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FOURPENCE

JANUARY 5th, 1957



Hew Year Humber A Bappy New Year to all our readers By Pastor A. A. BIDDLE

THE FIRST WORDS our Lord Jesus Christ spoke L to His newly-found disciples are found in Mark 1:17: "Come ye after Me, and I will make you to become fishers of men." The context reveals clearly that they realised what was involved in following the Lord. The proof of their understanding is in their response-Andrew and Peter "forsook their nets, and followed Him," while James and John "left their father . . . and went after Him." To them, following the Lord, meant the priority of His purposes over legitimate business and even parental authority. There is no such thing as being a Christfollower without denial and challenge even to the things dear to us. The words of our Lord form for us all what should be the greatest ambition of our lives : "follow Me."

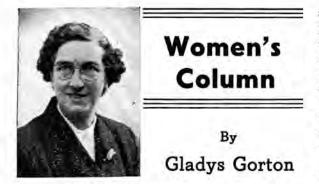
Where are we in the text? "I will make you to become fishers of men." There we are in between Him and men. We are go-betweens, between the Divine seeker and the lost. The objective in following Him is a training to win others, to be passionately in love with the souls of men. Whatever else we may become or gain, if we lose this passion we lose the Divine intention for our lives. Every activity in life should be geared to the winning of others to Christ. It has been said that the ministry of Andrew was that of a connector, for he found Christ and then "He first findeth his own brother Simon, and brought him to Jesus." Now if every activity in life should be geared to soul-winning, then every part of it must be consecrated.

The Lord spoke in terms of their occupation. It was their natural capacity to fish and in that respect they were skilled. It could, of course, be any other occupation. The meaning is clear : the Lord always makes His claims to fit the capacity and ability of the disciple. Such as we are able to do, capable of performing, must be done with the definite object of winning men to His side. The Lord never makes claims on anyone's life for service they just have not the ability to render. The startling fact, however, is that our failure lies not in the things we cannot do, but rather our unwillingness to do the things we can do. This story illustrates the point. Two doctors were conversing about their work. One was a

Christian and the other an unbeliever. During the course of conversation the Christian doctor asked his friend if he had ever noticed the difference between the death of a Christian and that of a non-Christian. The other just laughed at the very idea, and made it clear that to him there was no difference for they all died alike. This gave the Christian doctor the opportunity to ask a request of his friend. Would he stay at the deathbed of a Christian and a non-Christian until the body mortified? This he agreed to do and to his utter amazement he saw a great difference in the facial features of the two people. The Christian had a face which spoke of peace and confidence, while that of the unbeliever was one of fear and despair. Needless to say that doctor found the Saviour. You see the point : only a doctor could have won that other doctor-he used his occupation for soul-winning. Yes, and it is true to say that if some typists, miners, steel-workers, clerks and executives are going to be won for the Lord, only people in those occupations are going to win them.

In our text, too, there is a place given for training. So many want to know how to become a soul winner. Mark you, there are many good books on the subject, and although they may be of help they will never make a soul winner of anyone. A soul winner is made by the Lord Himself : "I will make you to become fishers of men." Our training is in following the Lord. It is in a very close walk with Him that soul winners are made. Sailors are made in the storms of the Atlantic and not on some inshore establishment. Miners are not made in some technical college-they are made in the bowels of the earth with all its dangers and difficulties. So we could go on and on with most callings, but none is so true as that of a soul winner. You can only become a soul winner by sitting at His feet and learning of Him. It is when you get so very near to Him that you feel His heart beating for a world of sinners lost and ruined by the fall. Yes, and if you follow Him He will lead you to some soul, He will teach you what to say, He will give your words convicting force, and He will make you to become fishers of men. You see, the closer we get the more willing

(Continued on opposite page)



"I HAVE THE KEYS" (Rev. 1:18).

Hit is, when we look into our purse for the doorkey and discover that it is not there. Where did I leave the key we wonder. Then we look around to see if any window is open or unlocked. Usually all windows are securely fastened. We seek other means to get in—sometimes with success, but more often without hope. But how relieving it is when someone exclaims, "It's all right I have the keys."

This New Year looms ahead untried and unknown. We will step into it and proceed along its unfamiliar path little by little, sometimes in the dark, other times in the light; sometimes hesitatingly and stumblingly, other times confidently and steadfastly. We know not what awaits us, but Jesus, the Lord of eternity declares, "Behold I have the keys." Yes, all keys to every situation, problem and circumstance. There are many types of keys: yale keys, large keys, small keys, heavy keys. All are necessary to unlock the locks for which they are made. Rejoice— Christ Jesus says, "I have the keys. MY keys can unlock all locks and open all doors."

That reminds me. Last year we had the glorious privilege of a holiday in Switzerland. Returning through France on our way to Brussels, we stayed the night in Nancy. Next morning after a breakfast of coffee and rolls, we went to our rooms to collect our luggage. Our friends put their key into the lock of the door of their room, but with all their trying the lock refused to open. We tried, but it still refused to yield. The chamber-maid came along. She tried, speaking fluent French all the time-perhaps more than her own language! which of course we could not understand. She bashed and banged, pulled and rattled, but it still refused to give. Off she hurried for the manager of the café. He tried in a similar way, still with no success. The time was going. "Could we wait for a few hours?" "Impossible, we were returning to England," we endeavoured to explain. Then they went for the proprietor. He came

along and put the key in the lock, and turned and pushed, but with no result. He stood looking at the door, and then he turned and said something to the girl and away she went. A short time after, a man arrived with a large hoop on which were scores of keys. He tried one or two in the lock—they failed. Then he took a certain one and put it in the lock and the door opened so easily. Yes, just like that ! You see, he had the key for the situation. He didn't have a master key, but as you know there are such keys which can open any lock in a large building. Jesus keeps the special key and the master-key, for your closed doors.

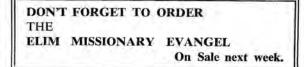
> "God holds the key to all unknown, And I am glad. If other hands should hold the key, Or if He trusted it to me, I might be sad."

SOUL WINNING IN 1957-Continued.

and submissive we become. Yes, He is our trainer. It would be good to point out here that the Christian life as to training for soul winning and performing that consecrated work is a lifetime task. There is never any discharge from training or service, and as we train we also serve. All are called to training and service, and all are called for life. Life for the Christian is a continual observation of how and when to win souls for the Saviour.

