

The
Reformed Presbyterian
ADVOCATE

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of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church

A Monthly Magazine for Christ's Crown and Covenant

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The Reformed Presbyterian ADVOCATE

Stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

VOL. LII.

NO. 6.

THE MEETING OF GENERAL SYNOD.

General Synod met in the R. P. church, Cedarville, Ohio, May 15, 1918, at 8 P. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Retiring Moderator, Rev. Thomas Whyte, pastor of the Third Philadelphia congregation, on the subject, "Re-opening Old Wells," Text, Genesis 26:18. General Synod was then constituted with prayer by the Moderator, and announcements were made.

The official roll next morning found present, Ministers: Revs. A. S. Creswell, Thomas Whyte, John Parks, R. W. Chesnut, John B. Wilson, W. P. Harriman, Alexander Savage, R. S. Elder, W. R. McCheyney, L. A. Benson, W. J. Smiley; and Elders: R. D. Dawson, G. W. Shane, A. B. McMillan, J. H. Creswell, N. L. Ramsey. It was the smallest attendance of Elders for a long time, and it was and is suggested that

both Presbyteries and congregations take action making it profitable for Elders to attend in larger numbers in the future.

Election of Officers resulted: Moderator, Rev. A. S. Creswell, Coulterville, Illinois; Stated Clerk and Treasurer of General Synod Administration Fund, Rev. L. A. Benson, Clay Center, Kansas; Assistant Clerk, Rev. R. W. Chesnut, Philadelphia.

Rec. Daniel Zwier, Fraternal Delegate from the Christian Reformed Church, address Synod. Reports of Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Ohio and Western Presbyteries were received and approved. The report of the Presbytery of Saharanpur, as last year, was again missing. The Ohio Presbytery reported the ordination of Dr. J. L. Chesnut; The Pittsburg Presbytery reported the ordination of Rev. Ralph S. Elder, and the admission of Rev. John B. Wilson and the Grant Street Reformed Presbyterian Church of Pittsburg of which he

is pastor; The Philadelphia and Western Presbyteries remain the same.

Rev. John Parks reported that his Bible Class had presented a set of dental instruments for Dr. Taylor's use in India. Revs. L. A. Benson, R. W. Chesnut, and W. J. Smiley were appointed a committee to revise and amend the Book of Discipline.

Business was suspended on Friday, May 17, to attend the Cedarville College Cedar Day; but in the afternoon an informal conference was held with Rev. H. S. Atchison, of the Associate Presbyterian Church, who was passing thru Cedarville.

On Saturday, May 18, Mrs. Sadie M. Taylor and her daughter Miss Mary Taylor, who have been working in the A. P. Mission in Kentucky, address Synod in connection with the report of the Special Committee appointed last year to investigate work among the Mountain Whites of Kentucky. Last year the A. P. Church offered to sell us their Cow Creek Mission, but the committee could not get together in time; and eventually the mission, with 90 acres of land, was sold to the Presbyterian church for \$3000. The A. P. Church now offers us their Turkey Creek Mission, or desires our Synod to co-operate with them in running it. The whole matter was referred to the Home Mission Board. The result was the appointment of a committee, Rev. W. R. McChesney, Rev. W. P. Harriman, and Mr. J. H. Creswell, to investigate the condition of things in the Turkey Creek A. P. Mission in

Kentucky, authorized to confer with the members of the A. P. Mission; and, if the way be open, to appoint a minister and other missionaries at their earliest convenience, to carry on the work there; and the committee be authorized to pay such workers for one year or whatever part of a year they may serve, as in their judgment would be just and right for the missionaries to receive.

2nd, that the Home Mission Treasurer be authorized to meet the expenses incurred in carrying out the preceding resolution. To this end the Home Mission Board calls for increased contributions.

The Home Mission Board also recommends strongly the use of the Duplex Envelope System. Why this matter needs to be urged year after year passes comprehension. It has proved itself so efficacious wherever it has been tried, and is never dropt where it has once been instituted, that it seems foolish to stick to the antiquated and defective old method of annual collections for this or that purpose. By the old method, if a member is absent from church on the day on which the collection is taken, he loses his opportunity for another year, and never really gets interested in the church enterprises. By the new method he is reminded of his duty 52 times a year, and doubles or triples his contributions for benevolences without knowing it. We hope that every minister and elder will urge upon his Board of Trustees to adopt the Duplex Envelope System,

and do it without delay.

