

In Our Churches

PAGE-12

HERALD AND NEWS, Klamath Falls, Ore.

Friday, August 2, 1963



YOUNG CHORISTERS — A concert of sacred music featuring the Bel Canto Singers is scheduled at the local Church of Christ on the evening of Aug. 7. Representing a church-sponsored children's home in Quinlan, Tex., the singers are currently on their 14th annual summer tour, which includes appearances in 21 states and Canada.

Touring Texas Singers Schedule Local Concert

The nationally known Bel Canto Singers of the Boles Home in Quinlan, Tex., will present a concert at the Klamath Falls Church of Christ, 2205 Wantland Ave., on Wednesday evening, Aug. 7. The Bel Canto Singers, an a cappella group specializing in inspirational hymns, spirituals, and other familiar church songs, is currently on its 14th annual summer tour. Seven concerts are presented each week under the direction of Dan Parkerson.

The first half of the current three-month tour included appearances in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Washington, D.C. Now in the second half of its tour, the group has performed in Oklahoma, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, Washington and Canada, winding up

with Oregon, California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas engagements.

The program, beginning at 7:30 p.m., will be given free of charge as a service of the local Church of Christ. The public is invited to attend.

The Bel Canto Singers is composed entirely of residents of the Boles Home, a home for children which is supported by members of the Churches of Christ. It is composed of two units; the original one located at Quinlan where 255 children live and the Foster Home at Stephenville, Tex., where 32 children live.

ALC's Goal For Mission Field Named

A \$75,000 worship offering for world missions is the goal of some 3,000 women of The American Lutheran Church when they meet for their first triennial convention in St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 15-18.

The ALC official women's auxiliary set the offering goal to help meet needs on each of the 12 world mission fields of the denomination. The total offering has been earmarked to meet special needs in education, health, and missionary housing on the foreign fields.

Convention business will be transacted by 324 official delegates elected on the basis of two from each of the ALC's 182 conference units.

The five Oregon delegates are Miss Margaretha Sass, Baker; Mrs. George Olsen, Pendleton; Mrs. Walter H. Brunner, Gladstone; Mrs. Philip Berg, Eugene; and Miss Hannah M. Olson, Silverton.

Methodist Service To Community To Be Commemorated With Plaque

To commemorate 92 years of service to the community by the Methodist Church, a plaque will be dedicated and placed near the cornerstone of the First Methodist Church in memory of the late David A. and Ruby Kenyon, who were instrumental in the growth and development of the church.

The ceremony will take place on the church grounds at Tenth and High streets on Sunday, Aug. 4, at 10:45 a.m., between the morning worship services. All friends of the Kenyons and members of the church are invited to attend the dedication.

No members have been recognized as more devoted workers for the Methodist Church than Mr. and Mrs. Kenyon, since 1871. In that year the Methodist Conference appointed its first Circuit Rider to conduct services in the Klamath and Goose Lake basins, while at the same time filling the positions of Indian agent and missionary to the Klamaths and Modocs.

With the groundwork laid, Methodism in 92 years has progressed from a membership of 13 in 1823 to the present roster of 790 names, and from meeting in a small frame "show house" on the corner of Main and Third to the present modern structure. Much of the church's progress can be attributed to the financial aid and sustained service of the Kenyons.

The present church, dedicated in December, 1929, was financed under favorable circumstances, but during the depression in 1932, it was difficult to make payments on the mortgaged indebtedness. Individual members were asked to become responsible for the necessary money, and Mr. and Mrs. Kenyon are listed as two of the 19 signers of the note.

After her husband's death in 1942, Mrs. Kenyon continued to serve the church in various capacities. She died on Jan. 31 of this year at the age of 70.

The bronze plaque, the first memorial plaque to be affixed to the church building, was presented by the children and grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. Kenyon. It bears the following inscription:

"To the glory of God and the service of man, this plaque, commemorating 92 years of Christian service to the Klamath Basin by the Methodist Church, is placed in loving memory of David Ames and Ruby Lee Kenyon by their family. A.D. 1871-A.D. 1963."



COMMEMORATION OF SERVICE — The first memorial plaque of the First Methodist Church will be placed near the cornerstone following a dedication service on Sunday. It commemorates 92 years of community service by the Methodist Church and was presented in memory of the late Mr. and Mrs. David A. Kenyon. The bronze memorial is displayed by Mrs. Ralph Ovgard, chairman of the Wills, Legacies and Memorials Committee.

Couple Serves In Taiwan On Volunteer CWS Staff

Volunteering for a two-year Church World Service assignment early this year, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Berry are now serving on the staff of the Taiwan Christian Service. Mrs. Berry, the former Sandra Spear, is the daughter of Mrs. Terrell O. Chase of Klamath Falls.

The Berrys, both graduates of La Verne College, La Verne, Calif., are working with CWS through the Brethren Service Committee.

Following his graduation, Berry took the Brethren Volunteer Service training at New Windsor, Md. Further preparations for the assignment included language studies at Columbia University in New York.

Church World Service is the inter-denominational agency through which major Protestant and Eastern Orthodox communions carry on cooperative world-wide programs of service to the hungry, homeless, and disaster-stricken.

