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BEING HAPPY in the NEW YEAR

Our happiness in this new year will in no sense depend on our prosperity or our possessions. The prosperous are not always happy and certainly the rich are not always happy. Happiness comes from absolute dependence on God. It comes from love to God Himself, and is not connected with God's gifts to us. Many of the happiest Christians have the least of this world's goods. The quotation from the old prophet which follows is but the reiteration of a truth that we all recognise in our occasional better moments, but that is so likely to be overlaid and obscured in the mad, materialistic rush and whirl of commoner times, that a man's or a nation's life consists not in the abundance of the things possessed, and that the primary questions are not those of having and enjoying. This is what the prophet says and this is what we would say :

"Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flocks shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will joy in the God of my salvation" (Hab. iii. 17, 18).

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

The E.Y.M. Crusading for Christ in Lancashire

LANCASHIRE GETS WEAVING !

Elim Youth Committee Conferences and Rallies at Bolton. By Ken Smith

- "Ought to be more of them "-exclaimed one young Crusader.
- "This is really an eye-opener for me, and the teachers do really need teaching themselves, don't they?" commented a young convert from BOLTON.
- "Really stimulating and inspiring "-a minister added.
- "Very good suggestions, if they are carried out "---a youth worker from SOUTHPORT cautiously advised.
- "We got plenty of ELIM literature, tons of notes, and we are getting to know the Elim family now"—an enthusiastic youth worker from the former F.G.T. church at MACCLESFIELD.
- "Very instructive "-the minister's wife admitted.
- "Folk certainly seem to have had their say "-observed the Crusader Secretary from BLACKPOOL.
- "Just the job, and I have enjoyed the meetings and hope for another one soon"—the opinion of a keen children's worker from SALFORD.

What is it all about? Of course, the observations of some of the delegates to the Lancashire Elim Youth Conference, which according to yet another young fellow "It was a real rip-roaring success." The view of one of the Youth Committee was equally optimistic, for he commented that a great interest had been created among the youth workers in the presbytery, and thought that another conference would bring even more blessing, now that idea had been grasped.

The Host and Hostess of the Conference (Pastor and Mrs. T. W. Walker), the friends of the Elim Church at Bolton, and Pastor J. Tetchner (Lancashire's District Supt.), not forgetting the Youth Committee deserve a "big hand" for their efforts in organising the Conference.

From all parts of the Presbytery youth workers gathered on the Friday evening, feeling perhaps a little curious, and even apprehensive, at the thought of this new venture in Lancashire. After a really warm Lancashire welcome for the delegates, a fine sound, colour film "Hidden Treasure" was shown.

After the film Pastor H. W. Greenway opened a debate entitled "Did God Create?" and in a brief and very informative talk presented a clear outline of the issues involved. Of evolutionists he had this to say: "If they've got nothing else, they've got a very vivid imagination."

Many of the delegates stayed overnight, thanks to the hospitality of the Bolton assembly, and were at church early next morning for two sessions dealing with the youth work of the Movement. Comments of the Youth Committee were given on various aspects of endeavours among the young people.

"To be interesting you must be interested" was the advice passed on by Pastor Greenway in answer to the problem of how to make the Sunday School lesson interesting.

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Pastor J. H. Davies, extolled the Sunday School Teachers' Handbook by informing the delegates that it was the only British Pentecostal handbook in circulation, and almost the only fundamental teachers' handbook in the country. A three-year curriculum was being planned, with examination helps and revision (horrible word for young folk !) to assist the teachers and scholars. The price was shortly to be increased to 1/6, which only met production costs. I reckon that they are value for money. Secure a copy of the Handbook right away ! Remember it is designed to help YOU !

A real big feather in the caps of all dealing with Elim publications from the writers to the bookstall holders in the churches, was given by Pastor Greenway when he enthusiastically pointed out that more ELIM publications were sold per member than even the much boosted American Pentecostal magazines. No offence to our American cousins (or brethren) of course! He was only showing real appreciation of all the efforts made to sell ELIM publications, which is a good thing. After that comment why not sell some "Power Ages" among your young friends at school or in the office or factory, or in the forces?

Pastor Quest, also a member of the Youth Committee, told of the recent meetings for "Teddy boys, and Teddy girls!" started at Stafford by a former minister, Pastor S. Homer, and now carried on by Pastor Quest. Commenting on the use of hymns, the "Teddy boys" wanted something "with a kick in it." You had better change to "Onward Christian soldiers," and "Fight the good fight," according to Pastor Quest's observations! He also stressed the need for making time for a teachers' preparation class. Pastor T. W. Walker is especially deserving of appreciation for the work he undertook and in helping to "steer" the whole affair into profitable waters. All through the day happy fellowship was enjoyed among the delegates, and the different assemblies became realities, and not merely names in a Year Book.

If only all the youth of the E.Y.M. could have attended the rally that night ! From the commencement it certainly "did us good," as one old lady commented afterwards... The National Youth Secretary was full of beans (sorry, zest) and brought not only inspiration, but perspiration into the singing. Testimony Time was in the form of "In. Town Tonight" and the question-master was Pastor T. W. Walker. They included a Crusader who recently spent eighteen months in Nigeria, a tugboatman, and the designer of the E.Y.M. badge who, when questioned about his handiwork, had nothing to say. Real Lancashire modesty! The badges of the different sections of the E.Y.M. were displayed from the gallery of the church, and really did look impressive. Use them at your next Youth Rally ! Colne assembly were represented by their singing band, and the Blackpool "Ambassadairs" were on top form with their newly dedicated portable organ, complete with sashes and blue outfits.

(Continued on page 8)

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Elim's Year of Prayer

By Pastor L. W. Green (City Temple, Hull).

"POWER FOR THE HOUR"

How glorious it is to know that

NINETEEN - FIFTY - FIVE

is to be the year of a

REVIVAL of PRAYER for REVIVAL

From the first moment of the 1st January through to the last moment of the 31st December, 1955, there is to be continuous prayer rising to the Throne from the everincreasing chain of Pentecostal Churches.