The Board of Superintendents of the Theological Seminary reported the closing exercises of the Seminary, as described elsewhere in this issue.

The Home Mission Treasurer reported receipts for the year, \$2554.34; Expenditures, \$1853.30; Assets, \$22,226.69.

The Treasurer of the Seminary reported Receipts, \$1714.38; Expenditures, same; Assets, \$36,455.

The Treasurer of the Lamb Fund reported Receipts, \$2669.80; Expenditures, \$2241.89; Assets, \$38,953.48.

The Foreign Mission Treasurer reported Receipts, \$4867.36; Expenditures, \$4994.25; Assets, \$43,284.20.

The amount in the India Hill House Fund is \$489.45.

The report of the Federal Council is quite lengthy, and will therefore not appear in the Minutes, but copies may be obtained on application to the Stated Clerk.

The Treasurer of the Disabled Ministers' Fund reported Receipts, \$285.89; Expended, nothing; Assets, \$4400.

The Treasurer of Cedarville College reported Receipts, \$9831.51; Expenditures, \$10,293.30; Assets in Endowment Fund, \$103,220.16. The increase in the Endowment Fund during the past year was \$1110.

The publisher of the R. P. Advocate reported a subscription list of \$175. The receipts for subscriptions were \$175. The expenditures were

\$460, the difference being met by the Synodic subsidy. The publisher resigned in favor of Rev. R. W. Chesnut, and was presented by General Synod with the typewriter purchased some years ago, and which he received with sincere thanks. It was a good day for typewriter presentations, Mr. James L. Chesnut, Jr., being presented with the typewriter used so long by his late father, the Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board.

Rev. L. A. Benson was appointed Delegate to the A. P. Synod at Washington, Iowa, and a proposition was made suggesting organic union with that denomination.

On Sabbath morning, May 19, the time of the regular services was devoted to Memorial Exercises in memory of the late pastor of the Cedarville congregation, Rev. J. L. Chesnut, D.D. His prominent position in the church as Stated Clerk, Secretary of Foreign Missions, and in many other offices emphasized the greatness of the loss that has been sustained. The full account of the Memorial Exercises appears elsewhere in this issue under a separate heading.

On Monday morning, May 20, President McChesney made a very favorable report for the Board of Trustees of Cedarville College. His suggestion that the College needed new furniture brot Dr. Savage to his feet with a promise of \$100, which was met by Dr. Wilson with another pledge of \$100 from the Grant Street

Church. Other subscriptions brot the total up to \$325, which was thankfully received and acknowledged.

An excellent report from the Foreign Mission Board was submitted by the Secretary, Dr. R. W. Chesnut. They were somewhat hampered by the absence of the Report of the Saharanpur Presbytery. Increase contributions and the purchase of an automobile for the missionaries was urged. The presentation of dental instruments was mentioned, and the announcement was made that Miss Mary Taylor is planning to go to the Foreign Field.

A minute of the death of Mr. David Murdock, long a licentiate in the church, was recorded.

The Committee on Evangelization was instructed to arrange for an evangelistic campaign thruout the church at a convenient season.

General Synod adjourned to meet the third Wednesday of May, 1919, in the Seventh Church, Philadelphia, to be opened with a sermon by the Retiring Moderator; Rev. R. S. Elder to be his alternate.

A TRIBUTE TO AN OLD FRIEND.

"When hearts whose worth was proven
Like thine, are laid in earth,
Then should a wreath be woven
To tell the world their worth."

Thirty years ago there was scarcely a person more widely or more favorably known thruout our church than

David Murdock. For twenty years he traveled almost constantly from one end of the church to the other, preaching in her vacancies, filling the pulpits of absent pastors, assisting with communions, and burying the dead. His services were always acceptable. He was personally well liked wherever he went. The name of Mr. Murdock was a household word among the families of many of our congregations.

He came of good stock. His father and mother were sturdy Scotch-Irish Covenanters of the olden type. He himself was well grounded in the principles of our church, and he was ever ready to defend them when occasion required. He received a start for a higher education under the direction of Dr. Hugh McMillan. My first acquaintance with him began when he entered Miami University in the fall of 1861. I had entered the Freshman class the year before. He entered the Sophomore class. We spent three years together there. We were members of the same literary society. This society bestowed its highest honors upon us two, of our class, which was decided by a vote. We graduated in 1864. He entered our seminary in Philadelphia that fall. I spent one year in teaching, and entered the seminary the following fall. The course then comprised four years. Thus we spent three years together in college, and three years in the seminary.