The Lord Himself is the text in action. Watch Him at His work. He sought all kinds of persons ill-famed, lepers, demoniacs, ignorant, cultured and religious. He met them in all kinds of places, in the synagogues, in the home, and in the street. He toiled at all times, in the morning, during the day, and at night. Circumstances were no impediment. He saturated His service in prayer. That was the secret of His success for He maintained unbroken fellowship with His Father. Yes, and it is our business to follow Him so closely in His aims and methods that we may become fishers of men. The Lord, the Church, the world, all demand our utmost consecration to the art of bringing others into contact with the Saviour of men.

> "Lord crucified, give me a heart like Thine, Teach me to love the dying souls of men, And keep my heart in closest touch with Thee, And give me love, pure Calvary love, To bring the lost to Thee."



EDITORIAL

Il Speed

This year could be a most momentous one prophetically, politically, nationally and internationally in the annals of world history. Disturbing and threatening events and situations followed one



another with startling rapidity among the nations, particularly in Europe and the Middle East during the latter part of 1956. These have crossed the threshold of 1957 with all their drastic and catastrophic potentialities. No thinking person will deny that in the present hour the need of mankind is both deep and desperate. Any person even giving casual consideration to the state of things in the world today will admit that it is in a really bad way. Sin is increasing with a deadliness that constitutes a serious challenge to the Christian Church. This should make Christians everywhere more determined to live for God and work for the extension of His kingdom among men.

This year could also be a very momentous one for the Elim family, if under the Captain of our Salvation every member goes "Full Speed Ahead" with aggressive and effective evangelism, intensified missionary enterprise, and an extensive Christian literature drive.

An aggressive and effective evangelism. The need for men and women to be saved is important and imperative, and in order to make an effective contribution we must give our whole-hearted support to the task of winning souls in the field of evangelism. Every available opportunity must be seized to promote and propagate the Gospel. In this respect we must be devoted in our prosecution of an aggressive energetic, enthusiastic and effective evangelism, in order to establish the empire of the Saviour-King among men. Let us go all out in this connection during this year.

1957

An intensified missionary enterprise. On the whole our Elim churches are to be praised and encouraged because of their missionary enterprise of recent years. This is an evidence in itself that they possess a true conception of Christ's commission to His disciples, namely, that it is encumbent upon those who know the Lord to declare Him to others, especially to those whose religious instinct inspires them to worship gods of wood and stone. Splendid though the past missionary zeal in giving has been, let us go "Full Speed Ahcad" to do even better this year.

An extensive Christian literature drive. So far this vast field seems largely to be unexplored by us. We could well emulate the Communists and others in the consistent and persistent way they endeavour to get their literature into the hands of the people. Let us make a supreme effort to get the Gospel to the masses by doubling our activities in tract distribution and the circulation of Christian literature. We can also interest people in our own Elim Movement by introducing to them the ELIM EVANGEL, the ELIM MISSIONARY EVANGEL, YOUTH CHALLENGE, the YOUNG FOLKS' EVANGEL, and the SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS' HANDBOOK.

In these great and far-reaching fields of opportunity for serving the Lord and Elim, let us bend ourselves to the task—"Full Speed Ahead"—with a willingness and determination that will make 1957 the best ever year in the history of our Movement, should the Lord tarry.



Children's Strip

Conducted by Paul Service.

20, Clarence Avenue,

Clapham Park, S.W.4.

Hello Boys and Girls,

I guess the very first thing we had better do is to get acquainted.

My name is Paul Service, and the Editor has asked me to conduct a children's strip for the ELIM EVANGEL each week.

Now to do this I want your help. It's your strip and I want to know what you would like in it. I have some ideas, but you may not like them, so let us get our heads together and decide what we will have. Here is a list of my suggestions. I will number everything and all you have to do is choose the things you like best, and then write down the numbers in the order you prefer and send them to me, and I shall know what you want in the Children's Strip. Well here goes :

- (1) Competitions
- (2) Serial Story
- (3) Stamp Exchange Market
- (4) Puzzles (crossword, etc.)
- (5) Short Stories,

Have you got any other ideas, if so let me know what they are?

Just one word before I close. We have just started a New Year. Have you made any New Year resolutions? I have, and I'll tell you what one of them is. I've made up my mind to run in the right direction ! Not long ago I read of a fellow playing rugby, who got hold of the ball and started to hare across the field to the goal line, and then suddenly woke up to the fact he was racing toward the wrong end of the field ! This made me think, and I remembered there is a right way and a wrong way along which to travel in this life. The Lord Jesus said, "I am the Way," and I've made up my mind to follow Him every step of that way. Will you make the same resolution and determine to run in the right direction, to do the right and shun the wrong? It takes a brave boy or girl to follow Jesus.

Well, bye-bye, and don't forget to write me. Call me Paul, and send your letter to the above address.

> God bless, PAUL.

An Interesting Letter

We felt that our readers would be glad to see a letter received by the Secretary of the Evangelistic Campaigns Fund. The sister who sent this saw the appeal in the ELIM EVANGEL for funds to promote the cause of evangelism and contributed her "widow's mite" in the form of a gift of 4/-. We sent a receipt together with a letter of appreciation and this is her splendid response :

"Greetings in the Name of our Lord. Thank you very much for the receipt. You do not know what joy and blessing I get through giving. Sharing with God brings untold blessing. The Bible says, 'Give and it shall be given unto you, good measure pressed down, shaken together, and running over.' Now I find I can afford another 4/-. Please accept it in the name of the Lord. May the Lord bless you much in your work for Him.

"I remain, Yours in Christ,

Mrs. H---."

Gifts for Home Evangelism should be addressed to the Secretary, 20, Clarence Avenue, London, S.W.4. The need is great. The fields are white unto harvest. The days of opportunity are fast coming to an end. Never in the realm of human affairs has the challenge to the Church been greater than today. The world is concerned with its social activities, concentrating upon the physical demands of the untouchables and exiles. But the Word of God makes abundantly clear the appalling distress and misery of man's spiritual condition. Man needs saving.

What are we doing to lift men from the brink of a lost eternity to share fellowship with us in the kingdom of God?

-H. W. Greenway.

Special Notice

A recent meeting of the British Pentecostal Fellowship decided to make 1957 a year of Pentecostal Evangelism, and asked Pastor George Stormont to write an article in this connection. He has done this and it will appear in the next issue of the ELIM EVANGEL.