What a thrill it is that through the recommendation by our Irish friends the Elim Foursquare Gospel Alliance Conference most enthusiastically desired to resume continuous prayer throughout our Churches during the coming year. In these closing days of time the need is never greater. Let us focus prayer on World Revival until the fires, already ignited, shall belt the globe. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much," "much more than this world dreams of." God longs to send revival. He wants to rend the heavens. He desires to manifest His presence; and you and I can make it possible as God's intercessors.

For those not acquainted with this "PRAYER FORCE," we mention the following :

- 1. THE OBJECT : That 1955 shall be a year of continuous prayer for Revival.
- 2. THE SLOGAN : "Power for the Hour."
- 3. THE METHOD : Ministers or Church Leaders promise to arrange for non-stop prayer during the periods allotted.

Members of the congregation agree to pray for Revival for one hour, or half an hour, consecutively covering the times mentioned.

4. THE REASONS : Many people, who otherwise would not do so, set aside an hour for prayer and experience tremendous blessing through it.

While we fully realise we are not heard for our much speaking, yet we know that "Men ought always to pray," and God does honour much sincere prayer. As someone has wisely said, "Prayer is not moving God's reluctance, it is claiming God's willingness." Prayer creates prayer, and through a session of continuous intercession the spirit of Prayer can fall upon a congregation and grip a Community.

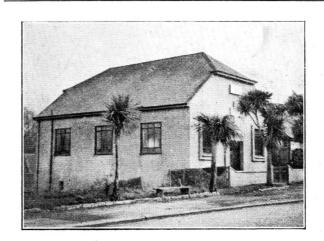
Prayer is always a prelude to power, and is the road that leads to Revival.

5. THE RESULTS : These are obviously incalculable and immeasureable, but judging from reports received from many Churches during Elim's previous years of continuous prayer, and the fact that every great Revival has been born in prayer, we know that the outcome will certainly be world-wide and eternitylong. It has been suggested that many Churches or individuals would like to commence the year with a day of prayer and fasting. If prayer is dynamic, prayer and fasting is atomic. We have heard that Pastor Plowright has already planned this for the Cardiff City Temple, and our Camberwell Church is doing the same.

Martin Luther fasted frequently and God used him to lift the curtain of night that hung over the world during the Dark Ages. John Knox fasted regularly and was used to sway Scotland towards God. Jonathan Edwards prayed and fasted and it was under his ministry that sinners would seize the pillars of the church and the backs of the seats under the mighty conviction of the Spirit, feeling they were in danger of dropping into hell.

Please do not think that because we have planned continuous prayer throughout the year, that we do not anticipate Revival before the 31st December, 1955. When Revival comes we continue in prayer—plus PRAISE.

Churches Participating Dec. 31st, 1954 to Jan. 8th, 1955 : Bristol, Mountain Ash, Cardiff, Blackburn, Aberdare, Bournemouth (Springbourne), and Bayswater.



The Elim Church in Falmouth.

Anonymous Gifts

We say "thank you" in His Name to those who have so kindly sent the following anonymous gifts:

Elim Missionary Society.—K. R., £3; From a Believer, Croydon, £3; "Anon," £10; Croydon Believer, £1 10/-; Belfast (designated), £2; "Hopeful," Lurgan, £10. "This is Life."— Anon," 10/-; M.I., £1; Bridgewater, £1; "Saved by grace," Leeds, £5; "A redeemed one," Hull, 10/-;

"This is Life."— Anon," 10/-; M.I., £1; Bridgewater, £1; "Saved by grace," Leeds, £5; "A redeemed one," Hull, 10/-; Sheffield, £1; Wimbledon, E.M.J., £2 10/-; Portsmouth, 5/-; A Bradford Sister, 10/-; "In His happy service," 5/6; F. H., Belfast, £2; Ipswich, £1 12/-; Ipswich, £2 10/-.

N.B.—Will readers kindly note that gifts for the General Fund, or any department of Elim work, should be addressed to Elim Headquarters, 20, Clarence Avenue, Clapham Park, S.W.4.

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Into the New Year, 1955

With this issue of the ELIM EVANGEL we step over into the New Year. Everyone likes something new, whether it be a new hat, a new coat, a radio set to listen to THIS IS LIFE, or a new piece of furniture, or whatever takes one's fancy. But greatest of all is that with the opening of the New Year we have unlimited new opportunities for serving God. New horizons open up before us, new fields of service which we may enter in the Master's name. This year many will step over the line into the blessings of the Christian life, some will feel the call of God to full-time service, others will enter into new paths of consecration to Him.

Let us be sure that 1955 does not find us letting slip the precious things of God and growing cold towards Him ! We should constantly remind ourselves of the wonder of His love and the graciousness of His providence, for these are constant witnesses of what we mean to Him and what He should mean to us. So may this year find all our readers seeking, and experiencing a closer walk with God, and provide for us new opportunities of service to Him who has done so much for us.

FOR LESS THAN A PENNY!

For less than the cost of one newspaper

JUST THINK OF IT-for less than a penny per week from every member of our Fellowship, we could cover the costs of our Radio Evangelistic Programmes. By this simple and easy method of giving

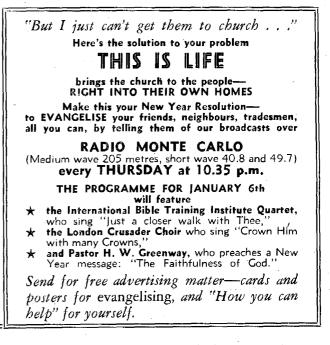
you can participate in this important form of modern evangelism.

Elim Praise and Prayer Fellowship—Continued from p. 5. into united operation; collectively to take upon our hearts the burdens of our brethren.

Let us go forward in a combined operation for God, remembering that the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty through God, determining that we willprove Him in a new and more wonderful manner than in the past, listening for His voice, waiting for His touch, looking up into His face, and ever ready to take hold of those exceeding great and precious promises which are the heritage of those who believe.

We think of Sir Winston Churchill's famous words during the late war : "Give us the tools, and we will finish the job." Well, God provides His servants with the weapon of prayer-the most potent weapon in the whole Christian armoury. It is for His people to wield this keen blade effectively.

Those wishing to join in this fellowship of prayer and praise should communicate with Pastor E. C. W. Boulton, Elim Prayer and Praise Fellowship, 20, Clarence Avenue, London, S.W.4. All correspondence which requires an answer should have a stamped and addressed envelope enclosed.