During our seminary course we boarded in the same home. Thus we had every opportunity to know each other very well. Mr. Murdock was

licenses to preach in the fall of 1867. He was a good preacher. He had a cultivated and well stored mind. He brot out clearly the meaning of Scripture. He had good social qualities, and it was a pleasure to associate with him. His deportment was always that becoming a preacher of the Gospel. He received a number of calls, to some of our best congregatons. If I am not mistaken, he was called to Marissa, Idaville, Darlington, Duanesburg, and the Second and Third congregations in Philadelphia. He declined every call that he received. He had no desire to be a pastor. He seemed to shrink from this responsibility, altho he enjoyed the work of preaching.

The Ohio Presbytery at one tme wanted to ordain him "sine titulo," but he refused ordination. He was a good, unassuming man, with abilities that might have made him one of the foremost in our church; but for some reason, known only to himself, he felt that the Lord had not called him to the ministry. He lived a life respected by all who knew him, and left a name unsullied by the world. Many years ago he retired to a farm in Minnesota, where ha spent the latter part of his life.

"Beyond the flight of time,

Beyond this vale of death,
There is a happy blessed clime

Where life s not a breath;
Where friendships here on earth begun
Shall last beyond the need of sun."

S. M. RAMSEY.

FRIENDS OF CEDARVILLE COLLEGE AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS.

Received for the Current Fund: Seventh Philadelphia congregation, \$60; Mrs. Alexander Doherty, \$5; Coulterville Congregation, \$13; Cedarville congregation, \$106.30; Republican City Sabbath School, \$10; Fairview W. M. S., \$9; Darlington L. M. S., \$30; Third Philadelphia congregation, \$51.44; Fifth Philadelphia congregation, \$63; Matthew Gailey, \$5; Grant Street congregation, \$60; William Hempton's Bible Class, Seventh Philadelphia, \$12; Rev. Alexander Savage, \$10; Mrs. S. M. Taylor, \$10; Republican City congregation, \$10.

Endowment Fund: Mrs. J. G. Rodgers, Idaville, Indiana, \$5; Sparta Friend, \$10.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

Angie Coulter, Marissa, Illinois; Mrs. Matilda Brigham, Mrs. Alex. Doherty, Thomas Getty, Philadelphia; W. L. Blair, Mrs. J. L. Chesnut, N. L. Ramsey, George H. Creswell, Mrs. Elizabeth Galbreath, Cedarville, Ohio; Mrs. H. M. Cooper, Springfield Ohio; Susanna Patton, Youngstown, Ohio; Mrs. Mary A. Cullings, Duanesburg, New York; Mrs. Fred Jurkat, New Galilee, Pennsylvania; William Chesnut, Sr., Clay Center, Kansas; George Shane, Beaver, Pennsylvania, (\$2); Rev. W. P. Harriman, Industry, Pennsylvania; H. H. Stormont, Xenia, Ohio.

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F. A. JURKAT, LL. D., Editor and Publisher.

Rev. W. R. McCHESNEY, Ph. D., D. D., Associate Editor.

Any subscriber who fails to receive his paper by the tenth of the month will please notify the publisher and another copy will be forwarded immediately.

VOL. LII. JUNE, 1918 NO. 6.

EDITORIAL.

With this issue we make our farewell bow as editor and publisher of the Advocate. Over eight years ago the Advocate was transferred to Cedarville by Rev. R. W. Chesnut, who now takes it again. In February of 1910 we started off with a staff of five workers: F. A. Jurkat, Rev. W. R. McChesney, Rev. M. J. Taylor, S. C. Wright, Rev. David McKinney. Dr. McKinney resigned in 1911, S. C. Wright in 1912, and Rev. Taylor in 1913. Since then Prof. McChesney and myself have done all the work, Prof. McChesney donating

his services. We have enjoyed the work, altho at times people wondered what there was to be joyful about.

Rev. Chesnut is located in Philadelphia, where he can stand nearer to the mechanical work that we have been able to do. We bespeak for him the support of every good Covenanter, and there ought to be no other kind. We feel that the church is entering upon a new era of usefulness, and with the new activities, there ought to be more and better news. Every member of our denomination should be an active worker. No one has any right to be a shirker. And you can be a more efficient Covenanter if you take the Advocate than if you do not.

We thank all those who have taken an interest in our efforts during our incumbency, and ask them to manifest the same to our successor.

