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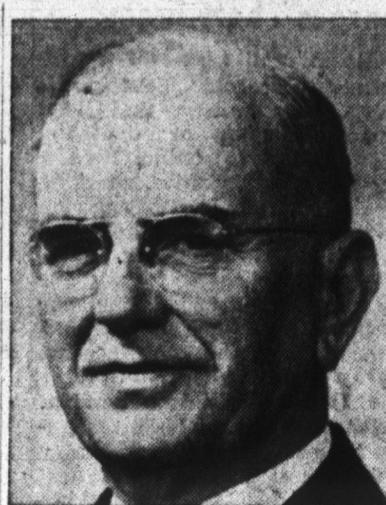
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Well of the Sea



Dr. L. G. Jacobs, Huntington, former superintendent of the Munroe district and well known Methodist minister, will be the first of three guest ministers to preach at the First Methodist church in Decatur during the vacation period of the pastor, the Rev. F. Hazen Sparks. Dr. Jacobs will speak at the 10 a. m. worship service Sunday. Lowell Smith, lay leader of the church, will preside.

**New Multi-Colored
Phones For State**

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI) — About 1,000 of the new multi-colored telephones, at a cost of \$5 each, will be installed in the \$30 million dollar state office building now under construction.

The State Office Building Commission met here Tuesday and tentatively accepted a program outlined by Indiana Bell Telephone Co., a program which included installation of a single massive switchboard to replace the 22 now in operation.

About 850 standard black telephones also will be installed, as no cost other than installation charges.

The monthly telephone bill for the state now runs about \$23,000. Bell officials said the cost could be cut by \$2,000 per month after the new system is installed.

Main savings would come in reduction of the number of switchboard operators from 27 to 6.

Switchboard operators would use the new "key-punch" system instead of the conventional dial system. In addition, out-of-town calls could be made by direct distance dialing.

**Charges Filed On
Death Car Driver**

LAPORTE, Ind. (UPI) — Harry Hutton, 72, Valparaiso, was killed Thursday when his car collided head-on with another car. Buell Miller, 25, Walkerton, driver of the other car, was arrested on areckless driving charge. Police said he was driving in the wrong lane.

**Typhoon Is Reported
Moving Toward Japan**

TOKYO (UPI) — High winds and heavy waves battered Japan's Pacific coast today as a typhoon with 108 m.p.h. winds reported at its center moved slowly toward the nation.

An alert was ordered on Japan's southernmost island of Kyushu, already saturated by last month's floods. Authorities feared that additional rainfall might cause "vast damage."

PLEASANT MILLS BAPTIST
Oakley Masten, Pastor
Lowell Noll, S. S. Supt.
9:30 a.m.—Sunday School.
10:15 a.m.—Morning Worship.
"Perfect Love Casteth Out Fear."
7 p.m.—B.Y.F.
7:30 p.m.—Evening Worship.
"Meaning of the word Disciple."
Aug. Read II Kings.
Picnic at Berne Park.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Uniform Sunday School Lessons
BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Bible Material: Ecclesiastes.
Devotional Reading: Philippians 3:8-14.

Is Life Empty?

Lesson for August 9, 1959

THE COMMITTEE that chooses the "Uniform Lessons" represents more than 34 denominations. This quarter, as readers may have noticed, whole books of the Bible have been chosen. Unusual, indeed unique among these is the book called Ecclesiastes. It is not quoted by any New Testament writer. In fact, at the time of Christ debate was still going on among Jewish teachers as to whether to keep or discard this book from the sacred collection. It is a long way removed from the religion of Dr. Foreman the prophets, the apostles and of Jesus. For instance, it not only doubts immortality, it positively denies it. Whatever religion it presents is all of this world.

The Religion of a Cynic
It was evidently written by a cynic, or a man whose cynical moments shadowed his writings. A cynic is not necessarily a sinner, except so far as lack of faith is in. The cynic is a man who has tasted the cup of life and found it—not so much bitter, as empty. Like a mournful refrain the words run through the book, "All is vanity" and a striving after wind." "Vanit" here represents a Hebrew word which does not mean pride, but emptiness. The modern expression would be, "Nothing to it." Life (to the author of this book) is like one of the boxes you may buy in a toy store—on opening it you find another box, and when that is opened, there is another . . . and so on and on. But what is in the last box? Nothing at all. So life has gay wrappings, it promises a great deal, but at the heart of it—nothing but emptiness and a striving after wind. It is discouraging to see all the things the cynical author had found without value: work, wealth, fame, pleasure, novelty . . . Of love he only mentions it to say that there are times when hate is more appropriate. Of the life beyond he can only say "The dead know not anything."

