to pray for us as we do for you.

We are arranging a house-to-house followup evangelistic campaign which will involve the distribution of tracts, native Bibles and other materials.

There are plans to establish a special training session for several brothers who will be trained to teach and evangelize. This will be done in our home place, Akumadan. God has surely begun doing a new thing as indicated in the book of Isaiah 43:18-19.

May God bless you and all at the Print Shop. Your brother in Christ, —Francis Owusu



Myrtle Lee Dodson Porter, was born April 12, 1909, and passed away January 10, 1997 at the age of 87 years, 8 months and 28 days. She was born to Melvin and Alma Dodson in Marshfield, MO.

She married Jewell Wilford "Bud" Porter on December 7, 1929. They had three children; Donna Sue Sorrell, of Tunas, MO, Wilford Duane Porter and Dena Rene Porter, both of Springfield, MO. Bud and Myrtle also loved others as their own children; Jonathan Ray Busbee, who lived with Sis. Myrtle after Bud's death and Lynne Millis who was like a daughter to them. She is also survived by six grandchildren, Denise, David, Gloria, Annette, Wesley and Leslie; one step-granddaughter, Sherri Ishmael; four greatgrandchildren, Leeann, Dustin, Zach and Michael; and one step-great-grandson, Evan; two brothers, Robert of Chothem, IL and Glen of Camp Verde, AZ.

Sis. Myrtle was eagerly awaiting the birth of

her next great-grandson and would ask every time Dena visited her if he was born yet.

She was preceded in death by her husband "Bud" on May 3, 1980. Also, her sister, Marie Durr and three brothers, Ervin, Gene and Bill.

Sis. Myrtle was saved in 1940 at the Church of God chapel in Springfield, MO.

Myrtle expressed a desire to go to the Golden Rule Home in Shawnee, OK on December 31, 1996. Arrangements were made, and she moved there on January 6, 1997. She passed away on the morning of January 10.

On November 8, 1996, the Lord called my son-in-law, **Harvey A. Theriot**, home. He died in his sleep at the age of sixty years.

Harvey began attending the Southeastern University in 1963. He was a native of Port Allen, LA, but had lived near Hammond, LA since graduating. He worked for 34 years and had been retired a little over two years.

Harvey met his future bride, Billie Jean Cashio, not long after he began teaching. He cast his lot with the Church of God before he and Billie were married on February 26, 1960.

Harvey was indeed an outstanding gentleman. Within the past year he had renewed his walk with God and found joyous blessings in marvelous answer to his prayers.

Survivors include his wife, Billie Jean Cashio Theriot, Loranger, LA; two daughters, Terri Anne Theriot Flynn and Paula Theriot; Terri Anne's husband, Duane Flynn and two grandchildren, Justin and Lacey. He is also survived by his mother, Verna Caffarel Theriot, Port Allen, LA; brother, James M. Theriot and one sister, Joyce Theriot of Baton Rouge, LA.

His father, Harvey A. Theirot, Sr., preceded him in death.

Harvey was my son-in-law, but he was my son also, and my loss is very great too. The Theriot farm where he raised beef cattle just doesn't have much charm since Harvey isn't here. Everywhere we look reminds us of him.

-Sis. Gladys S. Cashio

What Jesus Taught About Friendship

(Continued from page 3.)

men. He believed in them. We must have that if we are to be friends. He made it clear to His followers, His friends, that He trusted them. Sometimes it seemed as though that faith was unjustified, but not so. Even in the case of Peter it proved out that Jesus was justified in putting faith in him when He gave him that wonderful name, "Peter," meaning a "rock," when at the time there seemed so little in Peter to merit such a name. If we will be a friend, and have friends, we must believe in man.

Note in His life how He gave Himself without reserve to men. He was at their disposal. He was theirs. They could talk to Him, question Him, even cross-question Him—even criticize Him. If they did not understand one of His parables, they could ask Him what He meant, and question Him until He made it plain. How necessary this is as a quality of friendship! If we will be a friend and have friends we must give ourselves to men.