OUR COLLEGE.

The closing days of Cedarville College's second semester for 1918 are here at this writing, May 20, 1918. The year has been splendid in work and spirit. Faculty and students have had the divine favor. The College closes the year with a balance of over \$400, and with an increase of more than \$1000 in the Endowment Fund.

Practically every congregation in our General Synod not only contributed last year to the support of the College, but increased their offerings over that of the previous year. We

are thankful for this generous, good-spirited support from our church. There was a goodly increase in attendance this year, and the outlook for next year is bright.

Cedar Day was observed May 17 all day. General Synod was meeting in Cedarville at the time, and attended the exercises in a body and thoroly enjoyed them. There were the usual class stunts and a grand march by the Faculty and students carrying flags and marching to the strains of the Battle Hymn of the Republic. This was followed by the crowning of the Queen of Democracy. Then came lunch, when a basket picnic was enjoyed in family groups in the Alford Gymnasium, and on the campus.

In the afternoon a baseball game between Antioch and Cedarville resulted in a score of 6 to 2 in favor of Cedarville. One of the pretty features of the day was the May pole drill.

In the evening the Y. W. C. A. gave an entertainment royally enjoyed by a large audience in the Opera House.

In our next letter we hope to tell you of the exercises of Commencement Week. We are expecting Ex-Governor Willis of Ohio on Commencement Day.

Twenty-four of our young men are enlisted in the service of the United States. We have contributed to the various causes; such as Belgian Relief Fund, Y. M. C. A. War Fund, Red Cross, etc. We work and pray for the cause of humanity.

Yours sincerely,

W. R. McCHESNEY.

SEMINARY EXERCISES.

The closing exercises of the Seminary took place on May 14. Owing to a funeral, Rev. W. P. Harriman, President of the Board of Superintendents, was unable to be present. The examinations were conducted in the afternoon, by the Faculty, under the supervision of the two other superintendents, Rev. L. A. Benson and Rev. Thomas Whyte.

There were eleven students in attendance during the past year: Paul Duncan, James L. Chesnut, Paul Elwood, R. N. Colman Jr., Ralph S. Elder, D. L. Doherty, R. L. Hutchinson, Leslie Dean, Nelson H. Thorn, Norman Foster, and Rev. W. S. Fulton, of the Old School Covenant Church, who attended the course in Sermon Outlining. Of these, six belong to our church: Messrs Duncan, Chesnut, Colman, Elder, Doherty and Hutchinson. All the examinations were sustained.

In the evening the exercises were concluded at the church, sermons being preached by Paul Duncan on John 19:28, James L. Chesnut on Eph. 4:32 Paul Elwood on Psalm 34:7, and R. N. Coleman Jr. on Gal. 6:10. Thru some misunderstanding the audience was very small, but those who came were amply repaid for their coming. The sermons were sustained by the Board, and the students were advanced according to the amount of work done during the year. Messrs. D. L. Doherty and R. L. Hutchinson have now

earned the degree of Bachelor of Divinity in the four-year course, and Mr. Elder has earned the diploma for the three-year course.

Mr. Hutchinson will supply the Cedarville pulpit during June and July. Mr. Elder has been called to Cutler, Illinois. Mr. Coleman will preach at Marissa, Illinois, during the summer, and Mr. Chesnut will fill the pulpit at Duaneburg, N. Y., for the same period.

AN APPEAL.

Our Board of Foreign Missions hereby makes an earnest appeal to all our pastors and congregations in behalf of the interests of our mission in India and with special reference to the pressing need of better means of travel for Dr. Taylor and Rev. William Waide. As they travel about the villages they are obliged to use an ox-cart, going at the rate of two miles an hour. When others engaged in the same work for other denominations ride in an automobile going ten miles to their one, or even twice that rate of speed, we can see at a glance the great disadvantage that our missionaries have. Can we afford to have them crippled in their work? Surely not.

Now we appeal to our pastors to bring this matter before their congregations, and give all who are willing a chance to contribute towards a fund to purchase for them

an automobile at the earliest possible date. We should set the amount at \$1000 at least. Who will give \$5, \$10, \$25, \$50, or \$100 to raise the amount during the summer months? Is there any person who can do more?

All offerings for this purpose should be sent as soon as received, to A. B. McMillan, Treasurer of the Foreign Mission Board, Sparta, Ill.
 R. W. CHESNUT,
 Corresponding Secretary.