The Riddle of Ecclesiastes

Now a curious thing about this book is that here and there in it are flashes of something like religion. It is religion, but (as we said) not much like what Paul and John knew. Along with all the expressions of unfaith, of cynicism, there are some expressions of faith—a chilly kind of faith to be sure, but still faith; a crocus in the snow is not a summer garden, but still it's a flower. How account for the little crocus of the author's faith in the snowy waste of his cynicism? Various answers have been given. One is that this book is a sample of what little faith man can have without revelation; another is that one man couldn't have written the whole book, but that some pious editors added religious footnotes contradicting the irreligious pages. Another explanation is that this book was written all by one man, who had various moods. In his dark moods he lost faith in nearly everything, but in his better moods he could say, "Well, in spite of all that, nevertheless . . . !"

Nevertheless . . . !

For there were some things in which this poor rich man could believe. It may be true, he says, that man toils for the wind, that he seldom is rewarded in proportion to his toil; nevertheless a man may find enjoyment in the toil itself. The days of life may be few, nevertheless they can be used as well as possible while they last. God may be far away; but nevertheless there is a God, and it is stupid to act as if there were none. Of God's love, this ancient writer has no conception; of his forgiveness he feels no need. He had never been through the furnace of suffering as Job had; he suffered from having too much, not from having too little. He had never found any one to love, or to love him, we may judge. In short, this man had lived on the glittering surface of life. Nevertheless, though the deeper experiences were denied him, though he did not know God at close range, though he knew no way to love God, nevertheless he could obey him, he could pay his vows even to the distant God. If this faith of the cynic is not saving faith, it still is on the way.

Rural Churches

UNION CHAPEL CHURCH
Evangelical United Brethren
Emmett L. Anderson, Pastor
Warren Nidlinger, S. S. Supt.
Sunday school 9:30 a. m.
Morning Worship 10:20 a. m.
Evening Worship 7:30 p. m.
The morning sermon title will be "How To Pray." The evening sermon title will be "A Spare Room."

The Council of Administration will meet Monday evening at 8:00.

The WSWS will meet Tuesday evening, 7:30 p. m., at the home of Mrs. Vincent Parker.

The prayer meeting for adults and children will meet Wednesday evening at 8:00.

ST. PAUL MISSIONARY CHURCH
Robert R. Welch, Pastor
(2 miles East and 2 miles
North of Monroe)

Sunday:

9:15 Morning Worship.
10:15 Sunday School.

Wednesday:

7:15 Choir practice.
7:30 Prayer & Bible study.
7:30 M. Y. F. Service.
7:30 Children's Bible hour.

SALEM EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCH
H. E. Settige, Minister
9:00 Sunday school. Classes for all age groups.

10:00 Worship Service.

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MONROE METHODIST CHURCH

Willis Gierhart, Minister

9:30 a.m.—Morning Worship.

Sermon—"Remaining Outside" by Rev. Olin Lehman.

10:30 a.m.—Church School.

WEDNESDAY

7:45 p.m.—Youth Prayer Group.

7:45 p.m.—Midweek Service.

8:30 p.m.—Turstees Meeting.

THURSDAY

9:15 a.m.—Woman's Society Educational Seminar at Robinson Chapel.

U. B. RIVARRE CIRCUIT

Huber Bakner, Pastor

Mt. Zion

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School.

10:30 a.m.—Class Meeting.

7:30 p.m.—Wednesday, Mid-week Prayer Service.

Mt. Victory

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School.

10:30 a.m.—Class Meeting.

7:30 p.m.—Wednesday—Mid-week Prayer Service.

1:30 p.m.—Thursday—the ladies aid will meet in the home of Mrs. Daisy Roth.

Pleasant Grove

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School.

10:30 a.m.—Class Meeting.

7:30 p.m.—Wednesday—mid-week Prayer Service.

Our Sunday Schools have classes for all ages so come and bring the whole family and stay for class meeting. A warm welcome awaits each of you.

WINCHESTER CHURCH OF THE UNITED BRETHREN

C. N. Van Gundy, Pastor

Morning worship—9:30 a. m.

Sunday school—10:15 a. m.

C. E.—7:30 p. m.

Evening worship and communion

—8 p. m., Rev. Carlyle Seiple will bring the evening message.

Prayer meeting and Bible Study

Wednesday—8 p. m.

PEASANT DALE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

John D. Mishler, Pastor

9:30 a.m.—Morning worship.

Sermon by the pastor.

10:30 a.m.—Sunday School for

1:30 p.m.—Evening worship, Mr.

Lester Adler, Mrs. Helen Mann

and Mr. Loyd Byerly will report

as delegates to the District Meeting

at Manchester College August

7:30 p.m.—Evening worship, Mr.

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