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STAN BILL

Leading Clergymen Question Internal Discipline Of Churches

By LOUIS CASSELS
United Press International

Should churches purge their membership rolls of people whose lives flagrantly contradict the teachings of Christ?

That question is under serious debate in church circles for the first time in more than a generation.

One of the church leaders who raised the question is Prof. Franklin H. Littell of Chicago Theological Seminary. He told a recent church conference that major Protestant denominations have virtually abandoned membership standards and are "incapable of maintaining the most elementary internal discipline."

He said that lack of discipline makes it impossible for churches to play an effective role in the struggle for racial justice. Nearly every denomination has condemned racial discrimination as un-Christian, he pointed out. But, he asked, how often do you hear of a Protestant church expelling a member for preaching or practicing bigotry?

Excommunication Rare

Even in the Roman Catholic Church, which theoretically has a stricter standards of internal discipline, excommunication for disobedience of moral teachings is comparatively rare nowadays. Witness the nationwide sensation which resulted last year when the archbishop of New Orleans denied the sacraments to three people who had openly challenged the church's stand on integration of parochial schools.

But the breakdown of church discipline is not confined to such fields as race relations, where there are strongly held differences of opinion.

Prof. Glenn Hinson of the Southern Baptist Seminary at Louisville, Ky., observed recently that churches are not even cracking down on such blatant acts of immorality as adultery and drunkenness.

Hinson said many Christians today seem to feel that there is something "distasteful, almost uncivilized" about telling people they must live up to the church's moral standards or get out.

Writing in the Texas Baptist Standard, Hinson noted that the same tendency to look the other way existed in the early Christian church at Corinth.

Writes Blistering Letter
St. Paul found out about it, and wrote a blistering letter to the Corinthians about the maintenance of church discipline.

"I actually hear reports of sexual immorality among you," said the shocked apostle.

He proceeded to lay down stern rules for "rooting out evil-doers from your community."

"Have you never heard the saying, 'A little leaven leavens all the dough'? The old leaven of corruption is working among you. Purge it out."

"You must have nothing to do with any so-called Christian who leads a loose life, is grasping, or idolatrous, a slanderer, a drunkard, or a swindler."

St. Paul made clear that he was not advocating that the church turn its back on sinners outside its fold. To do that would be to abandon its whole mission, for Christ said repeatedly that it was precisely for sinners that he came and died.

Not Vindictive Act
It was nominal Christians—hypocrites who claim the name of Christ while making a mockery of his teachings—that St. Paul said were to be "rooted out" of the church. And even in their case, the withdrawal of fellowship was not to be a vindictive act. It was the same kind of punishment that a loving parent administers to an erring child, to bring him to his senses. St. Paul specified that any church member who was expelled for wrongdoing should be welcomed back with open arms if he sincerely repented and sought forgiveness.

The reluctance of modern churches to follow St. Paul's stern advice is not motivated solely by a desire to hang onto every possible member. Many church leaders fear that any attempt to restore "discipline" would open the door to self-righteousness, Pharisaism and heresy hunts.

On the other hand, they recognize that churches are being hobbled in their efforts to bear witness to Christ because their ranks are riddled with people who are not even trying to be Christians.

"We know that discipline is needed," said Prof. Hinson. "The question is: Dare we take the risk?"

Guilts Meets
The Guild of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Langell Valley, held its regular monthly meeting on July 25 at the home of Dorothy Peterson of Bonanza. Fourteen members were present.

During the brief business session conducted by the president, Lois Monroe, it was voted to give the reception for a September wedding and to sponsor a card party on Aug. 1. Proceeds from the party will be used to install the bell donated to the church by the Clements Ranch of Bonanza.

Members decided to hold the next meeting on the fifth Thursday of the month instead of the fourth Thursday because of a conflict with the 4-H fair. The Aug. 29 meeting is slated at the home of Donna Gift of Upper Langell Valley, and each member is requested to bring a white elephant.

CITY SQUARE
The ten-acre block comprising Temple Square in Salt Lake City, Utah, is surrounded by a wall ordered by Brigham Young as a "Make Work" project to keep the unemployed Mormons busy.

Easter lilies bloom on Hong Kong's Kowloon Peak during June and July.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT
Worship must be meditation, the calming of spirit, the closing out of distractions, excitement, appetites, and arguments. God cannot be pleased with confusion.

"For God is not a God of confusion, but of peace." (1 Cor. 14:33)

The development of the soul and spiritual enrichment is regulated by regular appointments for intimate communion with God. In all worship there must be decency and order. Each of us can help to improve the hour of congregational worship. The wandering eye, the empty gaze, the worried countenance, the pre-occupied look, the attitude of disgust, the hypocritical stare and frequent levity must never become a part of our worship. Let us resolve to help keep such confusion and disturbances out of public service to God.

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Sunday School 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday Evening Testimony Meeting 8:00 O'Clock
Lesson-Sermon Subject August 4, 1963
"LOVE"

Golden Text: Psalms 36:7. How excellent is thy loving kindness, O God! Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.
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