BEAUTIFUL MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR DR. J. L. CHESNUT.

A very beautiful and touching memorial service was held in the R. P. church on Sabbath May 19, for the late Dr. J. L. Chesnut, arranged by a committee appointed by the General Synod, which has been in session here since Wednesday, May 15. Rev. A. S. Creswell, Moderator of General Synod, presided. Rev. Thomas Whyte of Philadelphia offered the invocation, Rev. John Parks of Philadelphia read the 91st Psalm, and Rev. W. P. Harriman, of Fairview, Pa., led in prayer. Rev. Alexander Savage, D. D., of New Calilee, Pa., spoke very touchingly of the life-work of Dr. Chesnut, and quoted several passages of Scripture, especially, "Thy dead shall live." They shall live in memory, in influence; in work accomplished; shall live until the Divine plan is accomplished. The memory of the just is blest.

Rev. R. W. Chesnut, Ph. D., of Philadelphia, spoke of the memories of the early ministry and associations of himself and Dr. Chesnut, of the sweet counsel that they had together, and of his good influence in General Synod. The 51st Psalm, one of Dr. Chesnut's favorites, was then sung. Rev. L. A. Benson, of Clay Center, Kansas, took for his theme Psalm 34:1. He mentioned the characteristics in this beloved brother that caused the General Synod to pause and render this memorial service.

Rev. W. J. Smiley, of Sparta, Ill., who was associated with Dr. Chesnut for twenty-two years in the same presbytery as as a co-laborer for Christ's Kingdom, spoke of the installation of Dr. Chesnut three years ago today, and now of his memorial. He said that his influence was always uplifting. He loved his church and continued faithful until the end. We should recognize the fact that ministers are a gift from God, and sometimes God calls his workers home, and we cannot understand why; but He always does what is best, for "All things work together for good to them that love the Lord." We wonder why he had to suffer so long. God was preparing the family and the congregation for his removal.

Prayer was offered by Dr. W. R. McChesney, after which he, as Moderator of the Ohio Presbytery, declared the pulpit vacant. Thus the General Synod paid respect to one of her noblest ministers.

VALUABLE PAMFLETS.

The Glad Tidings Publishing Co., 608 Lakeside Bldg., Chicago, Illinois, is publishing some valuable pamphlets on "Mormonism," "Spiritualism," "Russellism," "Christian Science," and "Seventh Day Adventism," at 15 cents a copy. The author of these books, Rev. W. E. Biederwolf, has made for himself quite a record as an evangelist, and the books are very pungent.

MIDWEEK PRAYER MEETING TOPICS.

June 5—Jesus the Good Shepherd. John 10:14. Heb. 13:20.

June 12—Shorter Catechism, 67-81. —Love to Man. Luke 10:25-37.

June 19—Scripture Character -- Esther, the Queenly Woman. Esth. 4:13-17.

June 26—Missionary Biography—Alexander Duff.

July 3—Jesus the Great Physician. Matt. 9:12. Mark 2:17. Luke 5:31.

CHURCH NEWS.

COULTERVILLE, ILLINOIS.

A joint missionary and temperance meeting of the women of the United Presbyterian, Reformed Presbyterian, and the Ladies' Aid Society of the Methodist church was held in the

auditorium of the R. P. church Wednesday, May 1st. Mrs. A. S. Creswell presided, Mrs. S. J. Edgar led in prayer, and the Scripture reading was given by Mrs. Chris Emig.

Excellent papers were read by Mesdames D. M. Davis, N. A. Kahl, and J. M. Jones on war work, missions, and temperance. Mrs. H. G. Knecht and Mrs. Will Ervin each gave a reading.

A splendid musical program was rendered by Mesdames Paul Burnette, Andrew Creswell, and Misses Nellie McLaughlin, Mabel Holliday, Alma Purdy Virginia, and Leona Lang, to the delight of all.

The decorations were beautifully and artistically arranged. The national colors were very much in evidence. The luncheon and social time in the basement brot to a close a very enjoyable meeting. We are to meet in the United Presbyterian church nxt year, as it is to be an annual affair.

Press Supt.

The Ladies' Missionary Society met in the R. P. Church Wednesday, May 1st, at 2 P. M. It was a co-operative and Temperance Meeting. Four L. M. S. Societies and W. C. T. U. took part in the first part of the exercises. Mrs. Creswell leader. A well prepared program had been planned for the first hour, after which each L. M. S. took separate rooms for business meeting for a half hour. Then all came together for music and light refreshments. About 100 ladies and young people were

served in the basement of the church. It was beautiful to look over the church and see so many women who had come together from the different churches to take part in the Missionary and Temperance exercises of the afternoon.