Perhaps you have not looked at it this way before, your resources may not be large and you have not been able to send a gift, much as you

have longed to-but, a penny a week! "I could manage that," you say. Well, tell your Pastor you are willing to give this as an extra and he will pass through the amounts collected to us. Or, write direct to

us with your proposals or gifts. We can ease the financial burden if we all do our part. Above all-

BROADCASTS PRAY FOR ТНЕ 4

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Elim Praise and Prayer Fellowship

A NEW YEAR CHALLENGE TO ALL GOD'S PEOPLE

MANY OF THE LORD'S PEOPLE will, we believe, rejoice at the announcement of the formation of a fellowship of prayer in connection with our Elim work. In some quarters it has been a long-felt need, and therefore will be welcomed. Realising as we do how important, invaluable and imperative is the need of intensive prayer, it will be the object of this fellowship to contact and cooperate with all those who feel themselves called to the ministry of intercession.

Whilst prayer is both the privilege and the duty of every Christian believer, and the Throne of Grace is open to all who name the name of Christ, yet we also believe that there are those upon whom is laid a Divine constraint to dedicate themselves to a life of definite intercession. There are so many of the Lord's children who do not possess the capacity for ministry of a public character, to such is opened this door into effective service for God and the Kingdom. The call is to a great and blessed vocation of creative prayer; the challenge of a noble crusade undertaken by a company of souls in whom a passion to burn out for God in the secret place has been kindled; those who are prepared to surrender themselves to this priestly ministry of intercession, standing before the Lord on behalf of others. Prayer means direct intercourse with God, and therefore enables Christian life to function on its highest level, bringing the soul into alignment and active co-operation with God Himself.

It is our conviction that just as upon some of God's servants rests the mantle of aggressive evangelism, and upon others is bestowed the pastoral gift of shepherding the flock of God, so there are those who are called within the veil of travailing and prevailing prayer—souls to whom the Church of God is far more deeply indebted than is generally realised. We have but a very limited conception of the potentialities of prayer; the Devil, realising how powerful prayer can become, puts forth ceaseless efforts to hinder the soul in its devotion to a life of prayer.

There is no branch of Christian life and service which can afford to remain independent of prayer, in fact, true, abiding success is only possible where the ministry of Holy Ghost prayer is maintained. In spiritual warfare the strength of the forward-line depends upon the hidden base of prayer, which is usually behind the visible battle-line, but very much involved and engaged in the conflict against spiritual wickedness in high places. We must not overlook the fact that "what God wills to accomplish on earth needs prayer as its indispensable condition."

The cause of much failure in Christian effort may be traced to an absence of prayer. When an offensive of a major character is being launched it requires the backing of concentrated intercession. As the advance of infantry is covered by the artillery, so intensive prayer can prepare

the way of the advancing columns of the Lord's hosts. To use a military expression, prayer may be used to soften up the position of the enemy which is to be assailed, and so make it vulnerable to assault.

Our Elim work at the present time is engaged in very definite activities for God, both at home and on the foreign field, activities which make heavy demands upon the faith and courage of our workers, and which strain the available resources to the utmost limit. All this necessitates constant prayer-power flowing from the hearts of a body of prayer-warriors who are given up to this ministry. The sacrifice entailed, the energies expended, the faith exercised, the devotion demanded, can only be forthcoming as a direct outcome of intercourse with God. Realising this, we are aware of the responsibility which rests upon us to see to it that the prayer and faith lines of supply are kept clear and secure. And so we are constrained to launch this prayer-crusade, this forward prayer-move, to send out this invitation to all those who feel the burden of prayer to unite with us in a fellowship of prayer and praise. God is, we believe, looking for an inlet large enough to pour Himself into the midst of our Movement in floodtide fulness, an inpouring of Himself great enough to eclipse anything we have experienced hitherto. And this opening will be found when God's prayer-priests focus their faith and concentrate their prayer power upon the problems which in so many instances appear to retard the progress of the Lord's work in different places and persons.

To this end then are we forming this fellowship and we trust that there will be a hearty response from many of our friends. It is proposed to keep the members of this fellowship in touch with the prayer-needs which are brought to our notice from time to time, and to send forth at regular intervals calls for special prayer. We invite prayer requests which will be brought before the members of the fellowship in circular form. Their attention will also be drawn to definite answers to prayer, for which a volume of praise will ascend to the Throne.

It should be pointed out that whilst our main concern will be for our Elim work, yet the prayer-radius of this fellowship of praying believers will, we trust, extend beyond our own borders. Wherever there is a real prayerneed there will be found a definite prayer-response to that need.

• Furthermore, we wish to make it clear that in no-wise is it intended that this fellowship should supersede, but rather that it should supplement the existing prayer fellowships in our churches; to strengthen and deepen the roots of prayer in those churches; to bring more intensively and extensively the prayer resources of our people

(Continued on page 4)

"As the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be" (Matt. xxiv. 37-39).

TN THIS PASSAGE the Lord speaks to His disciples about future events, and if you want to know these events read the 24th and 25th chapters of Matthew, also the 21st of Luke, because there you have a description of the things to come. Many of them will happen as we approach the end of the age and the coming again of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; because the Bible teaches that Jesus Christ is coming back to this earth again.

Now the Lord Jesus said that one of the signs of His soon coming would be that men and women would be living as in the days of Noah, which was a period of extreme moral degeneration.

The Scripture indicates that the people in Noah's day were not anti-God or anti-religion, but that they didn't care. You have a saying here in England, "I couldn't care less." That was their attitude towards God, towards religion, and towards spiritual things. They couldn't care less. They were so taken up with their night clubs, their licentiousness, their sensuality, their money making, their new inventions, their homes, and the other things of life, that they had no time for God. And the Bible says that, through the preaching of Noah, God warned those people. And in effect God said, through Noah, Repent of your sins or you are going to perish; for I am going to make it rain forty days and forty nights, and I am going to destroy all flesh upon the earth, unless you repent of your sins.

