

The Good News

International Magazine of
THE CHURCH OF GOD

VOL. X, NUMBER 12

DECEMBER, 1961

Continued Growth in the Church of God

Here's news of growth in the local churches. A BOOM coming in God's work in Britain! And belated news of the Feast in the Philippines and Africa.

by Roderick C. Meredith

“AS COLD waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country” (Prov. 25:25).

From distant corners of the earth, we now have reports on the Feast of Tabernacles observance in other lands. It is *good news*. It is additional evidence that CHRIST is guiding His Church around the world to do His will.

Although separated by thousands of miles—and by lack of easy communication—the TRUTH of God is being restored to all continents through this Philadelphia era of His Church.

Report from the Philippines and Africa

Mr. Pedro S. Ortiguero reports from the Philippines: “Greetings from the island of Mindanao!

“The Feast of Tabernacles has just ended the other day and I hope you have received my telegram on the first day attendance and collection of tithes and offerings. I did send Mr. Cole in Australia the same report on the feast.

“I am very glad to give a very brief report here. Full report will appear in the Bulletin which I will publish as soon as I get home in the Headquarters in San Nicolas.

“We observed the Feast of Tabernacles in eight full days. In comparison

with the Feast of Tabernacles last year, this is a more joyous feast. Many activities were done to make the feast best of all the feast we ever had in the Philippines since the church began here.

“Good dynamic preachings were heard everyday, Bible studies and personal counsel were made to comfort and strengthen the brethren in their faith. There were also dramas, festive native dances (like of how David and Miriam danced), singings and Bible games, speeches by the members of the Speech Club (patterned after the Ambassador Speech Club, with evaluations of each speaker).

“Real fellowship was felt [while] eating together in the [large] Tabernacle. Visiting each other in their booths and homes nearby was done after the services, and in the afternoons.

“There were also soft ball and Volley ball. Men and women take part. Pictures taking were also made.

“There was 489 registered on the first day and our number increased everyday and on the last day there were 563 brethren counted. Total tithes and offerings collected for the whole eight days amount to \$1,163.60.

“There was no confusion, all are in order and we felt the presence and the blessings of God the Eternal. All were

happy and rejoiced much and strengthen in the faith.

“Six provinces were represented, namely Pangasinan, Bukidnon, Lanao, Zamboanga, Agusan, and Cotabato.

“Hardship on the way to the place of the Tabernacles were experienced by everyone, but on going home, comfort and encouragement were seen in happy and smiling faces who bade their brethren good-bye.

“We are thankful to God that He directed the truth to us by His servant—Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong and by all His Ministers that we are now experiencing the real joy of one of His children the world over. And herewith we are sending our most warmest greetings to all of you brethren in the Headquarters Church. You have helped us much by your prayers and assistant in God's work here in the Philippines.

“Very sincerely yours,

“Pedro S. Ortiguero.”

From Northern Rhodesia, Africa, Mr. Joseph Mwambula reports that the brethren congregated in his home to observe the Feast of Tabernacles.

Following instructions from Headquarters, Mr. Mwambula moved to the Eastern Province just a few months ago.

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International magazine of
THE CHURCH OF GOD
*ministering to its members
 scattered abroad*

VOL. X

NO. 12

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Heart-to-Heart Talk with the Editor

IF you have really been put into GOD'S Church by God—if you have really been *converted*—which means *changed*—by receiving His Holy Spirit, then you no longer see things as you did before.

If this *change* has really happened to you, you now see this world for what it is. And the more you see of it—the more you deal with people of the world—the more disgusted you probably are becoming.

And *therein*, Brethren, lies *one of your greatest dangers!*

Only yesterday, while we were riding in the car, my wife, seeing all the Christmas decorations, having just heard some of the insincere flattery expressed by a woman in business, made comment on what a rotten, perverted world this is. I thought I detected a trace of disgust, and even contempt in her expression, and cautioned her about it. But this is a perfectly *natural* reaction that will come to any of us who can now really *see* the routeness, the deceit, hypocrisy, pretense, vanity, greed, lying that is constantly expressed in worldly lives.

Natural, did I say? Yes—and also I want you to realize that all this flattery, this deceit, lying, pretending, we see in people of the world is *natural*. The carnal mind is the *natural* mind. The people of the world do what is *natural* for

them to do. That is, according to human nature. That which is natural is of NATURE—physical—material. The spiritual things of God's Spirit are not natural—not of *nature*, or physical—but spiritual.

