



RELIGIOUS SUMMER SCHOOL AT ST. AUGUSTINE'S - Pictured is an informal grouping of participants in the Summer School of Religious Education and Church Conference held at St. Augustine's College campus June 13-17. This conference has been held at St. Augustine's since June 1939. Reading from left to right are: Mrs. Willie T. Raspberry, Okolona, Miss.; Mrs. Sterleita Caldwell, Jonkingsville, S. C.; The Rev. Arthur J. Calloway, Raleigh; the Rev. J. C. Jackson, Voorhees College, Denmark, S. C.; Dr. Arthur Jackson, A&T College, Greensboro; the Rev. Harry Nevels, Albany, Georgia, and the Rev. H. Albion Ferrell, Howard University, Washington, D. C.

## TWO MINUTES WITH THE BIBLE

BY CORNELIUS R. STAM, P.O. BOX 100, BETHAN BIBLE SOCIETY, CHICAGO 28, ILLINOIS

The present trend in American moral conduct is downward. Increasing thousands all about us are throwing restraint to the winds "to enjoy the pleasures of sin."

We struggle with the problem of juvenile delinquency, but tempt the young in a hundred ways to immorality and violence. We are shocked at the deeds of sex-mad criminals who make it unsafe for women to walk the streets at night, but our women continue to pay less heed to the principles of modesty and decency that would contribute so greatly to their safety.

Most of all, we have disregarded the Word of God. No longer does the Bible hold the first place in our homes. It rather lies gathering dust while our moral and spiritual strength is dissipated by pursuing pleasures that fail to bring true happiness or satisfaction. Yes, we have "a form of godliness" but our conduct "denies the power thereof."

Sin may be "fun" to many. They may joke about drunk-

ness, indency and immorality, but God declares that it is no joke to Him. He says: "Fools make a mock at sin" (Prov. 14:9), for, not only does sin in its very nature break down, rather than build up, but as responsible creatures sinners will one day have to give an account of their conduct to the God who created them.

To look at the brighter side, we may all rejoice in another indication that sin is no joke to God. St. Paul points it out in I Cor. 15:5, where he says: "Christ died for our sins." Christ knew the horrible results of sin and the dreadful penalty which justice must visit upon it. Yes, and He also knew that "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23) and in infinite love He left the glories of heaven and stooped to bear the disgrace and penalty for sin Himself! "Christ ... hath once suffered for sins, the Just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God" (I Pet. 3:18) and those who come to know God through faith in Christ experience peace and joy which this world can never afford.

## Mo. AMEZ Leaders See CR Struggle

EAST ST. LOUIS, MO. - The leaders of the Missouri Conference, AME Zion Church, took stock of the struggle of the Negro to gain full citizenship rights and issued a statement at the closing session of the annual conference, held at St. John AME Zion Church, June 7-12.

Bishop W. A. Hilliard presided over the meet and praised the committee for its stand. The committee took a look at the economic, political, social and religious life of the nation. It was mindful of the progress being made toward full employment. It also pointed out that in the midst of seeming prosperity there was still the Watts, the Harlem and the Miss, spots that prove that there was gross imbalance. The report was hopeful that the nation, through President Johnson's War-on-Poverty and a well formulated plan through church and civic committees, could present a program that would properly implement the movement.

The committee was also mindful of the responsibility, on the part of the Negro, to merit full citizenship. It pointed out that Negroes have not fully appreciated and impact of the Voter Rights Law. It warned that there is too much apathy among Negroes toward voting.

It pointed to the fact that not only in Mississippi and other southern communities had the Negro not taken full opportunity, but in states where there has been no trouble in registering and voting there had not been the kind of interest exhibited that tended to show that the Negro was concerned enough to turn out in large numbers at the polls.

## MEDITATION

A SERMONETTE BY COLIN DOUGLAS

"Jehovah will be thy confidence." --Prov. 3:26.

No one of us should ever feel that he is a failure. It may be that we have not measured up to the standards or goals we previously set for ourselves or accomplished what we have seen someone else accomplish. But most certainly we have gained knowledge and spiritual stamina through our efforts and through our experiences.

We have not failed! No one achieves his heart's desire in one stride. But every step we take toward the achievement of our goal adds to our knowledge and understanding -- and therefore, every step is vitally important. It is the unfolding of and the using of our God-given talents that give you the confidence that makes life a wonderful adventure.

Whenever you feel discouraged or inept in comparison with someone else, remember that God has equipped you with the material out of which to create a life that will be satisfying and fulfilling to you. You must remember that your life need not be like anyone else's life, for your part in God's great plan is not like anyone else's part.

Remember that, through prayer, you can discover your own powers and your own place in the world. If you are faced with some situation that seems hopeless or impossible of solution, remember that Jesus told us, "...with God all things are possible." Dare to believe that "in some way or other the Lord will provide," and courage and faith will fill your heart. It does not matter what other people tell you, it does not matter what the experiences of others have been, no situation is hopeless or beyond God's help. Take your needs and desires to the Lord in prayer.

"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it will be opened unto you." --Matt. 7:7.

## Prayer Band Of Walnut Terrace Renders Service At Prison Here

For the first time in its history Rev. B. H. Closs and the Walnut Terrace Prayer Band rendered service at the Central Prison, Raleigh, Wednesday June 22, at 7:30 p. m.