I wonder if God could be saying something like that today? You are living as in the days of Noah. The great majority of the people in London, in England, and in America are passing the Church by. They don't care about God; they are not anti-God, they are not fighting God, they are not against the Church, they just don't care. They are taken up with making money, with their homes, with everything else; and they don't have time for God. And I wonder if God could not be saying to us today, Watch out : you had better repent of your sins and turn to Me, or you may build a cobalt bomb that will destroy the world as it was destroyed in the days of Noah. He destroyed all but one family once before, for man had left God out of his thinking. And there are scores of you here tonight just like that : you have left God out of your life. You have not taken into consideration that you have a living soul. You have a body that in a few years will go to the grave, but you also have a soul for which you are responsible, that remembers, thinks, has intelligence and feelings : that part of you that remembers, dreams, thinks, is conscious and has understanding. That part of you the

Bible says will live for ever. Your body goes to the grave, but you don't die. You can't kill yourself by suicide, for you never die. Your soul goes on, and on, and on; and God says that you are responsible for the eternal destiny of your soul. And God is warning you. Some of you don't care; some of you by leaving God out of your thinking have neglected your soul, have put all the emphasis on your decaying, dying, deteriorating body that is going to the grave and will disintegrate, and put in no time on your soul that is going to live for ever, and ever,



and ever. God calls a man like that a fool. And yet many of you have done that.

God's Greatest Warning

But God gave the people of Noah's day another warning that was even worse than the flood. He said, My Spirit shall not always strive with man. What did God mean by that? That was the greatest warning that God gave to the people of Noah's day. And God's warning for you tonight is, My Spirit will not always strive with you. What does God mean by His Spirit? Who is the Holy Spirit? Why does God say that He will not always strive? Why is it necessary for Him to strive? It is necessary because without the striving of the Holy Spirit you will neither see nor enter the Kingdom of Heaven; you will never be saved; you will never have your sins forgiven. You can never have peace of soul and peace with God unless the Holy Spirit strives with you; and if He should ever cease striving with you, then all hope for you is gone.

Now the Bible teaches that there are three Persons that make up God. It is very difficult to understand, but there it is. Now the Holy Spirit is equal with God the Father and God the Son. The Holy Spirit IS GOD. He is a Person, He is not an agent, He is not an influence, HE IS GOD. Now Christ was God. There is God the Father, last one of us. Then, if we are all sinners, you say, how God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. These three can we get to heaven? How can we keep from being banished to hell? How can we be saved? The Bible save

Work of the Holy Spirit

Now the Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit does a particular work. First of all He convicts of sin. Now you can never get to heaven, you can never be saved, unless the Holy Spirit convicts you of sin. He convicts us of sin and of righteousness and of judgment. It is the Holy Spirit

always strive **THED AT HARRINGAY XAHAM**

that makes you recognise that you are a sinner. You say, Billy, I am no sinner. I have heard you say that everyone is a sinner, but I am a good person, and I want you to know that I am better than the next person. Well, I will ask you this : Are you as good as Jesus Christ? Are you? Then if you are as good as Christ you don't need salvation. But if you are any less than Christ the Bible says you are a sinner. I ask you another question : From the time you were born have you always kept the ten commandments? If you have not, the Bible says you are a sinner, and the Bible says everyone has broken the ten commandments. We have all transgressed the ten commandments; we have come short of the glory of God, Jesus Christ : and the Bible declares that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. The Bible says, The wages of sin is death; the soul that sinneth, it shall die. We are under the condemnation of sin, and sin means that the soul will be banished from the presence of God. Your body dies, your soul goes out into eternity : banished to a place that Jesus at times calls "outer-darkness," and on other occasions He calls "hell": separated from God for ever, without hope, as a result of deliberately breaking the laws of God. And the Bible says we are all sinners, every

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can we get to heaven? How can we keep from being banished to hell? How can we be saved? The Bible says there is only one way, and that is through the fact that the Lord Jesus Christ died on the Cross for our sins. He took your punishment, He took your judgment, He took your hell upon the Cross. Now God says, Acknowledge your sins; repent of your sins; turn from your sins; turn by faith to Christ at the Cross and henceforth obey Him. You will then be saved ; and when you die, although your body goes to the grave, your soul will go into the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. Now the Bible says you cannot come to Christ, you cannot repent, unless the Spirit of God shows you that you are a sinner; and it is the Holy Spirit that actually turns you around in repentance. You cannot repent without the Holy Spirit ; you cannot know that you are a sinner without the Holy Spirit; and tonight, right in your heart, the Holy Spirit is now speaking. You may not admit it, you may even be a bit unconscious of it; but deep down inside you is an uncomfortable feeling. That is the Holy Spirit at work. And when the Holy Spirit makes you doubt your relationship to God, never having come to Christ your Saviour, He is warning you. And when the Holy Spirit warns you and convicts you, you had better move, because without the Holy Spirit making you feel uncomfortable, making you feel a sinner, and making you feel that you are wicked, you can never get to heaven. Oh, you may be a good, decent, moral person, but when you consider the ten commandments they become a mirror and you begin to say to yourself, "Well, I have broken that one; I know I have told a lie sometimes; I know that I have cheated; I know that I have coveted; I know that I have failed to love the Lord my God with all my heart and mind and soul; I have failed to love my neighbour as myself; I know that I have failed. And when you begin to admit your failure and begin to admit your sin, it is the Holy Spirit that is bringing you to that point; and unless you come to that point you can never get to heaven. And sometimes when the Holy Spirit begins to speak to a man or a woman in this way, they get angry. I have seen many a man walk out of buildings in our campaigns in the United States; I have seen them stand up, shake their fists and stalk out. But oft-times they come back on other nights and many of them have come to Christ. When you feel uncomfortable like that, that is the Holy Spirit; and you cannot come to Christ unless the Holy Spirit convicts you and draws you to Him. And if you are feeling uncomfortable just now, you had better thank God for it, for without that uncomfortable feeling, without that feeling that you have failed God, you can never get to heaven. If God is speaking to you, give your life to Christ now. Come to the Cross and ask Christ to come into your heart and forgive you and cleanse and save you, and He will. Come just as you are.

E.Y.M. Crusading for Christ in Lancashire-Continued.

Pastor Greenway's message on the thought of doing all things through Christ, brought a grand climax to the whole conference, and proved a challenge as well as an inspiration to the youth of the presbytery. Much has been accomplished, the move is on, and all who attended Lancashire's first youth conference are now eagerly anticipating another opportunity to exchange ideas and talk about the subject they love most—winning the youth for Christ.