It is perfectly *natural* for one who is converted, and now sees things through spiritual eyes, to become really *disgusted* with the world. It is perfectly *natural*, which actually means according to that SAME EVIL NATURE which still resides in us for the rest of this life, for this disgust to increase into *impatience, bitterness, hatred*.

I want you to see just what this is, working in us. With our new spiritual perception, we plainly SEE the evil that the world does not see. So far, so good. But right here is where the *carnal* nature begins to assert itself. The *carnal* nature is a *competitive* nature. It is always taking sides—and *against* the other side. This spirit of rivalry begins to take over, if we are off guard, do not recognize it, and then yield to it.

We get into the attitude that *we* are now on GOD'S side. The evil WORLD becomes the rival—the ENEMY. So, yielding to human nature, we resent the enemy, and soon we allow feelings of HATING the enemy to seize us.

This attitude becomes more than just that. We begin to feel that we are *better* than the world—we work into a "holier-than-thou" attitude. Thus our carnal *natures* within us, with the unrealized invisible sway of Satan and demons, use the very presence of God's Holy Spirit within us to incite us to VANITY, rivalry, hatred, which is the spirit of murder!

Of all sins, I think probably that the greatest and most harmful is SELF-righteousness, for this, even unrealized, puts the self ahead of God, breaking the first commandment. Further, the self-righteous is the hardest person to bring to repentance and salvation. He is so deceived he thinks he HAS salvation already. He thinks he has nothing to repent of—he is already perfect. He is a blinded fool.

Suppose you have really repented, and through faith in Christ been *changed* by God's Spirit entering you. You *do* see things differently now—and you do see how wicked and rotten this world really is. Does that make YOU better than these worldly people?

NOT AT ALL! It is not YOU that is better, for, as Paul said, in *you* is no good thing—*except* God's Spirit. As Jesus said, there is NONE good, except God. All that is really GOOD about you, even now, is GOD'S SPIRIT in you.

Now let's see what is the *real difference* between you and these "rotten" worldly people. Some of these worldly people may think they are atheists—some may be agnostics—some may give little or no heed to religion—some may be members of worldly churches, and right now (this is being written in December, 1961) indulging in pagan Christmas shopping, decorating, and all that goes with it. But when you get right down to it, the *real difference* is that, somehow, GOD did something. GOD opened your eyes to see what they don't see.

Is it necessarily their fault that they can't see the truth? Was it your fault, before you saw it? Remember, you used to see things like they do now!

What good and holy thing did *you* do that made God open your eyes, and draw you to Him? How much can you brag? No, it was not anything better about you than these worldly people you now condemn. It was GOD'S goodness that opened your eyes. It was not because you were better than they. If you are honest, you can't see any reason why God should have called YOU, and opened your eyes and drawn you to Him, instead of one of them! It is not what YOU did—it was GOD'S goodness. The only difference between you and these "rotten people" in the world is what GOD did. He put His Spirit in you. And that is all that's better in you—and that is not really—YOU—but GOD!

Now how should we look at the world?

We should look at it exactly as Jesus did. We should not be blind to its evils—Jesus was not. No, through God's Spirit, we shall really SEE how evil the world is. Jesus did. He *abhorred* the EVIL. But not the poor blinded people! He LOVED them. He had compassion for them. He didn't approve or condone the evil—he abhorred and condemned that. But HE SAW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SIN AND THE SINNER!

God HATES sin—but God *so LOVED* sinners that He gave His only begotten Son for them!

Jesus, with a heart nearly bursting with compassion and love, yet HATING the evil, looked on the sinning WORLD that was Jerusalem, and said movingly, feelingly: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!"

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Continued Growth in the Church of God

(Continued from page 1)

He has not had sufficient time to build up the work much in that area as yet. Nevertheless, after only a few months of teaching in the area, one hundred and fifteen adults and one hundred twenty-five children congregated at Mr. Mwambula's house for the Feast of Tabernacles services!

Mr. Mwambula is conducting Bible studies in his home every evening and is also visiting nearby villagers regularly. We should all *pray* for the work in Central Africa, and ask God to guide and strengthen Mr. Mwambula in His service.

Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong Visits Denver

From Denver, Mr. Burk McNair reports on recent Church news in that area: "The highlight of events for Denver and Pueblo recently was the visit of three of God's ministers from Headquarters. Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong, Mr. Norman Smith and Mr. Al Portune, accompanied by Mr. Les McCullough, came to Denver prior to a very successful hunting trip in the Rockies.