Our part of the collection was sent to the Armenians. Our church also observed the Temperance Sabbath School Lesson for April 28. Subject: "Jesus Rebukes Selfishness," illustrated by talking to a little child.

Mrs. M. J. Jones, Superintendent, said that this was children's year because of the call to war, and the children and the young people of the Sabbath School would have to take the place of the young men who had gone to war. And as the lesson was on Temperance and Anti-Cigarettes, it was to the youth that they would talk about the nicotine poison: the Cigarettes and the Drink Habit. We want these young people to grow strong in body and mind. It is selfishness and greed to make money that all this stuff is manufactured and sold regardless of the harm to the child, youth, or older people; and the sale should be prohibited.'

Miss Mabel Robb, our newly-elected Superintendent, took charge of the blackboard exercises, and illustrated the lesson, "The Three Sins," by the pictures on the blackboard of the pipe, the cigar, and the cigarette. The children gave her the closest attention while she told them of the harm which would arise from

the use of alcohol and tobacco, two narcotic poisons which are destructive to life and character. To abstain means a brighter heart and better health.

Sups. Temperance Sabbath School Lesson.

FIFTH CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA

The Lord's Supper was administered on Sabbath, April 21. The weather was bad, our people turned out in large numbers. 271 participated at the Lord's Table. This number was in excess of last year, in spite of the weather. 28 new members were accepted into the church by the session. A special offering for missions was taken up, and we are pleased to announce that the collection was astonishing, \$278 being received. It has never been necessary for our pastor to ask from the pulpit for one cent to meet expenses of the church. Our people give as the Lord has prospered.

On Thursday evening previous to the communion, Rev. Robert A. Hunter of the Grace Presbyterian Church addressed our people, and on Friday evening Rev. Thomas Whyte of the Third Church. On Sabbath evening Rev. R. W. Chesnut of the Seventh Church brot the comforting words of Jesus to our people, and on Monday evening following communion Rev. S. C. Gamble of the First U. P. Church of West Philadelphia spoke. At the close of the Monday evening services five children were baptized by

our pastor. These meetings were largely attended, and the Spirit of God was in each meeting.

We have a company of young people who have formed into what is known as the Junior Church. It would do each person good to take a look at this church and see the remarkable attendance.. This church is taught by Miss MacFarland, and the singing is led by Miss Mary Nelson, who are also two of our Sabbath School teachers.

The teachers in our Sabbath School are working for a ten per cent increase in our school. The missionary collection in our Sabbath School for the first quarter of the year was one of the best. The report for the first quarter was very encouraging to our pastor and also to our Superintendent.

When the prayer meetings of any church are well attended, it can almost be taken for granted that the Almighty will certainly bless that church, and we know that in our church our members are being blest, and that our church is receiving that spiritual blessing fro on high, and that we are doing our Master's work; and that some day we shall hear the words, "Come, ye blessed of My Father inherit the kingdom prepared for you."

R. R. S.

Thru the kindness of the pastor the editor is in receipt of a copy of the annual statement book of the Fifth Church. It is very neatly printed, on fine paper, and contains a fine portrait of the pastor, Rev. John Parks.

The roll shows upwards of 380 members. The current funds shows receipt for 1917 of over \$3300. Congregation, for benevolences, \$208. Sabbath School for Foreign Missions, \$244. The auxiliary societies are in a healthy condition. It is a very encouraging report. The envelope system has been approved by the Session and Trustees, but it does not say whether it is the Duplex Envelope.

CEDARVILLE, OHIO.

During the last two months our pulpit has been occupied as follows: April 7, R. N. Colman, Jr.; April 14, Dr. W. R. McChesney; April 21, Paul Elwood; April 28, D. L. Doherty; May 5, Rev. M. J. Taylor; May 12, Rev. R. S. Elder; May 19, Memorial Exercises for Dr. Chesnut, conducted by Rev. A. S. Cheswell; May 26, Rev. W. P. Harriman.

Our Congregation is now represented in the army and navy by Messrs. Cameron Ross, P. H. Creswell, John C. Wright, and Herman K. Stormont. Mr. Robert M. Conley is in the Naval Ordnance Department as an inspector.