REVIVAL IN THE AIR AT HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS

God is surely blessing Pastor Down's ministry here. He commenced about six months ago, straight from Elim College, and is full of Holy Ghost fire. He has awakened the church to the word of truth that God is still on the Throne. Every meeting is eagerly looked forward to. The mid-week meetings are well attended, the Bible studies are greatly enjoyed, and the blessings of God are with us in the prayer meetings, all are very reluctant to leave at the end of the services.

The sick are frequently visited in their homes and in hospitals, and the aged too, who cannot attend the church are also visited and comforted. The Sunday services are times of refreshing. Who knows before this goes to press the flame of revival might commence in Hastings and St. Leonards, or far better, Jesus may come.

-G. W. Rider.

ELIM CHURCH, SKEOG, BROOKEBOROUGH

After great improvements to the church building within and without, including gas heating being installed, special services were held in the above church. Special speakers included Pastor W. J. Martin, Mr. Strehan and a party from Ballymena. Inspiring messages and the Gospel in song were given at both services. The testimony of Bro. Armstrong from Newtownbutter, of how the Lord saved him and healed his body was much appreciated.

Both services were conducted by Bro. W. Dempster, pastor of the church, under whose ministry we are greatly blessed in the service of the Lord. Thanks to the ladies of the assembly and other kind friends who assisted a lovely tea was provided.

-A. Grandon.

DUDLEY CHURCH

The Presbytery Rally recently held here proved a time of rich blessing and the presence of God was real throughout the service. A powerful and forthright message presented to us by Pastor A. E. Tate (Africa), on the Gospel still being the power of God unto salvation reassured us that today it

still has a transforming effect on the peoples of Africa. During the service Pastor J. J. Morgan prayerfully dedicated a beautiful organ which had been presented as a gift for the service of the Lord.

The items given by the fine Sparkbrook Choir, under the leadership of Mr. Billington, were a real inspiration. Our Pastor (G. Jones) convened and we were assured through the manifestation of the gifts that great blessings are in store. We, like the disciples, returned homeward filled with joy, realising that the end is not yet, praise the Lord !

-J. T. H.

CAMPAIGN AT THE BETHEL MISSION, HASBURY, HALESOWEN, nr. BIRMINGHAM

Meetings were held nightly (with the exception of Friday) from October 20th to November 1st. God wonderfully blessed the ministry of Pastor David Dean (Langley Elim Church) in that many sought and found the Lord Jesus as their own personal Saviour and Lord. The number of inquirers including children who were dealt with was thirty.

-M. Hill.

GILTBROOK CAMPAIGN

"We were once dead Christians, but now we're alive !" were words given to me by a member whose face revealed the blessing which had been imparted during the past two weeks. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the ministry of Pastor Harford and now we are rejoicing over souls who have found the Saviour. A lady convert said "I am full of salvation." She had sought for years for peace.

Those who have suffered have said how thrilled they are at the new life and vitality which the Lord has given them.

As an outcome of this campaign we are now able to commence a Crusader meeting. People who had long attended church and who really believed they were saved because they had been taught they were, have surrendered to Christ, and now do not only think—but know !

Well do we remember the evening Pastor Harford spoke on the ministry of the Holy Spirit when some received an anointing. There has been a definite freedom brought into the meetings. How true the word is, for "where the Spirit of the Lord is there is liberty."

Here is an excerpt from a press report :

"In Elim many have found relief from the burdens of this life—for in coming to Elim they have been introduced to Christ."

SISTERHOOD WEEKEND AT KNOTTINGLEY

Knottingley Elim Sisterhood recently held their special week-end services, the guest speaker being Mrs. M. Barker (of Malton). On Saturday, sisters testified in word and song of what Jesus Christ meant to them, and an appropriate word from the visiting speaker made one conscious of the presence and power of God. Sunday was a great day of blessings, the Sisterhood once more being responsible for the services, piloted by Mrs. Anstey our President. The message of full salvation went forth once more in word and song. Monday saw the Sisterhoods in the district supporting us in our rally, twenty-five Sisterhoods answering the roll call. Mrs. Barker ministered at each gathering in sincerity and power. We return thanks unto the Lord for a grand week-end of His blessings. Closely following our Harvest week-end we were delighted to be favoured by a visit from the Bradford Elim Male Voice Choir who ministered to us in a special service of song. Pastor Wigglesworth led the service, introducing the various items of song and testimony which were followed by a very inspiring message from Pastor L. Green who forcibly brought home the Gospel message and was rewarded by a response to the appeal. The congregation was the best we have had for many months and included friends from other denominations who were welcomed by Pastor Anstey who also expressed appreciation to the visiting Bradford friends. All were delighted with this great time of blessing through such a ministry truly anointed of the Lord.

CONVENTION AT CAERPHILLY

We praise God for great blessing at Caerphilly. Our recent Convention week was really anointed of God. Pastor Robert Morrison of Kingstanding, and Pastor Maldwyn Thomas of Aberkenfig gave moving Spirit-filled messages. The services were attended by many Elim and A.o.G. churches in South Wales, and our minister, Pastor L. Reeves, found convening a real joy. Practically every service was packed to capacity, and it says much for the warm hospitality of the Caerphilly folk that none were turned empty away, either spiritually or physically ! There have been some remarkable healings lately. One mother, greatly distressed, sent a request for prayer for her

young son, who was dangerously ill with colitis. Pastor Reeves halted the service and asked everyone to uplift their hands to God and pray earnestly. The very next night that child was in the meeting with the mother, praising God for his deliverance ! Another mother asked for prayer for her son with a suspected diseased shin bone. Prayer was offered and X-ray plates proved negative.

Spiritually, numerically and financially Caerphilly is on the upward grade, offerings are now reaching a steady £26 per week. To God be all the glory.

SALFORD—"Crusader Sick Visiting"

Matthew 25: 36. This text was the commencement of the team's activities, an unusual yet necessary work for the Master, a work which takes us into different experiences, some pleasant, others not quite so pleasant, circumstances which vary from poverty to prosperity, but all in all, we are wonderfully blest every time. First of all we select the address and then on a machine, which commenced with a very early wind-up word player and is now a modern tape-recorder, we plan a special service to suit the particular need, then we go and have fellowship and a time of prayer. Many are the times we've dusted and cleaned floors and pots, but in Matthew 25: 40 we have foreknowledge as to the outcome of our service.

WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA

Sunday, Nov. 4th, was the first Anniversary of Pastor and Mrs. Backhouse, and for this special occasion the speaker for all services on Sunday, and each night, up to and including Friday, was Pastor Eddie Smith, the singing evangelist. We do praise and thank God for a week of great blessing. Salvation and healing were the messages each evening and to God be the glory three dear ones came to know our Jesus as their personal Saviour. After the service on Wednesday night a waiting meeting was held, and three were baptised with the Holy Spirit, also several received a touch in their bodies. Friday night being the last of these special meetings, Pastor Eddie Smith gave his testimony to a packed church. To God be the glory great things He hath done. What a testimony our brother has. We also received great blessing from the messages in song each night from Pastor Eddie Smith and Miss Rhoda Corsie from Birmingham. We have indeed during the past year been blessed with a very rich ministry, the assembly being greatly uplifted and encouraged, the church going from strength to strength, and if the Lord tarries and attendances continue to increase on

(Continued on page 12)

A T THE BEGINNING and end of a year men should be impressed with the seriousness and brevity of life. Boswell informs us that Samuel Johnson, the lexicographer and critic, observed certain days very solemnly; these included his birthday and New Year's Day.

The Egyptians began the year in June with the first rise of the Nile; the Babylonians in Nisannu at the Vernal Equinox (Springtime). The Jews had two years, the Sacred and the Civil. The Sacred began in March or April (according to the moon), the month of the deliverance of the children of Israel from Egypt, and the Civil in September or October at the close of the harvest and commencement of seed-time. The Jewish year contained 354 days and was divided into twelve lunar months, and about every third year a thirteenth month was added. This additional month, an intercalary month called "Veadar" or second "Adar", was by proclamation of the priests whenever it was observed, for the firstfruits of the barley harvest would not otherwise be ready by the tenth of the first month (Nisan or Abib). This adjusted the solar and the lunar cycles and accounts for our moveable Easter, the Jewish Passover.

The Festival of the Civil New Year.

The new moon of the seventh month (sacred) commenced the Civil New Year and contained more religious ordinances than any other month. It celebrated the Feast of Trumpets, the Day of Atonement and the Feast of Tabernacles.

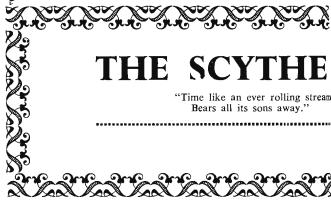
New Year's Day, on which was held the Feast of Trumpets, was a solemn rest in anticipation of the Day of Atonement nine days afterwards. The blowing of trumpets (literally, "Remembrance blowing") was a distinguishing feature of this festival. It was, in a sense, reminding God of the merits of the patriarchs and His covenant with them, also a summons to Israel to enter upon the work of sanctification. The first day of the seventh month was emphatically the day for blowing of trumpets, and according to the Jewish writers, was continued from sunrise to sunset.

Later, during the offerings the Levites engaged in vocal and instrumental music and singing of the 81st Psalm and other psalms, whilst the priests at stated intervals broke forth with blasts of the trumpet. "Sing aloud . . . make a joyful noise." "Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day" (Psa. 81 : 1-3). Prayers were also offered beseeching the Lord to pardon the sins of the past year and to grant the people **a happy new year.**,

With the exception of the sacrifices, Jews keep this

festival to the present day. The trumpets which they use on this occasion consist of a curved horn of a ram in remembrance of the ram which Abraham sacrificed instead of Isaac.

Many, like the Psalmist, have reason to repeat the happy phrase, "Thou crownest the year with Thy goodness," and will, with gratitude, spend the last minutes of 1956 and the opening seconds of 1957 in the presence of the Lord at a Watch Night Service, or in their homes with their families, humbly acknowledging the goodness and tender mercies of God the giver of all good and perfect gifts. Alas, in many countries the greater number, like the prodigal son, and the prosperous farmer, whom the Lord Jesus called "thou fool", will be saying: "Thou hast much goods... take thine ease, eat drink and be merry," and before the first day of the New Year is ended will be found like the sow wallowing in the mire. Frequently, after a devotional Watch Night



Service, I have gone to see how others were spending the opening hours of the New Year. Happy companies of joyful people went from house to house wishing their friends "A Happy New Year" (it is called "First Footing" in Scotland when a sweep, a dark haired man, or someone with a piece of coal is heartily welcome), but, sad to relate, many citizens whom we encountered were under the influence of another spirit. Some could neither see straight, stand straight nor walk straight. How strong drink is glorified at times like these. Such degrading scenes resemble the "Gin Age" of the 18th century when outside liquor shops hung signs reading, "Drunk for a penny, dead drunk for twopence, free straw." Some dens appealing to the more fastidious advertised "Clean Straw." In that century, cheap, fiery poisonous alcohol was everywhere, its ravages affecting all classes. "Drunk as a lord" carried then a peculiar pertinence. The number even of eminent men whose lives in the 18th century were blighted by drink, is too great to cite. Henry Fielding (1751) predicted that "Should the drinking of this poison be continued at its present height during the next twenty years, there will, by that time, be very few of the common people left to drink it."

> "A Bar to Heaven a Door to Hell, Whoever named it, named it well; A Bar to manliness and wealth, A Door to want and broken health."

One difference between that gulping, gorging age and now, is the price of that God-cursed, body and souldestroying social plague, vile spirits in bottles. Sir John Fielding, a magistrate at Bow Street said, "This liquid fire by which men drink their hell beforehand is doing its degrading, home-racking work today." Read the newspapers, have a walk through any city on the eve of New Year's Day and witness history repeating itself. On last Guy Fawkes night an English professor's wife was charged in London with being

TIME By Pastor JAMES McAVOY Xaax Kox drunk and disorderly and assaulting a policeman. It is said among other things, she raised her right

It is said among other things, she raised her right foot and stamped upon the tail of the policeman's dog and when asked why she did it, her speech hesitant and her breath smelling heavily of drink, she said "For fun !"

> "Gin, cursed fiend, with fury fraught, Makes human race a prey; It enters by a deadly draught, And steals our life away."

-Townley.

What is the time?