"Several members from the Pueblo congregation and many from the outlying areas swelled the attendance to a record high. It was truly an inspiration and great encouragement to all of us to hear from some of God's top-ranking ministers.

"A very interesting and gratifying situation was recently experienced by Mr. James Hupp, a former Dallas Church member who is now living in Denver. Mr. Hupp had been in the Air Force since January 1955 and was signed up until February 1963. About 3 years ago he was threatened with a court martial because he would not attend a driver's school on the Sabbath. Then suddenly the school was discontinued! He had asked to be released from the Air Force but was told there were "No Regulations" regarding such a situation.

"Last spring Mr. Hupp was transferred to Denver where he once again faced the problem of being ordered to work on the Sabbath. After much 'red tape'—several letters and confirmations that he would not work on the Sabbath, Mr. Hupp was released October 27, 1961 for the convenience of the Air Force. He will be in the Inactive Re-

serves until July 1962 when he is to receive a complete Honorable Discharge.

"The Denver Church joined Mr. and Mrs. Hupp in gratitude to God for His intervention in their lives.

"The Oklahoma City Church's loss has been Denver's gain in the move of Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Sollars to Denver. This young couple has been a refreshingly welcome addition to the Denver Church.

"Other members of God's Church who have very recently moved to Denver are Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Stokes of South Dakota. The Stokes have attended the local Feasts here in Denver and are also very welcome additions.

"The Pueblo Church and Bible study attendance has begun to gradually increase, especially since the baptism of one lady and her three married daughters! The Pueblo congregation, which has been small but very close-knit and friendly, has been greatly encouraged by the recent newcomers.

"One section of the Church hall has become especially effervescent since the announcement of the approaching addition expected by Mr. and Mrs. Ron Kelly, one of God's ministers. The source of this enthusiasm? Mrs. Mabel Kelly—Mr. Kelly's mother!"

News from Pittsburgh and Akron

Mr. Bill McDowell reports from the Pittsburgh area: "God's churches in Pittsburgh and in Akron are continuing to *grow* physically as well as spiritually! Pittsburgh has an average attendance of about 350 each Sabbath while Akron has nearly 200!

"Now we have an added blessing in Pittsburgh—a Bible study! Since this is a relatively new Church, there has not yet been a Bible study. We began the study, however, with a *record attendance* of 152! We hope soon to have one in Akron as well.

"We are very thankful for our Church News—which is helping us all to grow closer together in serving Christ. Not only are we closer to those here at home, but we are able to use good articles from other papers to bring us closer to all the brethren!

"There is much activity here even though there have been no very recent births or marriages (though we are expecting both—soon!). Mr. Bob Ham-

mond of Pasadena and Miss Tina van de Polder of Acton, Ontario, Canada, expect to be wed in Pittsburgh next Passover.

"The Akron Spokesman Club recently had the pleasure of a Sunday meeting in the home of Mrs. Winifred Pritchard of North Canton. Mrs. Pritchard has a large home which was just about perfect for such an enjoyable and profitable meeting. We hope to have many more such meetings—thanks to Mrs. Pritchard!"

Blessings for the Seattle-Tacoma Churches

Mr. Jimmy Friddle reports from the Seattle-Tacoma churches: "A very wonderful miracle happened to one of the men in the Seattle Church one day this month, and if he had not had God's protection he surely would have been killed.

"Mr. Ben Kleinsasser, a Deacon in the Seattle Church, works for Seattle City Light. He was up on a pole working on the high line. His pole buddy was to open the low voltage side of the transformer but did not, so there was a back feed from an opposite phase. When the two opposite phases were joined together an arc jumped two feet to the third opposite phase. When the three phases were put together there were 4600 volts arcing alongside his head. There was a big ball of fire, large pieces of broken porcelain and melted copper were being thrown about in the vicinity of his body and head. There were several things that could have happened to end his life such as being scalded with burning oil, electrocuted or hit by flying wire or the pole could have been severed and have fallen to the ground. He could not get down off the pole without getting in the direct line of fire so he ducked his head and hung onto the pole. The arc burned for three minutes. The people watching had never seen an arc burn this long. They thought surely he was dead and had sent for the respirator and fire truck to get him down. They were amazed that he was not killed but said that he surely was a "lucky" man. But, as it is plain to see, he certainly had God's protection and is very thankful and grateful that God spared his life.

"Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Burbank of the Tacoma Church have a new baby girl named Terry Lynn. Terry weighed 9 lbs. 12 ozs. at birth and gave her mother a hard time since she was so large. But after the long labor was over there was a complete change of scene and we all were very happy for Mr. and Mrs. Burbank and welcome little Terry

Lynn. This makes four girls for the Burbanks. They have one son.

"The two churches met together in Tacoma recently on Saturday night for a dance. It is the first dance that we have had since last winter. A large crowd turned out and everyone was very enthusiastic about being together like this once again. Refreshments were served, very good dance music was played, lots of fellowship took place and all hated to see such a wonderful evening come to an end.

"One man in the Tacoma Church was healed of hemorrhoids during the Feast of Tabernacles after having them badly for 15 years. He was really thrilled and 'bubbling over' with thanksgiving to God.

"Bible study in Vancouver is now being held every other Friday night and we are having a very good attendance. There have been over 40 the two times that we have met since returning from the Feast and this is really very good since some of the people from Seattle who had been attending are no longer able to attend. The Canadian people surely are hoping that God will bless them with a local radio station and this will be a great boost to the Vancouver area."

GROWTH in Kansas City and Springfield Churches

As we reported to you earlier, the new Church in Kansas City started as the largest local congregation ever to begin in this age of God's Church. It began with 270 people, including children.

Frankly, we expected that this original start would taper off somewhat as people from distant areas cannot always come in regularly. But, instead, Kansas City has *leaped ahead* in attendance as well—no doubt—as spiritual growth. On the Sabbath, November 18th, this Church had a record attendance of three hundred and four! So it is already beginning to rival New York, Pittsburgh and the Chicago churches as the largest local congregation outside of Pasadena! And *this* kind of rivalry, as Mr. Armstrong has said, is a good thing as long as we all understand and enjoy it!

Mr. Bryce Clark has the responsibility of being Pastor of the new Kansas City Church as well as continuing in the pastorate of the Church in Springfield, Missouri. He is now assisted by Mr. Joe Seab, a recent graduate of Ambassador College. Be sure to *remember* Mr. and Mrs. Clark and Mr. Seab in your prayers that they may be able to feed this huge flock properly.

The Springfield Church is also growing consistently, and now averages over 200 people in attendance. After visiting there recently, Mr. Dean Blackwell reported: "One of our best churches in warmth and sincerity. Their smiles and handshakes aren't 'play acting.' Springfield is a clean and beautiful town, and the people reflect the clean, open, simple, sincere character of the surrounding area and peoples. What a refreshing contrast to this crime-filled Babylon of Chicago! A very sound and closely knit Church."

Makes you want to *visit* the Springfield Church, doesn't it, brethren? Well, even though we can't visit all the local churches, we certainly CAN pray for our brethren everywhere and be thankful that God has called us to be *one body* and *one spirit* in His service. Eventually, we will all dwell in one truly *magnificent* city together—the *Holy City* mentioned in Revelation 21!

Phoenix Church Expands

Mr. Jon Hill, new "flying Pastor" of God's recently established Church in Phoenix, Arizona, reports continued growth there. Although this Church started with only some 88 in attendance, a new record attendance was recently attained with 132 present on the Sabbath of November 25, 1961.

Mr. Hill reports that the brethren are very enthusiastic, and that all but ONLY three or four brethren in the entire state of Arizona can attend the Phoenix Church at least part of the time!

Your author can certainly attest to the enthusiasm and zeal of the brethren there, for I flew over to Phoenix a couple of weeks ago to conduct the services and it was a real pleasure. Two entire families had driven to attend Church for distances of over 200 miles! They do not do this every Sabbath, of course, but every now and then it gives them a real spiritual boost to do so and get spiritual "meat" from one of God's ministers personally.

Brethren, be sure to *pray* for this new Church and for the safety of Mr. Hill and the other ministers who have to make this flying circuit in the fast-moving age of God's Church.

New BLESSING for Britain

Breath-taking news has just come regarding the potential growth for God's work in Britain. For years we have lacked a local radio station in that area. The British Isles could only be reached from Radio Luxembourg, located on the continent and broadcasting across the English channel. Many, especially in

Southern England, could not receive the signal of this station very clearly.

Ever since we have been on the air reaching Britain, we have had to take a very late time at night. First, we were on 11:30 to midnight on Mondays only. More recently, this has been extended to include 11:30 to midnight on Tuesday evenings also. But *very few* people can be expected to stay up until after midnight regularly to hear a radio broadcast. So results were slow in coming. Real *work* and *prayer* went into every bit of progress for God's work in the British Isles. It was indeed "slow going."