MY IMPRESSIONS

of the Bolton Elim Youth Conference. By Anna Porteous, M.A. (Edinburgh)

You missed something if you were not at the Bolton Convention. Now I know what I would have missed had I not been there, so I'm glad I went. It was a cold, misty morning when I travelled from Edinburgh all the way to Bolton, and the journey entailed a long wait in cold waiting rooms. But it was worth it for the warmth of fellowship I found at the convention. There was much food for thought as we listened to the Youth Committee nobly answering our knotty problems, and a great spirit of vitality was present in every meeting. Being actively engaged in youth work-I am a school teacher-I thought I knew all the answers, but came away from Bolton realising I had learned a lot more about working with young people. It has certainly been an enriching experience for me as I came back on fire for God, more earnest about soulwinning, and determined to show more enthusiasm in my Christian witness. Thank you, Bolton for one of the most enjoyable, blessing-filled week-ends of my life.

CHILDREN'S CONVENTION AT BOLTON By James Richardson, Salford

Private coaches and buses parked all down one side of the street; and a queue, yes, a queue of children streaming into the building. What was happening? A cinema show? A concert? No! This was the scene outside the Bolton Elim Church on Sunday afternoon, when the first Children's Rally was held.

What a grand sight met us inside the church. Hundreds of children of all ages packed into this lovely church. What a testimony to the love and devotion of our Elim Sunday School teachers, to see all the various Sunday Schools joining together to sing the praises of Jesus; and my, could they sing. "Deep and Wide," "How did Moses cross the Red Sea," and many other choruses rang around the rafters. The good old hymns were sung with terrific gusto, and one could not help feeling that the churches these scholats represented were alive and throbbing with energy.

Various items were contributed from all the Sunday Schools present A quartette of pretty girls from Chorltoncum-Hardy Elim Church gave a lovely rendering of "I love to sing my Saviour's praise," sung to the tune of the Happy Wanderer. Pastor J. Tetchner predicted a wave of popularity for this song. Another wonderful song of praise was given by the Wigan Sunday School, which reflected great credit and patience to the leaders. Pastor T. W. Walker of Bolton certainly won the hearts of the children with his bright and happy convening. Pastor J. Hywel Davies, our National Youth Secretary, gripped the children's imagination with the story of the four lepers creeping into the camp of the Syrians.

So ended our first Children's Rally which showed to all that our Sunday School work is on the move.

"A GREAT DAY FOR ALL"

By Pastor C. Mulvagh, Salford

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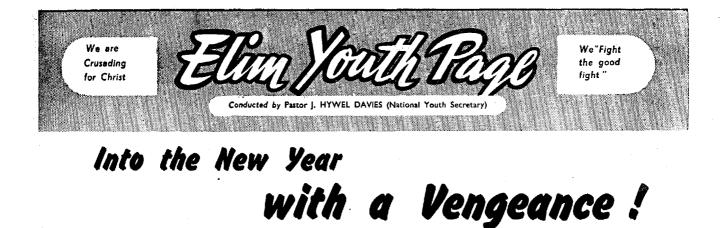
Thus the advertisements described it, and thus it was. A true case of honest advertising. The occasion was a recent Saturday in Manchester (some wit called it "Rainchester," but we ignore that gag!) when the ever active Lancashire Presbytery put on a great Rally in the wellknown Albert Hall. For weeks we had prayed and anticipated, and the Salford Elim friends (forgive our modest blushes) had distributed leaflets. Half an hour before opening time the people were gathering. A gentleman on the "respectable" side of Crusader age asked the writer if it was open to all ages or youth only. He was delighted to know he could come. All ages did come, and from a lot of places. Every Elim Church in the Presbytery and also from Mansfield and Sheffield.

The Hall was gaily decorated with the large replicas of our Youth Department Badges (made by Pastor Gordon Wright). Pastor T. W. Walker, our District Youth Commissioner, made the handsome organ peal out its wonderful notes, and with Pastor Jack Tetchner convening we were "off." Nan McCracken, a young Bolton Crusader, delighted all with two wonderful solos. Our popular and versatile National Youth Secretary, Jack Hywel Davies, gave a thrilling report of Elim's progress in youth work, and then Pastor Leslie Green, still "on top" packed some concentrated "meat" into his "sermonette." After tea Pastors Brian Hopkins and Derek Green led a team of "Fishers" who "hooked" some passers-by into the evening meeting. Of these at least one was saved and is going on well with the Lord.

Pastor Green (Junior) told me he had rarely been in a meeting like the one we had that evening. Nor I. What talent ! A converted boxer, now on his way as a missionary to India; a Liverpool ladies' singing party rendering the perennial "Little Talk with Jesus," a fellow played a trumpet, or a cornet, or a saxophone, or-? I can't remember, but I know he blew it ! Another solo by Nan McCracken! A united Choir piece conducted by Pastor F. W. Jones; a lady called "Fredrika," a wonderful exopera singer, saved only a few weeks before on a steamer crossing from Ireland to Liverpool, thrilled us all with her solo and by her testimony. I, who am notoriously bad at singing was spellbound ! My knowledge of musical jargon is nil, but I think if I had understood the meaning of "octaves" and so on, I could not have enjoyed that solo much more.

Two sermons! Pastor Davies told us "This is life," and when I say that Pastor Green's (senior) message was "typical" I know you will understand. The climax was the surrender to Christ of about seven young people who were personally dealt with, and I think three of them are regularly attending an Elim Church.

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THE VENGEANCE is on the year itself, for what we L have missed in the year which has passed.

Facing a new year means being confronted with a new challenge. How are we to deal with the greater opportunities now ready to come our way?

"If I were young again," the aged, shaking, hand scrawled over the paper, "I would preach. I would preach because the compelling hand of God has been upon me ... I would proclaim one Gospel, the Gospel of the grace of God. I would hold up one beacon, the light of a lifted cross, using all the talent, ability and power that



God has given me to that end.

"I would attack sin with all the strength of my soul . . but I would also try to have in my heart the same love that Christ had, even for those who falsely accused Him . . . I would never compromise my message, but I would weep as I preached the terrible truth committed to me . . .