Sitting at a hurried breakfast you may hear the announcer say, "The time is now coming up to 7.30"; then you realise it is time you were somewhere else ! Have you heard, sinner friend, the inner voice of the Spirit say, "It is now time you were converted, changed, regenerated." God's word to you is **now**, this New Year, this new month, this new day. "Remember **now** thy Creator." "Come **now**, let us reason together" cried the evangelical prophet. "Behold, **now** is the accepted time, behold **now** is the day of salvation." This latter verse was heard by the manager of a public house one Friday evening whilst he was serving customers; so penetrating was the inner urge that he went into a side room in deep conviction of sin and surrendered his heart and life to the Saviour. Years later, this same man who became a preacher of the Gospel was instrumental in showing me the way of salvation. "Come; for all things are now ready" (Luke 14:17). Christ is calling you now to a feast, not a funeral. You can be saved now, receive forgiveness of sins now, and the gift of eternal life. May this day, nay, this very moment even as you read, be unto you the "beginning of months" (Exod. 12:2). It is recorded that Queen Elizabeth, who reigned forty-five years and added distinction to a distinguished period, mournfully lamented as she was about to enter the valley of the shadow, "All my possessions for a moment of time."

Yes, the Scythe of Time is no respecter of palaces, positions or persons.

"Fairest flowers soon decay, Youth and beauty pass away, Oh, you have not long to stay, Be in time."

"Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near" (Isa. 55:6). It is time that you were actively obedient, and not slothful, lazy, lukewarm, believers. "Because thou are lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of My mouth," is the warning you ought to pay heed to. Bishop Cranmer, before being led to the stake at Oxford in 1556, was broken down by long imprisonment, and sorely tempted by promise of life and honour, and signed several recantations. But a calmer hour brought contrition, and firm in the faith he died without fear. Of his own accord he held out his right hand in the kindling flames until it was a blackened cinder, while he cried oftener than once "That unworthy hand." Your hands, eyes, feet and tongue have been unworthy in the past year. Resolve with Paul to yield yourselves to God as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God (Rom. 6:13). Many are like Samson who, asleep on Delilah's knees, had his seven locks shaved off, "and he wist not that the Lord had departed from him" (Judges 16:20). "Awake thou that sleepest and arise from the dead," cries Paul, "redeeming the time because the days are evil." Or, as Moffatt translates it, "Make the most of your time, act like sensible men, not like thoughtless, for these are evil days." Napoleon I said to one of his assistants,

"Ask me for whatever you please except time; that is the only thing which is beyond my power."

Meet the opening of this New Year as did Samuel Johnson: "I have now spent fifty-five years in resolving having from the earliest time almost that I can remember, been forming schemes of a better life. I have done nothing. The need of doing, therefore is pressing, since the time of doing is short. God, grant me to resolve aright, and to keep my resolutions, for Jesus Christ's sake ! Amen." Many at this time of the year make "pie crust" resolutions, only made to be broken. An outstanding British politician recently in another sense said, "It is not resolutions that most people need but new resolution."

The old year is dying and a new one is dawning, God grant that to many it will be the beginning of time, the commencement of their Sacred New Year. Christianity is a grand system of renovation: "Behold, I make all things new." A new man, a new humanity, a new heaven and a new earth. Let this coming year to us all be one of whole-hearted and consecrated service to Him who is the Ancient of Days.



It is with great pleasure that we report three splendid meetings in connection with our Belfast Youth Rally in the Ulster Temple. The Sunday school rally in the afternoon was certainly a new venture, and we were not quite sure what support there would be for such a meeting, but as we listened to the various items rendered by children from each Elim Sunday school in Belfast, and sensed the appreciation and enjoyment of the congregation that had gathered, we felt that such an effort was well worth while. The speaker, the Rev. F. Bjorkland from U.S.A., in his introductory remarks, paid tribute to the spiritual quality of the meeting and of the items that were rendered by the scholars. The service as a whole had no dull moments owing to the efficient chairmanship of our National Youth Secretary, Pastor J. Hywel Davies.

(Continued on opposite page)



ELIM YOUTH, BELFAST—Continued.

This was followed by a tea-table conference at which there were an encouraging number of youth workers present, about eighty in all. The discussion of "ways and means" in our Elim youth work was very helpful. Although I fancy at times our national youth secretary was "on the horns of a dilemma" in connection with some of the suggestions, he was able to carry the conference through successfully and profitably. One thing certainly emerged from this conference, the youth workers in Belfast are keen to be up and doing in this branch of the Lord's work.

Finally, we came to the great Elim Youth Rally at night. Under the versatile leadership of Pastor Davies this went with a great swing right from the beginning. Vocal items, testimonies, and the united choir pieces were all neatly blended, liberally sprinkled with the chairman's sparkling humour, and finally crowned with the anointed ministry of Evangelist Don Rogney, also of U.S.A. We truly felt that the Lord was speaking to us as our brother reminded us of the urgency of the times in which we live. A solemn sense of the need to be up and doing **now** was impressed upon us all. The meeting closed with the final act of dedication and consecration, and as we made our way home we felt that this truly had been a great day.

We all appreciate very much the endeavours of Pastor G. Ladlow, Youth Commissioner, in organising this series of meetings and also the visit of our National Youth Secretary.

-Pastor T. W. Thomson.

ELIM RADIO BROADCASTS WEDNESDAY—9th January, 1957

Radio Station IBRA RADIO AFRICA Tangier 26.1 and 33.6 metres (Short Wave). Broadcast from the Elim Central Church, Clapham, London,	Programme 9.15—9.45 p.m. The service is conducted by Pastor K. Matthew (minister of Worcester) who will also give the address. Marie Hamilton is the soloist who sings: "Divine Love." The London Crusader Choir and the Radio Choir unite and sing:
	"No, rever alone", and "God so loved the world."
"Men and their Message", every Tuesday evening at 9.30 p.m.	
Tuesday, 15th January, 1957: Pastor G. A. Wright (Eastbourne)	
Preceded by a programme of Gospel Music.	
	• • • • • • • • • •
We strive to reach the world with Christ's message- will you help us?	

LONDON CRUSADER CHOIR

Recent months have been crowned with activity of great variety, and although little news of the choir's activities have appeared in these columns, yet these musical evangelists have continued a programme throughout the country with unabated zeal. Many hours are constantly spent in the recording auditoriums preparing for the regular broadcasts. Rehearsals, too, have to be maintained with earnestness and determination to keep up the standard required. Prison evangelism has never been so blessed as during recent months, and thousands of men and women continue to hear the Gospel presented in such a manner that invitations continue to be received from all parts of the country. Readers are requested to pray for this field of opportunity and your gifts and support is never more urgent than today.