Friendship requires a warm heart and a cool head. Jesus had both. There was not much method to his friendships. As Harnack said about the early church, "A living faith needs no special method"—so it is with true friendship. With Jesus, friendship was nothing more than infinite love in ordinary exchange with man. He shared His experiences with His followers and He shared theirs. That is what friendship is—a sharing of love, of help, of experiences—whether those experiences be sad or pleasant.

Friendship—it slides off our tongues and lips so easily. We talk about it so much and practice it so little. What if we should really be such a friend to men as Jesus was? What would happen?

Jesus was a friend to all. Men might be His enemy but He was an enemy to no man. He loved men. Not in the abstract—but in deed and in truth. He sought men, not for what He could get out of them, but for what He could give them. True friendship seeks not to get but to give. It is unselfish, seeking not its own but another's

good. He sought men where they were, loved them for what they were and what He could make out of them. If we would be true friends we must do the same.

Robert E. Speer once said, "Because Jesus sought in His friendships the good of His friends and no gain or advantage for



Himself. He was fearless in dealing with those whom He loved." Rather than His friendship keeping Him from telling people what they needed to hear and know, it caused Him to tell them plainly things that, while not pleasant, were needful. Beecher said one time, "They that deny themselves of pleasure for the sake of making me better; they that incur the risk of anger and dislocation of friendship for the sake of telling me a truth that nobody else dares to tell me, and that I die for the want of hearing; they that are more choice of my soul's interior and essential good than they are of my satisfaction with the pride and vanities of life, and seek to be physician to my soul—they are my friends."

Jesus knew what was in man, and knowing this He doubtless saw many things that were not lovely or lovable, but He loved man and was a friend in spite of these things.

There is a story about a boy in New York City who was sent to the House of Refuge. In class one day he was asked to spell the word, "friend." The letters came slowly, "f-r-i-e-n-d," and then the teacher asked. "What does the word

mean?" The little fellow studied for a moment, and then said, "Oh-he's a fellow that knows all about you, and likes you just the same." Therein lies the beauty of Jesus' friendship. It must be a quality of ours. I do not mean that we must approve of the wrong that is in men, but we must love them in spite of their bad ways and seek to save them from those things that are wrong.

"Afriend loveth at all times." Jesus' friendships were unchanging. "He loved them unto the end." His friendships were not just a passing glow, but upon real affection. Someone has said, "Friendship is love boiled down and flavored with kind thoughts, kind words and helpful deeds."

There is no greater ambition that young people can have than the ambition to be a real friend to all men. Your usefulness in the service of God will be determined by this capacity. Your sphere of influence in the work of God is limited by the circle of the friendships that you are able to make and hold. If we wish to help others we must needs live so as to attract them to ourselves, and thence to Christ. There is a friendship with the world that is enmity to God, but there is also a churlishness of spirit which unfits us to lead men to God or to do any good in the world. Cultivate that readiness to "do others a good turn" which will make our life as a Christian attractive even to those who are in sin. Show them by our acts that we love them and are a friend to them, and then we can point them to that real Friend—Jesus.

A new servant had just come into the home of Sir Bartle Frere. Sir Bartle was out for a walk. His wife wanted him to come back at once. So she told the new servant to go and find him. "How will I know him?" asked the servant. She replied, "You will see an elderly

gentleman helping somebody." What a beautiful tribute-the more beautiful because unconlive so that will characterize our lives? By helpthe circle of our friend-

"Grouchiness, bluntness, unkindness—these are not the qualities sciously given. Why not of a friend." fulness we may enlarge

ships. Shall we not seek to be more like Jesus—the friendliest man that ever lived?

Why not be people of the glad-heart and the glad-hand? The grouchy heart has no glad-hand. The blunt word has a cutting edge. Grouchiness, bluntness, unkindnessthese are not the qualities of a friend.

Common speech is right when it talks about "making friends." It will never do for us to sit down and whine about not having any friends. Stir yourself! Friends can be made. Get out and make them. The factory is daily life-common, everyday life. "The tools are unselfishness, humility, forgetting yourself, human interest, courage," according to one writer. To give, not to get, is its primary characteristic. The power of friendship is almost omnipotent-whether for good or for evil depends upon us. We are ready to be a true friend to man when we have come to be a true friend to Christ.