"Above all, I would try . . . not to quarrel with people, upbraid them, scold them, or show bad temper in dealing

with them. My effort would be to preach, and plead, and pray, that God would direct the course and take care of the results . . .

"Were I a young man, I would step into this open door and go out to the people, the common people, the everyday people, preaching repentance and the forgiveness of sin.

"But why write on? I am an old man. My day is done. My life is spent. I am but dreaming dreams !"

tomorrow," pleads the young man. But what of today? "Were I a young man, I would step into this open door," is the voice of lost opportunity. "As for me," said the white-haired, age-weakened, David, "I had in mine heart to build an house . . . of the Lord." He did not build that house; it was not to be his privilege. Lost ! Gone ! The opportunity passed. It is said that true genius is not in the seeing of opportunity, but in its seizing.

"Who knoweth whether thou are come to the kingdom for such a time as this ?" Push open the door to the new year with a resolute hand. Put forward your foot over its threshold with a deliberate step. The fields are white before you, and those who would seize the opportunity are few. We are an army of nearly 4,000 Crusaders. Many conflicts before us? Ah yes, but what conquests! How glorious! As I write I listen, what do I hear? Voices of Crusaders in harmony singing, "Today Thy mercy calls me." The sinner? But not him alone. It calls me! The mercy of God gives us a second chance, nay, a thousand chances. A New Year-a new beginning. Some make resolutions, but without fortifications. Why should we not make a resolution this day? But not in our strength; rather, fortified by HIS strength. We want, we will, we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

Do you want a target? Here's one. Win another soul for Christ in 1955, and persuade that one to become another Crusader for Christ. "One isn't very much," you say. Not much? All our "ones" will make that 8,000! Eight thousand Elim Crusaders by New Year's Day 1956, if ... If ... IF ... ah-ha, that enigmatical IF, if each one of us will but bring just one young person to Christ. "In Korea," said the missionary as I stood listening, "a young Christian asked the minister if he would allow him to become a member of his church. 'Yes, I will be delighted,' said the minister, 'but first tell me, Have you brought someone to Christ?' 'Not yet,' replied the young man. 'Then go, find one, and when you have won your first soul for Christ, come and tell me."" A church filled with soul-winners, what a thrilling thought.

Beware of the Moaning Minnies, the Petty Peters, and the Pessimistic Percys. "That woan work," they groan. "Tried it afore. Think you're clever 'as us, do you ?" And if there is a failure at the first attempt, they all join "Give me yesterday," cries the old man. "Wait till together in a choral cacophany, "Told you so . . . told

you so . . ." Derisive chants of that nature are cheap. Nehemiah had many "after that kind" around him, but he ignored their folly and pressed on toward the mark of his ambition. We have a grand job to do, let us tackle the task with a vengeance; glorious are the activities of those engaged by Christ. "Don't get heated because of evil doers . . . they shall soon be cut down . . . Trust in the Lord, and do good; . . . Delight thyself also in the Lord; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass," encourages the Psalmist.

One last word. What can we do to make our church more successful, corporately, in its mission for Christ? Many young folk have mistakenly sought to put others right before setting out on their duties. Admittedly, it can be aggravating to be bogged down by stick-in-themuds, and exasperating to have your red-hot idea doused in icy water, but direct your vengeance not against your offenders, but into the wise furtherance of your programme to extend the Kingdom of God. Bear in mind that you may have acted in like manner as the "others" if you were in their circumstances, as one fellow wrote, "If we had to walk awhile in the other fellow's shoes, perhaps we would not criticise his gait." Endeavour to lift the "others" into your plan, enthuse them with your idea, but never become disgruntled or dismayed. Remember that unity

The Family Elim Prayer Circle A page for your daily meditations and prayer

Scripture Union Portions. Notes by Pastor H. Burton Haynes.

SUNDAY, January 2nd. Genesis i. 20-31; ii. 1-3.

"God created man in His own image" (v. 27).

The first Adam was made in the image of God. Like His Maker he was endowed with a mind capable of thought and reason, possessing a moral nature which could exhibit the traits of the Divine nature, and animated by a spirit which could hold sacred converse with God. But, alas ! sin entered and God's image in man was marred and degraded. In Christ this wondrous image is restored and by the mystic indwelling of the Holy Spirit God's original purpose for our lives is achieved.

MONDAY, January 3rd. Genesis ii. 4-14.

"A river went out of Eden" (v. 10).

Eden was constituted a debtor to the whole earth to send forth fertilising streams. The rock smitten in the wilderness became a debtor to Israel's thirsty hosts. Similarly everyone who believes on Jesus is a debtor to the scene around him, to allow the fertilising streams of living water to flow forth from him. We should always regard ourselves as channels through which the manifold grace of God can flow to a needy world. "O fill me with Thy fulness, Lord, until my very heart o'erflows."

TUESDAY, January 4th. Genesis ii. 15-25.

To dress it and to keep it" (v. 15).

The garden of Eden in which Adam was placed was a garden of communion. Here man dwelt in intimate fellowship with God. Eden means pleasure ; it suggests a scene of delight, in which everything was found that could minister to the natural happiness of an innocent man. And man was placed there to "till it and to guard it." What God bestows upon us in Christ must be culti-

does not necessarily mean uniformity, but it does mean harmony. You must be prepared to allow your idea to take its place in the queue, but in the meanwhile keep burning. Mind you, there are many enthusiastic young folk brimming over with ideas, but they seem to promote self. An excellent test of one's keenness to extend the Kingdom of God is to stoke the church boiler at 6.30 a.m. Sunday, weather forecast--icy winds, maybe snow, but certainly frosty !

Forward then, into the New Year, with God, for God, and by God's help, more than conquerors because of Him who loves us.

"As the lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters" (Cant. ii. 2).

In the parable of the sower, "the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things" are the thorns which, " entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.' What a catalogue of prickly and damaging things ! As long as we are in the world, we shall be surrounded by them. But by His keeping power they will not be allowed to choke us, for, though in the world, we need not be of it. We are to be lilies "among thorns "--blooming and flourishing to God's praise and the commendation of the Gospel !-- Robert Lee.