Recently, following an afternoon Festival in the Royal Festival Hall, London, the choir within an hour or two were facing a crowded Archway Central Hall. Shall we ever forget the enthusiasm of the singing by this fine congregation and the ministry of our guests from Tyneside? Participation in the fine Elim campaign, conducted by Pastor Ron Jones in the Corn Exchange, Rochester, and a subsequent visit to the Elim Church there, were visits of mutual blessing and inspiration. The visit to Cardiff for a week-end was another highlight in the choir's long history. Crowded gatherings in the City Temple and then a final rally in the Pavilion completed this stirring week-end. Music with a message that brought souls to Christ amply repaid any effort, or the physical strain of an all night journey back to Londonand to work !

Back to Broadmoor, for the fifteenth visit, was another evening of immense joy both for visitors and patients. Despite the many other attractions for the patients during the choir's visit on the Sunday, the Concert hall of the Institution was packed to capacity. The combined choirs conducted by Pastor Douglas B. Gray thrilled the great audience as they sang with feeling and understanding some old favourites, including "Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine !" We thank God for such **open doors** and for the tremendous welcome so generously shown us, for we know that such labour "is not in vain in the Lord."

The Broadmoor Patients Choir and the Crusader Choir then joined together for supper and happy fellowship. Never was greater opportunity for per-(Continued on page 12)



Scripture Union Portions, Notes by Pastor T. H. Stevenson,

SUNDAY, January 6th. Joshua 4: 15-24.

"That ye might fear the Lord your God for ever" (v. 24). Israel's triumphant entry into Canaan produced a display of both might and fear. Such factors usually accompany successful invasion—the might of the conqueror and the fear of the victim, but here it is not the might of Israel and fear of the Canaanite. It is the might of God, resulting in the fear of God upon Israel. God's victories for us should produce godly fear.

MONDAY, January 7th. Joshua 5: 1-15.

"Joshua did fall on his face, and did worship" (v. 14). No angel of heaven accepts worship, but directs all worship to God (Rev. 22: 8, 9). It was Christ the Captain of our salvation who appeared to Joshua, and was worshipped. In this day of grace it is the Sword of the Spirit, the Word of God, that is wielded to bring us victory. "The weapons of our warfare are not carnal."

TUESDAY, January 8th. Joshua 6: 1-14.

"I have given into thine hand, Jericho" (v. 2).

"God spoke of the possession of Jericho as an accomplished fact, before Israel encompassed it even once. It is only from a human standpoint that a distinction can be made between Divine promise and the performance of it. From God's side there is no such difference. Faith, is "Being fully persuaded that, what He had promised He was able also to perform" (Rom. 4: 21).

WEDNESDAY, January 9th. Joshua 6: 15-27.

"Joshua said unto the people, Shout" (v. 16).

There were six days of disciplined silence, without shout, noise, or word (v. 10), and one glorious moment when "The people shouted with a great shout" (v. 20). Some find it trying to observe silence, and others equally difficult to be vociferous. There is "A time to keep silence and a time to speak" (Eccles. 3: 7). But Israel's silence and shout were Divine impositions to be obeyed by all despite any human disposition.

THURSDAY, January 10th. Joshua 7: 1-15.

"Our name." "Thy great name" (v. 9).

In his despair, Joshua visualises the Canaanites cutting off the name of Israel from the earth. If that were possible, then what would God do about His name? Joshua displayed diplomacy as well as despair when he prayed, Let God defend Israel for the sake of His own great name, if not for theirs. Do we not also pray "For Thy name's sake, Amen."?

FRIDAY, January 11th. Joshua 7: 16-26.

"Make confession unto Him and tell mc" (v. 19).

Achan's sin against God brought danger and defeat to Israel. The sin was against God's word by Joshua, but the consequence affected all, therefore open confession to God and Joshua was demanded. Saul confessed to Samuel, and David to Nathan. Many sins are of a nature that confession or repentance can only be effective when acknowledged to God and man.

SATURDAY, January 12th. Joshua 8: 1-13.

"Early in the morning" (v. 10). "That night" (v. 13).

That day Joshua rose early and retired late. Early rising was a rule with Joshua. This is the fourth occurrence of the words (chap. 3:1; 6:12; 7:16; 8:10). Necessity demanded a ready mind and hand for every God-given task. At Ai it was work from dawn till dark. "Probably after midnight," says a commentator. Life's little day is too short to idle away. "Occupy till I come."

NEWS FLASH-Continued.

Sunday evenings we shall certainly have to make it a matter of prayer for a larger church. We are indeed grateful to God for all He has done for us. —J. B. Nibblett (Sec.).

THE SOUTHPORT EVANGEL TEMPLE

Sisterhood members can take the services themselves, but very often visiting speakers come from other Southport churches who all testify to the spiritual tone of our meetings.

We had a lovely outing to Llangollen earlier in the year, and recently went by coach to "Speke Hall," Liverpool, a very ancient place built in 1485. Afterwards we journeyed back to Southport to our own church where we found a wonderful tea spread out for us. We invited our young Crusaders to join us, and they took the service, afterwards playing to us hymns and choruses, etc., on their stringed instruments and singing to us. We are very proud of our young people at the Evangel Temple ; many of them have graduated from our Sunday school, and after years of prayer and work on their behalf we are now seeing results. They are out and out for the Lord Jesus, have joined the church as members, and some have become Sunday school teachers. They go on door-to-door visitation each Tuesday evening along with Mr. Eric Carter their youth leader and have met with good results. Children for the school have been brought in by this method.

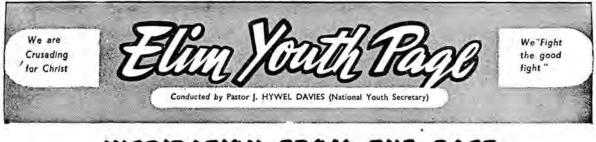
The Evangel Temple is being blessed of God just now and we pray that it will continue to be so. For all this we have great cause to thank God.

E. Evans (Miss)

LONDON CRUSADER CHOIR-Continued.

sonal evangelism, which, we are glad to mention, is proving worthwhile.

Readers, continue to pray for evangelism of this character which the London Crusader Choir so earnestly and consistently pursues week by week and year by year.—D. B. G.