Rev. Closs delivered a wonderful sermon. His subject was, "A Fixed Heart." His text was found in the 108th Psalm and the first verse. Everyone enjoyed his message.

Later Mr. Turner said, "We were the first ladies who had ever attended their meeting. He invited the prayer band back to their revival meeting of June 27, through July 1. We were favored with two selections by the quartet entitled, "Almost Persuaded," and "We are Climbing Jacob Ladder." It was

an enjoyable service. EDITOR'S NOTE: Mrs. Lucy Rochelle, reporter for the Prayer Band had the news in our office in time of last week's printing, but we just didn't have enough room in the paper to accommodate it. We apologize to officers and members of the club in her stead.

WARM RECEPTION CAMP SPRINGS, Md. - The pastorate of the Rev. Harold G. Johnson Sr., at Bell's Methodist church, got off to a good start last week, when the Negro minister was warmly received by the white congregation. Many members of the church, following his sermon, stopped to shake his hand.

## Church Chuckles by CARTWRIGHT



"I just said we were spending the summer in Europe and handed him our pledge payments through September . . . when, wham!"

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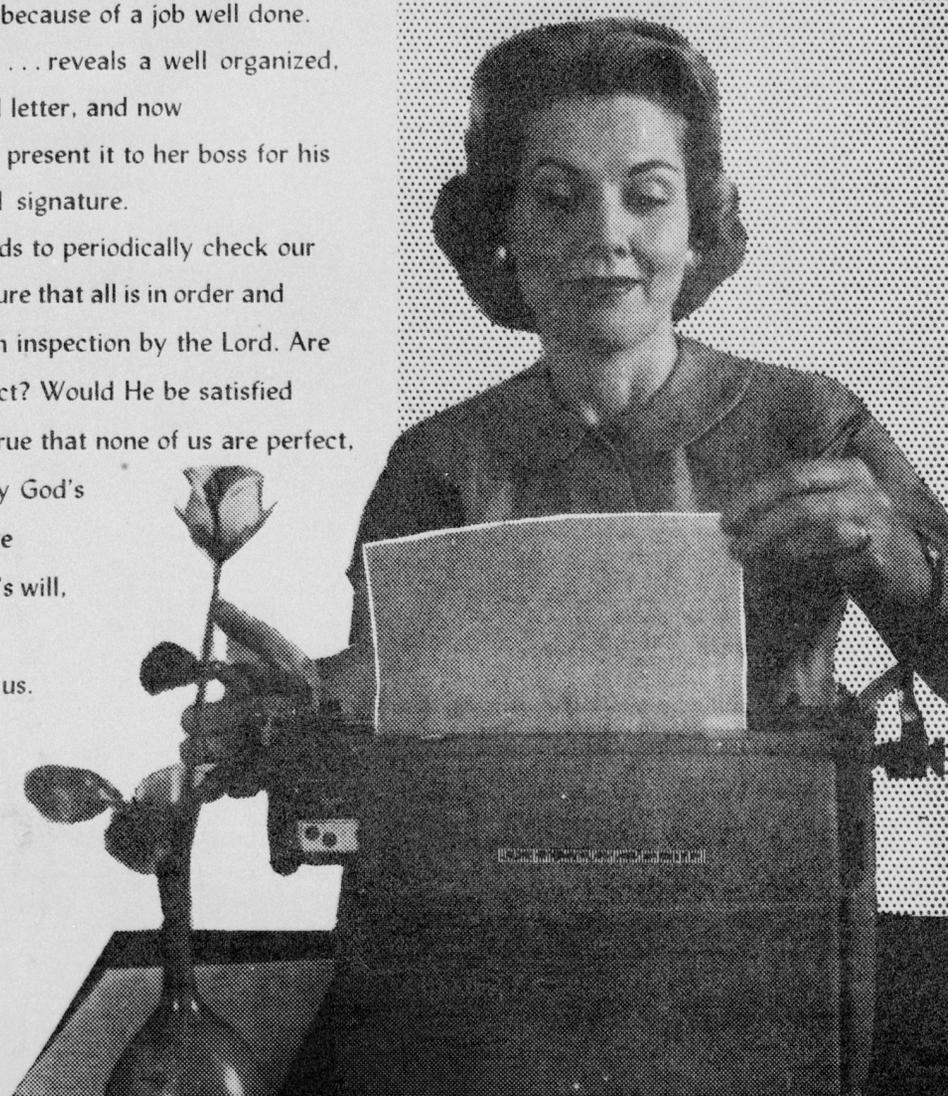
## LETTER PERFECT

SATISFIED . . . because of a job well done.

The last check . . . reveals a well organized, carefully typed letter, and now she is ready to present it to her boss for his inspection and signature.

Each of us needs to periodically check our lives, making sure that all is in order and would stand an inspection by the Lord. Are we letter perfect? Would He be satisfied with us? It is true that none of us are perfect, but if we study God's word and strive to follow God's will. He will be satisfied with us.

ATTEND CHURCH SUNDAY



The Church is God's appointed agency in this world for spreading the knowledge of His love for man and of His demand for man to respond to that love by loving his neighbor. Without this grounding in the love of God, no government or society or way of life will long persevere and the freedoms which we hold so dear will inevitably perish. Therefore, even from a selfish point of view, one should support the Church for the sake of the welfare of himself and his family. Beyond that, however, every person should uphold and participate in the Church because it tells the truth about man's life, death and destiny; the truth which alone will set him free to live as a child of God.

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