NEWS FLASH

Twenty-two decisions at Cinema Rally last Sunday, Mountain Ash. Speaker : Pastor Ken Matthew, Convener : Pastor W. Maybin.

vated and guarded by fellowship with God, with daily vigilance and unquestioning obedience to His commandments.

WEDNESDAY, January 5th. Genesis iii. 1-13.

The serpent beguiled me" (v. 13).

There are three avenues of temptation by which Satan can enter and destroy the Divine purpose in human lives; they are "the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life" (v. 6). The Lord Himself in His incarnation was tempted along these three lines in the wilderness. Adam succumbed to temptation through disobedience; Christ conquered by closely adhering to the written Word. "It is written" He replied. Obedience to God's Word keeps the soul inviolate against Satanic attack.

THURSDAY, January 6th. Genesis iii. 14-24. "It shall bruise thy head" (v. 15).

Through sin man lost everything—his dominion, his dignity, his happiness, his innocence, his purity, his peace. There he stood, a lost, ruined, guilty sinner. But right at this point of human failure and despair God began to reveal Himself and His purposes of redeeming love. He gives to fallen man a glorious promise of a coming Redeemer and Deliverer. The millenniums have passed, the Saviour of the world has come, and we now rejoice in an uttermost salvation. Let us thank God for so great salvation.

FRIDAY, January 7th. Genesis iv. 1-16.

The Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering" (v. 4). From the dawn of history it is clearly shown that sacrifice is the basis of man's approach to God. The slain lamb prefigured the perfect sacrifice of Christ, the Lamb of God. Thus Abel approached God typically in the excellence of Christ and was therefore accepted. Satan sought to silence Abel's testimony by inciting Cain to murder him. But Abel's voice has been speaking for six thousand years ! And God will eventually bring all Satan's devices to nothing.

SATURDAY, January 8th. Genesis v. 1-5, 21-32.

"Enoch walked with God" (v. 22). Enoch means "Tuition." This man submitted himself to the Divine discipline and entered upon a life of daily fellowship with God and became a partaker of His holiness. In Enoch we see the life of a heavenly man, one completely separated from the course of the world; one who in company with God became His friend and confidant receiving wondrous communications of heavenly secrets. How much do we give God our company? He delights in us and values our company. It might have to be said of many of us that we only lived.

COMING EVENTS

PRESIDENTIAL ITINERARY

Pastor John Dyke, the President, will visit the following churches: January 1-4, Kilsyth. 5, Bangor. 6, Melbourne Street, Belfast. 7, Saunders Street, Belfast. 8, Beersbridge Road, Belfast. 9, Ulster Temple, Belfast. 10, Newtownards. 11, Lurgan. 12, Annaghanoon. 13, Armagh. 14, Rathfriland. 15, Portadown. 16, Ballymena. 17, Ballymoney. 18, Cullybacky. 19, Bethesda, Belfast. 22, Worthing (Rally). 23-24, Preston Park. 25, Hove. 26-27, Portsmouth. 28, Ryde. 29, Southampton (Rally). 30-31, Romsey.

BARKING. Jan. 2. Elim Church, Ripple Road. Pastor D. B. Gray and London Crusader Choir. 6.30.

EALING. Jan. 8. Special showing of the Billy Graham Film "Oil Town, U.S.A." in the Elim Church, Northfield Ave. Time to start 6.45. Door open 6.15.

ILFORD. Jan. 1. Élim Church, Scrafton Road. Monthly Rallies, first Saturday of each month. First Rally, Jan. 1st, 7.30. Mrs. Magee and Party.

LOWESTOFT. Jan. 22-24. Elim Church, Milton Road. Special visit of Pastor J. Hywel Davies. Sat. and Mon. 7.30. Sun. 11, 3, and 6.30. Sunday School Prize Giving.

THORNTON HEATH. Jan. 14. Elim Church, Moffat Road. Friday, 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. All night of prayer. Invitation to prayer warriors and those seeking the Baptism of the Spirit.

WARRINGTON. Jan. 1-2. Visit of Pastor H. W. Greenway (Vice-President). Sat. 7.30 at Victoria Hall, Knutsford Road. Sun. 10.45, 6.30 and 8 at Patten Hall, Winmarleigh Street (opposite Town Hall). Jan. 2. With effect from Sunday, 2nd Jan., the Sunday services of the Elim Church, Warrington, will be held in The Patten Hall, Winmarleigh Street (opposite Town Hall), Warrington. 10.45 a.m. Breaking of Bread; 6.30 Gospel service; 8, Informal After-Church Gospel meeting. Other meetings continue in Victoria Hall, Knutsford Road.

NEW YEAR CONVENTIONS

DUNDEE. Dec. 31-Jan. 5. Elim Tabernacle, Dudhope Crescent Road. New Year Convention. Sun. 11 and 6.30. Week-nights 7.30. Speakers expected: Pastors J. McBurney, J. L. Timbrell and Mr. John Hill.

EALING. Dec. 31-Jan. 2-3. Elim Church, Northfield Avenue, W.13. New Year Special Services. Fri, 7.30 p.m. Half-night of Prayer, 11.15 p.m. Watchnight Service. Sun. 11, 3, 6.30. Mon. 6.30. (Junior Crusaders. Subject: "Did God Create ?" Speaker at all services: Pastor J. Hywel Davies (National Youth Secretary).

GLASGOW. Dec. 31-Jan. 4. Elim Church, Butterbiggins Road. New Year Convention. Speakers: Pastors R. J. Morrison and H. Palliser. Fri. Watchnight Service, 11 p.m. Sat. 3.30 and 6.30 (tea provided). Sun. 11 and 6.30. Mon. and Tues. 7.30.

MANSFIELD. Jan. 15-17. Co-operative Hall, Clerkson Street. Special week-end visit of Pastor W. George.

SALFORD. Dec. 31-Jan. 2. Elim Church, Nursery Street, Pendleton. Annual New Year Convention. Fri. 11 p.m. Watchnight. Sat. 3 and 7. Sun. 11, 2.30, 6.30. Speakers: Pastors Richard Lighton and L. E. Tiller. Convener: Pastor J. C. Mulvagh.

SCUNTHORPE. Jan. 1-3. Elim Church, Ferry Road. New Year Convention. Sat. 7. Sun. 11, 2.15 and 6. Mon. 7. Speakers include: Pastor J. Tetchner (Accrington). Special singing groups.