An Effective Kiss

By Sis. Connie Sorrell

The bell rang wildly over my head.

"Okay! It is class time! Everybody line up!" called the lower

learning center supervisor. As she attempted to organize the pushing, talking children, I picked up tossed-aside winter coats, caps and mittens. How many times had we told these youngsters to put these things where they belonged? Now their winter wraps were get-

ting muddy from the tracked in snow.

I glanced down the line of squirming children. Their hair was ruffled from their stocking hats. Some had damp clothing and some had drippy noses. Most of them had wet shoes or boots.

My eyes looked upward and I sent a silent prayer that direction. "Oh, Lord, it is a new year but with the same old problems from the last year. I need a reviving touch from You today.

Please, Lord, give me patience with these children. Amen."

The supervisor had been counting noses. "Where is Ricky?" she asked me.

"He wasn't with us during our chapel time," I replied. "I will call his mother to see if he is sick."

But there was no need to do so for Ricky and his dad came in the front door of the school right at that moment.

"Good morning, Ricky," I said as he tracked past me and into the gentlemen's room.

Ricky's dad spoke a few words with us while we all waited in the hallway for Ricky to join the line of fidgeting children. Finally, he emerged with a mischievous grin on his wet face. He knew we had been waiting on him and he was enjoying the prolonged attention.

"Same naughty child," I thought. "Dear Lord, please add 'more love' with the patience that I just prayed for."

As Ricky walked by, his dad reached out and took hold of his arm. Everyone watched as Ricky's father gently cupped Ricky's small chin in his big hand. He bent his large frame

over Ricky's little one and carefully looked for toast crumbs around the child's mouth.

Then the father bent down a little further and kissed his son on the forehead. Ricky smiled. He skipped over and joined his classmates while his father turned and quietly went out the door.

A wave of calmness rippled through the adults and down the line of children. Talking had ceased. Hands became quiet. Backs straightened and heads turned toward the classroom door as the supervisor opened it for them to

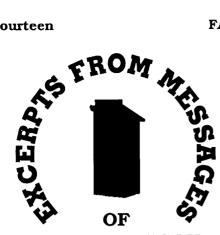
quietly file through.

My eyes made contact with the supervisor's. No command for order had been given, but the children were divinely peaceful.

A simple kiss from a loving father had disciplined the children. They felt something very grand had happened.

So had I. In that touching moment I was reminded that these little children are precious in the Father's sight. He is entrusting into our care valuable jewels wrapped in fleshly bodies. A current of patience and love flowed over my soul. I lifted my eyes to heaven. "Oh, Lord, thank You for sending me Your love in such a beautiful way. Amen."





BRO. ED WILSON Winning Battles

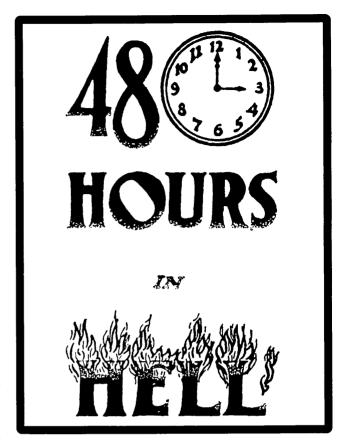
I Samuel 17:1

The enemy sets the battle in array against us, and he doesn't fight fair. Goliath was eleven feet tall; his coat weighed two hundred pounds, and just the point of his spear had more weight than what most soldiers carried.

The devil is right there to contest every step we make for God. Although there is a time when we must learn to use armor, yet God puts a special protection over young saints. On this particular day, David couldn't use Saul's armor. He had to use what he was familiar with. God doesn't require us to fight our battles on a higher experience than what we have, but on our level. You can hurt yourself trying to fight at a higher level than for what you have the experience. David had killed a lion and a bear, and that furnished him with the assurance that God would help him. God has a way of laying a foundation for us.