INSPIRATION FROM THE PAST FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

Out of the Christmas mailbag some thrilling letters have tumbled on to my desk, Inspiring news from exciting stories. I want you to share them with me.

Some weeks ago Pastor Leon Quest of Stafford was in London, when he received news of a Watford Elim Crusader who was dving from meningitis and a tumour on the brain. He asked me to mention this request for prayer at our office prayers in headquarters which takes place between 9.30 and 10 a.m. each week-day. The headquarters staff prayed earnestly for Pamela, for that was her name. Two days ago I received the following letter from Crusader Secretary, J. Tooley : "We certainly have much to make our praises ring to the glory of God here in Watford. The Lord has indeed made Himself very precious to each of us. It all came about through one of our Crusaders who became seriously ill with meningitis and then a suspected tumour on the brain. During this time we prayed earnestly and now, after a long test of our faith, for our sister lay seriously ill for seven weeks, she has made a miraculous recovery. All glory be to God !"

Incidentally, the Watford Crusader branch have formed what they describe as a "Guitar Choir." Their first public item was given during December and they chose the hymn "All to Jesus I surrender" as a dedication of their talents to the service of the Lord.

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From time to time letters are despatched to our young men in the Forces to help keep them in touch with our youth work, and encourage them in their Christian witness. We, in turn, receive many letters from them. Here's an extract of one, and it is sent by Alan Smithers serving with the Royal Air Force in Germany, and a prospective candidate for the Elim Bible College later this year. "As you will see by my address I have been posted to a new unit. Already I praise God for what is being wrought out here. My unit is about four miles outside of

Munster. On the second day out here at this new camp I had the joy of leading to Christ one of the cooks. That was about six to eight weeks ago. I found afterward, that this lad was the camp drunkard-literally a slave to drink. Well since then he is a transformed fellow. In those eight weeks, Mac. has completely finished with it all. Due to Mac's amazing transformation I have had the joy of being asked by quite a few fellows the way of Salvation, and to date on this unit eight lads have come to Christ. Of these one has gone back and two have made little progress, but the others are really going on with the Lord. One lad, Arthur, after being saved one week, had the terrible choice from his fiancée of either finishing with the Lord or herself. He wrote back that God was going to be first in his life and that it was up to her to choose. This last week the Christians have been thrilled to learn that Shirley, his girl, accepted Christ at one of Birmingham's Elim Churches. Now he is as keen as mustard, and with Mac. is seeking for the baptism in the Holy Spirit . . . On top of this, in the last four weeks we have been having Gospel meetings at Munster. These have grown from twelve to twenty-four as yet, and three souls have been saved. Also we are in the process of forming a Gospel Quartet with which I (try to) sing tenor. Also in this district during this time including those three, there have been six others who have made profession of salvation." Alan asks that we pray for him and his fellow Christians, and I am sure you will.

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This news item made us smile! "Winston Churchill saved last night." Pastor Len Knipe and his youth workers have certainly been getting around and one "fish" caught was a seventeen year old lad and you can imagine the personal worker's look of astonishment as he recorded his name—Winston Churchill.

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The Oxford Presbytery held its first youth conference and rally towards the end of last year, which was a great success. Oxford Elim Crusader, A. Lee, reports : "Our guest speakers were Pastors Douglas Gray (Director of Music) and J. Hywel Davies (National Youth Secretary). The afternoon meeting took the form of a discussion on youth work and the problems involved. Our guests were on the panel and questions were varied, ranging from new methods of gaining new scholars to our Sunday schools to the activity of sport and the Christian. A profitable time was gained by the thirty-five delegates from the five churches represented. The evening meeting was an open rally with a full church to enjoy it. Each church contributed items for the rally, Pastor Gray gave some reminiscences of his work in H.M. Prisons, and the meeting was brought to a fitting conclusion with a message by our National Youth Secretary, emphasis being laid upon our obedience and allegiance to Christ." Photographs will be published in the near future.

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A little while ago Pastor Arthur Tate took the Lend-a-Hand Land-Rover No. 2 to the Rover motor works where he spent some time investigating the mysteries of mechanics, although not so much of a mystery to him as to others. I thought you would like to read what he had to say.

"The course was excellent in every way. Everything was catered for. Our instructor was A.1 and really knew his job. I cleared up all my problems on the working of the Rover. We did both theory and practical work. All points of lubrication, and how different it is from the conventional car. We did the petrol system (pulling the whole thing to pieces !) electrical system, bearing (wheel), brakes, and complete de-coke of engine and gearbox. Pretty packed but a mine of information. The last day was spent on the tracks and in the works. You should have seen the mud in the 'Burmese Jungle,' I have never seen its like before, but the Rover did it. Up and down a loose gravel 1 in 1 (45°) incline, phew ! Then on to the test track for this country. Double bends, U bends, S bends, all sorts of bends and brake tests. Well, after all that I have the fullest confidence that I shall never encounter a condition out there where the Rover will fail. It was time well spent and will, I know, prove to be of great worth out there."

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This very nicely brings me to the last point. The Crusaders Christmas Bonus scheme. We are looking forward to hearing from you with your gifts for evangelism in this country. It would be a thrilling introduction to the New Year to present the financial support necessary for an early 1957 pioneer revival campaign, the Crusader Church! Send your gifts immediately to the National Youth Secretary, Elim Youth Movement, 20, Clarence Avenue, Clapham Park, London, S.W.4, plainly marked "Crusaders Christmas Bonus."

R. A. H. CRUSADER CONTINENTAL EASTER YOUTH CHOIR HOUSE PARTIES Improved seating and amplification for A few vacancies for the house parties to this year's 1,000-strong Elim R.A.H. Austria are available in the first and Youth Choir. second parties. PLAN NOW. The Upper and Middle Cost-25 gns. Orchestra seats are new and improved. **Excursions** optional extra-£5 Deposit-5 gns. August 3rd to 17th August 17th to 31st WILL BE To avoid disappointment send your application form and deposit before IN FEBRUARY. 14th January.

COMING EVENTS

(Please pray for these services)

BLOOMSBURY Central Baptist Church, London, W.C.2. March 16. Public Rally of British Pentecostal Fellowship (Area 23).