Sunday, Jan. 9th: CORONATION TEMPLE 7.30

FINAL SERVICE (Wed.) Jan. 12th.

READ YOUR BIBLE with the ELIM BIBLE COLLEGE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE Write for particulars to :---The Secretary, E.B.C.C.S., 30, Clarence Avenue,

The Secretary, E.B.C.C.S., 30, Clarence Avenue, Clapham, London, S.W.4.

Gratitude for Deliverance

A NACCIDENT which could have had far more serious results, prompts me to write of God's goodness toward me.

Along with a brother from the same church, I was working at the coal-face of a local colliery when a section of roof fell and struck me on the back and leg. The pain from my leg was so severe that I feared it must be smashed from ankle to thigh, but, praise God, 'on examination at the hospital it was found to be badly bruised, but no bones broken. This in itself was miraculous to say the least, as I am told that it needed three men to move the lump of rock which fell on me. I had been allowed home after examination and it wasn't until a few hours had passed that I realised that I had injuries to my back. It was on the Friday that my accident occurred and I was sent for an X-ray on my back the following Tuesday. In the meantime prayers on my behalf had been offered, and I was able by God's grace to attend the Sunday evening meeting.

On being X-rayed I was found to have one fracture and one crack in the left transverse process of the spine. I was kept in hospital for a few days then allowed home without being put in plaster, as apparently, although fractured, there was no displacement of the bone.

Some people will say I am luckly to be able to walk, and that I'm lucky the injuries were not to the spinal cord itself, although so very near. But I say that it is because God put His hand upon me and kept me from a more serious condition.

A little time will be necessary to allow the injuries to heal, but what are a few weeks and a few pains when by God's grace and mercy one has been spared his life, and even a life as a permanent cripple which might so easily have been the result.

How can one praise God sufficiently for His boundless grace and mercy. I trust and pray that the life He spared may be lived out in His service, that His name may be glorified.

> ---R. H. BATEMAN, 20, Chapel Street, Silverdale.

DAILY OBEDIENCE

"If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me" (Luke ix. 23).

Daily—that is the thing to note. The need for daily application of this principle appears in two ways: First, old questions which have been faced and downed, as we thought, will come up again. Secondly, there will arise new problems. Many who have faced the question of lifework and decided for the foreign field illustrate this. It was at tremendous cost that they made the decision, and probably there was the thought that afterwards all would be plain sailing. But no; the same old problems had to be fought out, and there were new ones, too, to face. The principle of Christ's supremacy could not be lost sight of for a moment. Obedience, which is the price of power, must not only be absolute, but **daily**.

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 axtra; 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.

Bridlington.—A holiday at "Shalome" will do you good. Book early for Easter, Whitsuntide, and your annual holiday. Our pensioners' fortnight last year was a happy period. The date this year is May 14th to 28th with special terms. Apply at once to avaid disappointment. Barraclough & Riley, 21, Albion Terrace. 'Phone 5276. C.129

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

Isle of Wight.—"Corstorphine," Spencer Road, Ryde; situated in pleasant country surroundings, near sea and shops; full board from 41 guineas. Send S.A.E. to Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Dove, for brochure. C.159

BIRTH

Hudson.—On November 5th, to Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Hudson, of Sheffield, the gift of a son, John Douglas; a brother for Ruth and Angela.

WITH CHRIST

Brain.—On November 28th, Miss Jane Francis (Dolly) Brain, aged 77; an old member of the Elim Church, Leigh-on-Sea. Funeral conducted by Pastor George Stormont.

Browne. On December 7th. James Browne, of Belfast, an Elim member for about thirty years, was called to higher service. Funeral, conducted by Pastors J. Smith, G. W. Gilpin, and W. J. Martin. "Thou shalt be missed, because thy seat will be empty" (I. Sam., xx. 18).

Mingins.—On December 1st, Margaret Mingins, aged 76, of Elim Church, Carlisle. Funeral conducted by Pastor T. H. Stevenson. Rumney.—On November 18th, Agnes Rumney, aged 84, of Elim

Church, Carlisle. Funeral conducted by Pastor T. H. Stevenson,

Southern.—On December 5th, Miss Lily Southern, aged 44, a faithful and beloved member of Elim Church, Salford. Funeral conducted by Pastor J. C. Mulvagh.

COMMUNION REQUISITES

COMMUNION TRAYS

To take 40 glasses, made in 3-ply wood stained and varnished, and with chromiumplated handle. These trays can be stacked in pairs crossways. 37/6 post free. Complete with 40 perspex glasses, 77/6 post free.

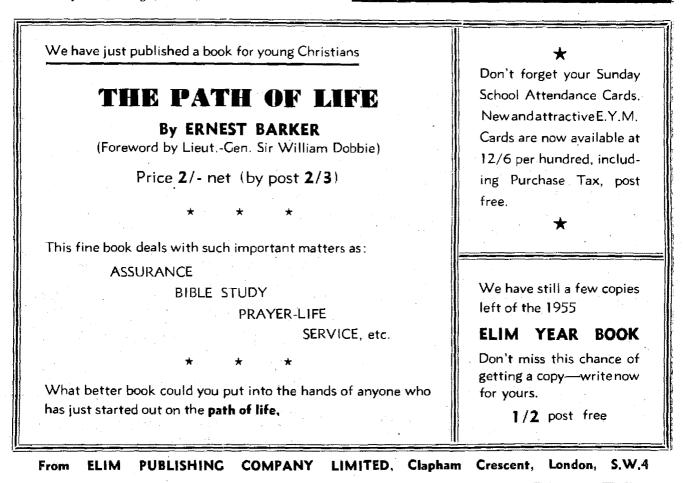
Metal Holders for fastening to seats, to take one glass each, 2/* per doz, post free.

STACKING COMMUNION TRAYS

A much superior tray which can be stacked one upon the other is supplied in dark oak with chromium-plated handles and legs, etc. Three of these trays can be stacked one above the other.

Each tray takes 40 glasses. **£5 5s. 0d.** post free. Complete with 40 perspex glasses, **£7 5s. 0d.** post free.

Glasses for above, 1/- each, post free.



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