Goliath disdained David and his youthfulness. The devil will tell you that you have a small experience and that he will tear you up. David, by faith, said, "I come in the name of the Lord of Israel." In Jesus' name you can defy the enemy. Use the weapon of prayer. You can't use your own thoughts.

David prayed that the giant would be delivered into his hand that day, and that all may know the Lord delivers. God did so and gave David an instant victory. Some battles are lifelong, such as Paul's thorn. (II Cor. 12:7.) Life has both kinds of battles. We must purpose to go to heaven no matter what the devil does.



One of the most interesting cases of resuscitation that ever came to my knowledge was that of George Lennox, a notorious horse thief of Jefferson County. He was serving his second term. Sedgwick County sent him to prison the first time for a similar offense, stealing horses.

During the winter of 1887 and 1888, he worked in the coal mines. The place where he was working seemed dangerous to him. He reported this to the officer in charge who made an examination, and deciding that the room was safe, ordered Lennox back to work. The convict obeyed, and had continued his work not more than an hour when the roof fell in and completely buried him. He remained in this condition fully two hours. He was missed at dinner time, and a search was made for the absent convict. He was found under a heap of rubbish. Life was extinct.

He was taken to the top and examined by the prison physician, who pronounced him dead. His remains were carried to the hospital where he was washed and dressed in preparation for interment. His coffin was made and brought into the hospital. The chaplain had arrived to perform the last rites prior to burial.

A couple of prisoners were ordered by the steward to lift the corpse from the boards and carry it across the room and place it in the coffin. They obeyed, one at the head and the other at the feet, and were about halfway across the room when the one who was at the head accidentally stumbled, lost

his balance, and dropped the corpse. The head of the man struck the floor, and to the surprise of all present, a deep groan was heard. Soon the eyes opened, and other appearances of life were manifested.

The physician was immediately sent for and by the time he arrived, some 30 minutes later, the "dead" man had called for a cup of water, and was in the act of drinking when the physician arrived. The coffin was at once removed, and later was used to bury another convict.

On examination, he was found to have one of his legs broken in two places, and was otherwise bruised. He remained in the hospital about six months, and again went back to work. I learned of his experience while apparently dead, soon after, from a fellow miner.

Prompted by curiosity, I longed for an audience with Lennox to get his experience from his own lips. This opportunity was not offered for several months. At last it came.

After being removed from the mines, I was detailed to one of the prison offices to make out some annual reports. The subject of this man's return to life was being discussed one day when he happened to pass by the office door, and was pointed out to me. It was not long until I had a note in his hand and asked him to come where I was to work. He did so, and here I got well acquainted with him, and from his own lips received his wonderful story.

He was a young man, probably not over 30 years of age. He was not a hardened criminal, and was possessed of a very good education, and was naturally bright.

Being a shorthand reporter, I took his story from his dictation.

He said, "I had a premonition all that morning that something terrible was going to happen. I was so uneasy on account of my feelings that I went to my mining boss, Mr. Grason, and told him how I felt and asked him if he would come and examine my coal room, the place where I was digging coal. He came and seemed to make a thorough examination and ordered me back to work, saying there was no danger and that he thought I was cranky.

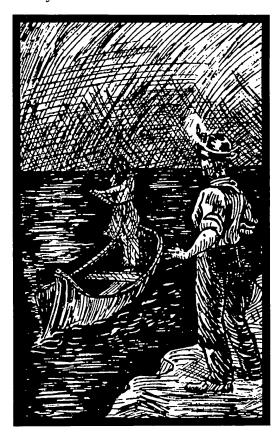
"I returned to my work and had been digging away for something like an hour, when all of a sudden it grew dark. Then it seemed as if a great iron door swung open and I passed through it.

"The thought then came to my mind that I was dead and in another world. I could see no one, nor hear a sound of any kind.