Mr. R. L. Hutchinson will occupy our pulpit during June and July.

NOTES ON THE INTERNATIONAL SABBATH SCHOOL LESSONS.

Prof. W. R. McChesney, D. D.

LESSON FOR JUNE 16, 1918.
Mark 15:22-39.

Golden Text—"Truly this man was the Son of God." Mark 15:39.

Psalms—22, 69, 72, 110.

Introduction—It is April 7, A. D. 30, from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M. The places are the judgment hall, Via Dolorosa, and Golgotha. The persons are Jesus, the soldiers, a crowd of friends and enemies. Jesus has been condemned, and is to expiate the sin of the world upon the cross. Approach the lesson reverently, prayerfully, and thoroughly.

22. Golgotha is Calvary, outside of Jerusalem. The knoll was shaped like a skull.

23. They gave Him a stupefying drink. Jesus chose to endure the pain and die in full consciousness.

24. They fastened Jesus to the cross by driving nails thru the palms of the hands and thru the feet; and then raising the cross in mid-air, let it drop with a thud into the hole in the ground. At this juncture Jesus offered His prayer of forgiveness.

25. They crucified Him at 9 A. M. Our sins put Him on the cross.

26. The accusation was written in three languages, that all might read it. Had Pilate at the trial of Jesus shown some of the firmness that he showed when the Jews objected to the superscription, his name would be more savory now.

27. Jesus was placed in the midst of malefactors, and was numbered with transgressors in His death. The three crosses represent salvation accepted, the Savior, and salvation rejected.

28. Isaiah 53:12.

29. The crowds did not understand. They were instigated by Jewish leaders.

30. He could have done it, but our salvation would not have been secured.

31-32. They lost dignity and showed brutal cruelty. They jested, ignorant of the solemn truth that they uttered. They would not have believed even if Jesus had descended from the cross, for they did not believe when He rose from the dead. One of the thieves finally repented and was saved.

33. At 3 P. M. darkness reigned supreme. It was miraculous. It was emblematic of the Father withdrawing His favor and face, and Hell doing its worst.

34. It is the profetic opening of of the 22nd Psalm. It is the despairing cry of a sinner dying without God and salvation; and Jesus died in the sinner's stead, and experienced the awful pangs of a sinner's death. "He tasted death for all."

35-36. Some placed more faith in Elias, an old prophet, than in Christ, the Son of God. Others gave Him a refreshing drink. All watched that central cross. It was extraordinary.

37. Jesus died in full vital strength. He shouted the triumph of a victor over death and the grave in the words, "It is finished." The atonement had been made. Then He commended His spirit to God. Jesus teaches and enables us to die as truly as to live. If we live the life of

the righteous, we shall die the death of the righteous.

38. The way of access for the sinner was made thru the rending of Christ's flesh.

39. The death of Christ showed forth His Deity.

LESSON FOR PUNE 23, 1918.

Jesus Triumphant Over Death.
Mark 16:1-11.

Golden Text—"But now is Christ risen from the dead." I Cor. 15:20.

Psalms—16, 69, 139.

Introduction—Jesus was buried Friday, April 7, between 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The resurrection was early Sabbath morning, April 9, A. D. 30. The places of interest are in and about Jerusalem, the garden and tomb near the cross, the upper room, the homes of the disciples, and Emmaus and the road thither.

Mark 16:1. Mary of Magdala, from whom the seven devils had been cast; Mary, the mother of James and Less; and Salome, John's mother; besides other women, Joanna, the wife of Chuza, especially; started doubtless from their homes in various parts of Jerusalem to the tomb to anoint Jesus. They likely arrived at different times. They had bot the spices Saturday evening at the close of the Jewish Sabbath.

2. They arrived at the tomb early in the morning of the first day of the week, or the Christian Sabbath.

3. The stone was so large that it had taken several men to place it here.

4. If we go forward to do our duty, God will remove the obstacle or give us strength either to do so or to surmount them. Our path is in the way of God's commands, regardless of the hindrances.

5. Mary Magdalene, seeing the tomb empty, hastened to inform the disciples. The other women entered the sepulchre. The young man was the angel of whom Matthew speaks, and one of the two angels of whom Luke gives a record. They were affrighted because they were looking for Jesus' dead body, but instead they saw supernatural beings—the marvelously unexpected.

6. The angel has accurate knowledge of Jesus who He was, and what had occurred in His life. He gives evidence of Jesus' resurrection in showing the grave-clothes and the face-cloth and the empty tomb.