BOWNESS-ON-WINDERMERE. July 20-27. Braithwaite Fold corner of Glebe Road. Annual Convention sponsored by British Pentecostal Fellowship. Speakers include Pastor John Dyke (Elim), Rev. F. R. Barnes (A.o.G.). House parties and caravans arranged. All enquiries to Pastor W. Sherrard, 26, Leyburn Ave., Lightclyffe, Halifax, Yorks. Stamped envelope for reply. Book early,

BROADMOOR. Jan. 13. H.M. Institution. Visit of London Crusader Choir.

CLAPHAM. Jan. 20. Elim Central Church London Crusader Choir 28th Anniversary & Thanksgiving Service, 6.30.

COULSDON. Jan. 19. Elim Church, Chipstead Valley Road. Monthly United Pentecostal Rally, 7. Speaker: Pastor W. Millington (Dean) and students from I.B.T.J.

KINGSWAY HALL. March 30. Preliminary announcement. Annual Festival presented by the London Crusader Choir, 7 p.m.

LEE. Jan. 27. Emmanuel Pentecostal Church, Boone St., S.E.12. Visit of London Crusader Choir, 6.30.

LURGAN. Jan 5-10. Elim Church, Windsor Ave. Sat. 3 and 6.30 (cups of tea and refreshments provided). Sun. 11.30, 4, and 7. Week-nights 8. Speakers include Pastors W. J. Hilliard and H. Toft.

READING. Feb. 3. Elim Church, Waylen Street. Visit of London Crusader Choir, 3 and 6.30.

BRITISH PENTECOSTAL FELLOWSHIP

At the last General Meeting of the B.P.F. it was decided to change the Annual Day of prayer into a Week-end of prayer, the dates in 1957 to be

JANUARY 26th to 28th INCLUSIVE

It is suggested that the Monday be for Ministers only, when all local Pentecostal ministers endeavour to meet in one central place in the region for fellowship in united prayer.

It was agreed that the main subject for prayer during the week-end should be the proposed

NATION-WIDE PROGRAMME OF EVANGELISM FOR 1957

This Quarter's

YOUTH CHALLENGE NOW ON SALE

Features include----

- ★ Personal Testimony of John Grant
 - -ex Stage, Radio and T.V. Star
- ★ Christmas at Kikilo (Tanganyika)
- ★ Ten Tips on Falling in Love
- Forceful Advice-for Christians in H.M. Forces

AN EXCELLENT WAY TO INTRODUCE EYM TO YOUR FRIENDS-BUY AN EXTRA COPY

Mv Holiday Experience

On Euston Station I met Henry Shave, evangelist, and happily we steamed to Nelson, Lancashire for the campaign planned by Pastor Norman Clarke.

After arrival we joined in prayer for a real work of the Spirit in this cotton mill town. A member of the group received the Holy Ghost and heaven came down to earth it seemed.

For two weeks we laboured for God's glory, Billy Vaughan having now joined the party. During the whole time about twenty-eight decisions were recorded, and a few believers received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

What joy followed us in our labours as the Civic Theatre rang to the preaching and singing. Everyone was thrilled night after night.

The blessing is hard to fix, for as one thinks back there were many touching events. How thrilled we were to see a woman carry her stick home, saying she wouldn't need it any more. Healed in her seat as she listened ! But of all the testimonies I feel the little girl healed of speech difficulties was the best. After prayer, a few days later, her mother came excitedly to say she had said to her "God love you, Mummie," these being the first four words she had been able to frame. Now she speaks almost perfectly. The doctor is much surprised, but we look back to this as God's doing.

Yes, I gave my holiday up for this, and it was one of the best holidays I have ever experienced.

-Pastor C. R. Younger.

THE BLIN EVANGEL

Official Organ of the Elim Foursquare Gospel Alliance

Executive Council: Pastors J. Smith (President), P. S. Brewster, J. T. Bradley, J. Dyke, S. Gorman, H. W. Greenway, W. G. Hathaway, J. J. Morgan, E. J. Phillips.

Editor: Pastor Samuel Gorman.

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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.

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-seasons rates. Residents also received. Illustrated brochure from Miss Phillips, Lascelles Private Hotel, Lascelles Terrace. 'Phone 633.

Ilfracombe, Devon .-- Restful holidays; happy Christian fellowship; almost level with sea-front; near shops, and places of worship; highly recommended. Please write for illustrated brochure to Mr. and Mrs. Puddicombe, "Maranatha", Torrs Park. C.456

Luxury coach, Scottish Highlands, Austria, Switzerland, Dolomites, Italy, Venice, Paris, Germany. First Class throughout; low cost; wonderful fellowship Lord's people; no Sunday travel; Christian couriers. Also Fairhaven

Christian Guest House, sea front; renowned excellent catering; two minutes Elim Church. Brochures. Fairhaven, Newquay, Cornwall. 'Phone: 2979. C 462

PROFESSIONAL

Oldchurch Hospital, Romford, Essex.--(722 beds). Student Nurses, female, between ages 18-35 are required to enter the Preliminary Training School at this large modern hospital for three years' general training for State Registration. This hospital which is within easy reach of London and also the East Coast, affords experience in all branches of nursing. Spacious Nurses' Home. Facilities for sport and recreation. Training allowances: £260 first year, £270 second year, £285 third year. Charge for board and lodging £119 a year. Uniform provided. Additional single cash payment of £5 made on passing Preliminary State Examination. Superannuation Scheme applicable. Apply in writing to Matron for illustrated prospectus, mentioning this paper. C.465

WITH CHRIST

Ball .- On December 10th, William Edwin Ball, aged 52, faithful secretary of Elim Church, Clacton-on-Sea. Funeral conducted by Pastor F. F. Frost. "Promoted."

Finch .- On November 23rd, Mrs. Finch, for many years faithful member of Elim Church, Bath. Funeral conducted by Pastor A. D. Hathaway. "Till He come." Harwood.—On December 9th, Robert Hunt Harwood,

aged 69; cremated at Anfield, Liverpool. Funeral conducted by Pastor W. N. Brambleby. "At rest."

Kidd.-On December 12th, Mrs. Elizabeth Kidd, faithful member of Elim Church, Dunfermline. Funeral conducted by Pastor David Thomas.

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New SILVERTONE Gramophone Records of REPRESENTATIVE CHORUS of the LONDON FESTIVALS of MALE VOICE PRAISE

Conductor: DOUGLAS B. GRAY

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N.B. We regret that due to the continuing rise in production costs we have been forced to raise the price of all our records. From the 1st January, 1957, the price will be 7/- each plus 2/6 for postage and packing per order.

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