"From some cause, unknown to myself, I started to move away from the doorway and had traveled some distance when I came to the banks of a broad river. There was about as much light as on a bright starlit night. I had not remained on the bank of this river very long before I heard the sound of oars in the

water, and soon a person in a boat rowed up to where I was standing. I was speechless. He looked at me for a moment, and then said he had come for me and told me to get into the boat and row across to the other side. I obeyed. Not a word was spoken. I longed to ask him who he was and where I was, but my tongue seemed to cling to the roof of my mouth. I could not say a word. Finally we reached the opposite shore. I got out of the boat and the boatman vanished out of sight.

"Thus left alone, I knew not what to do. Looking out before me, I saw two roads which led through a dark valley. One of these was a broad road and



seemed to be well traveled. The other was a narrow path that led off in another direction. I instinctively followed the well-beaten road. I had not gone far when it seemed to grow darker. Every now and then, however, a light would flash up from the distance and in this manner I was lighted on my journey.

"Presently, I was met by a being that it is utterly impossible for me to describe. I can only give you a faint idea of his dreadful appearance. He resembled a man somewhat, but was much larger than any human being I had ever seen. He must have been at least ten feet tall; he had great wings on his back. He was an evil apparition.

"He had a large spear in his hand, the handle of which must have been fully 15 feet in length. His eyes shone like balls of fire. His teeth, seemingly an inch long, reflected the flashes of light. His nose, if you could call it a nose, was very large. His hair, which hung down on his massive shoulders, was held back by large pointed ears, or so it appeared. His voice sounded more like the growls of a lion in a menagerie than anything I can recall.

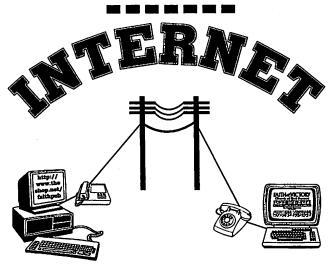
"It was during one of these flashes of light that I first saw him. I trembled like an aspen leaf at the sight. He had his spear raised as if to send it flying through me. I suddenly stopped. With that terrible voice I seem to hear yet, he bade me follow him; that he had been sent to guide me on my journey.

I followed him. What else could I do?

"After we had gone some distance, a huge mountain seemed to rise up before us. The part facing us seemed perpendicular, just as if the mountain had been cut in two and one part of it had been taken away.

"On this perpendicular wall, I could read distinctly the words, 'This is Hell.'

(To be continued next month.)



NEWS

By Jason Murphey

Due to the success of our internet world wide web page, **Faith Publishing House** has decided to open a new and improved web site, which will have many additional features. As of January 31st, this site will be on-line at **http://www.theshop.net/faithpub**.

With this new site we hope to provide faster, more accessible service, while at the same time allowing our on-line customer base access to the new options. All new e-mail can be sent to faithpub@theshop.net.

We appreciate everyone who has helped make our current site the success it has become, and invite all of our on-line readers to take advantage of the many features and options we are providing through this, our latest internet venture. Thank you!



Excerpts Taken From Feb., 1947 Faith and Victory

People with letters in the February, 1947 Faith and Victory were:

OK-Annie Bowen

TN-Annie Graves

PA—Avis Tinsley

KY-H. L. Lemmons

LA-Ruby Quave

OH—Amanda Jones

TN-Mrs. Frank Dugger

KS-Lester L. Gordon

OK-Joe Manda Jordon

OK-Lorene Payne

WV-Polly Taler

CA—Esther Poulos

MI—Howard Adams

CA—Edward Davenport

OH-Cordelia Jones

CA-Emma Holden

OH-Iva Evans

OR—Hazel Creson

MO-Eva O'Brien

MI-Margaret Brant

OK-D. S. Richardson

MO-Elizabeth Harper

AL—George Hood

MO-Mrs. Ovie Campbell

MO-Mrs. Ella Watts

Those with articles or poems were: J. H. Pierson, Fred Pruitt, W. C. McMakin, Ulysses Phillips, Sam Wilson, George Stephenson, Ruby Williamson, J. Holloman and Wanda Stark.

Obituaries included: Floyd Clay, Plummer Manuel, Lulu Wishon, Samuel Webster and Oscar Britt.