7. Peter, who had denied Him, especially needed to be told of the resurrection and to be convinced that Jesus still loved him. He was to go into Galilee, where He would appear to many witnesses.

8-11. They had mingled feelings of fear and joy, and ran away without speaking to anyone; for the news seemed too good to be true. Their story was beyond the ability of the disciples to believe.

The guard at the tomb returned to Jerusalem and told chief priests what had occurred. A special meeting of the Sanhedrin was called. It decided to bribe the soldiers with a big sum

of money to say that the disciples came while the guard was asleep and stole the body. A Roman guard asleep was preposterous! This is the only counter-claim made to the resurrection of Jesus, and it is false.

The Sanhedrin promised to secure the soldiers against any action of Pilate's. Feeling thus secured, the soldiers took the bribe, and the Jews long afterwards reported the lie which they had bot. No fact in all history has been so fully established and is so undeniable as the resurrection of Christ.

LESSON FOR JUNE 30, 1918.

Jesus Christ Our Redeemer and Lord.

Golden Text—John 3:16; Matt. 16:16; Rom. 1:16.

Psalms—2, 72, 110, 145.

Scripture Lesson—John 1:1-18.

Lessons and Texts for the Quarter.

I. Jesus Sets Men Free—Mark 7:1-37. Golden Text—John 8:36.

II. Jesus Requires Confession and Loyalty—Mark 8:27-38. Golden Text—Mark 8:34.

III. Jesus Transfigured—Mark 9:2-10. Golden Text—Mark 9:7.

IV. Jesus Rebukes Selfishness—Mark 9:33-42. Golden Text—Mark 9:35.

Jesus Sets New Standards of Living—Mark 10:17-27. Golden Text—Matt. 6:33.

VI. Jesus Faces the Cross—Mark. 10:32-45. Golden Text—Phil. 2:8.

VII. Jesus Exercising Kingly Authority—Mark. 11:15-18, 27-33. Golden Text—Matt. 28:18.

VIII. Jesus Silences His Adversaries.—Mark 12:28-34, 41-44. Golden Text—Mark 12:17.

IX. Jesus Warns and Comforts His Friends.—Mark 14:1-9. Golden Text—Mark 13:13.

X. Jesus Faces Betrayal and Denial.—Mark 14:17-26. Golden Text—Mark 14:138.

The remaining lessons are found complete in this issue of the Advocate.

LESSON FOR JULY 7, 1918.

Beginning the Christian Life. Acts 16:13-15; 25:34.

Golden Text—"Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."—Rev. 22-17.

Psalms—12, 27, 70, 130.

Introduction—Philippi founded and beautified by King Philip, became a Roman colony under Augustus Caesar. It was a fine place to begin missionary work.

13. There seems to have been no synagog of the Jews here. They resorted, like some of the Jews in the Babylonian Captivity, to a river's side on Sabbaths to worship. The Jewish women seem to have carried on the worship in this place.

14. Lydia was the first European convert to the Gospel, a prototype of the beauty and gentleness characteristic of much of the church of the west.

15. She gave evidence of genuine Christianity. Her home became the

headquarters of the church in Philippi, a church famous for faith and hospitality.

25. Prisons and tortures cannot crush the spirit when the conscience is clear and clean.

26. God will ultimately open all prisons and cast off every shackle. The revolutions brot about by the teachings of Christ are yet to bring universal emancipation.

27. Faith that trusts merely in self and others, fails in extreme crises and leads to complete destruction.

28. Again and again have men of God proved the saviors of their fellowmen; yet, even of their enemies.

29. Our lives are in jeopardy if we have placed them solely in the power of our fellow-men.

30. The most important question of an unsaved soul is, "What must I do to be saved?"

31. There is only one answer to it and it is in this verse.

32. The prisoners have now become their suppliants.

33. The evidence of the jailer's conversion was his treatment of the prisoners.

34. Genuinely converted people are hospitable, and make opportunities to show their appreciation to the ministers of Christ.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR TOPICS.

June 9—Progressive Christians II Peter 1:1-11.

June 16—Co-operation with the Sabbath School. I Cor. 3:4-9.

June 23—How to Have a Good Time. I Thess. 5:16-24.

June 30—The Power of the Cross in Africa. Acts 8:25-39.

July 7—All for Christ. I. Our Abilities. Matt. 25:14-30.

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