But NOW—just as Ambassador College in England is beginning to produce the needed ministers—Jesus Christ has opened up a WONDERFUL new door for the proclaiming of His message to Britain! This door is a new *commercial* radio station whose transmitter will be stationed on a ship off the coast of Southern England. Up until recently, there has been virtually *no commercial broadcasting* permitted in the British Isles. But now such a door is being opened—and God is opening it to US!

This station is called Radio Slough, and its offices are located in Buckinghamshire, England, right near our own headquarters at Ambassador College, UK. So the circumstances are propitious in every way. If this station turns out to be what it appears to be, we will begin reaching *millions* in the British Isles over this station at the ideal time of 8:30 P.M. *every night!*

Do you realize what this means, brethren?

This means that the work of God's Church in Britain will be tripled and quadrupled within only a matter of months! It means that, at last, the average man in the street in the British Isles will learn to KNOW about the true Gospel of Jesus Christ! It means that our work to Ephraim can be greatly *speeded up*.

It means that it is LATER THAN WE THINK!

Brethren in Christ, remember to *pray unceasingly* that God will bless this new "door" of radio to the use of His Church—as He wills—and that He will *keep us on* at the ideal time of 8:30 P.M. Ask Jesus Christ—the Living HEAD of this Church—to open the minds and hearts of all those in Britain whom He chooses to *understand* and to *heed* this precious message. And pray that Christ will provide the *ministers* and other servants needed to back up this terrific expansion in radio broadcasting to the British Isles.

And let us give God THANKS and PRAISE for this wonderful opportunity.

Do you have the SUNDAY SPIRIT?

Is your spiritual growth being held back because you unknowingly still have a Sunday attitude? Few members have clearly seen the self-centeredness that Sunday-keeping has caused in their lives — and how to successfully combat this most basic human trait.

by Jack R. Elliott

SUNDAY observance is of Satan the Devil. It is a *counterfeit rest day*. It is a *substitute* for God's holy time. And, as in the case for everything Satan inspires, it is designed to tear down and nullify the *good* effect of true Sabbath-keeping. Let's compare the two.

God's Holy Spirit is a spirit of love — love which flows *outward* in kindness and consideration to neighbor in worshipful respect and obedience toward God.

Why Self-Indulgence?

The spirit of Sunday is a spirit of *self-indulgence*. This is a spirit of LOVE OF SELF which flows inwardly in *self-consideration* and self-enjoyment. Just examine for a moment the typical behavior of a person on Sunday.

He isn't required to do anything but to seek his own pleasure. He usually sleeps late, he reads the "funnies" in bed; if he wants to feel sentimentally good or if he enjoys displaying social status and self-righteousness before others, he goes to church. It is a day for large meals followed by lazy afternoons, joy-riding, leisurely strolling in the park, or a myriad of other "enjoyable" things.

The order of the day is to do just what one is in the "mood" to do.

The normal human mind thinks this is the way of happiness when, actually, it causes unhappiness and discontent. Self-indulgence does not bring happiness, as Solomon well said in Ecclesiastes 1:8. "...the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing." As soon as we have seen a beautiful landscape, for example, we are ready to see something else. When we have heard a beautiful sound or flattering phrases we would like to hear more. The desire to taste good food does not end—the stomach wants to be filled to capacity again and again. We can never get our fill of "feeling good." When excitement wears off, we are often left empty unless more excitement promises to follow.

The desires of the flesh are insatiable.

After a long day of Sunday self-indulgence, this world dreads "Old Blue Monday." Why? Because, on Monday we are *forced* to return to work for others. In the minds of many this is proof that pursuing one's own pleasure is the way of happiness.

The Contrast

God's Holy Sabbath is different. It is a day to rest from labor. It is *not* a day of selfish pursuits. It is a day for doing good (Matt. 3:4-5). This certainly includes doing good through prayer, Bible study with your family, etc.

Since only God is good, the way we do good is to copy God and to obey the Laws of God, which show the way of goodness.

The Sabbath is a day to *AVOID seeking after your own pleasure*; a day to get your mind *off yourself* (Isa. 58:13-14). It is also a day to learn of God (Luke 4:16 and Mark 1:21). In fact, you are *commanded* to attend Sabbath services whenever it is possible (Lev. 23:3). The words "holy convocation" mean a *commanded* gathering of those called out by God for a holy purpose. It means that you congregate with GOD'S PEOPLE. You will have no trouble telling God's people by their fruits. Those who are God's people obey His commandments (1 John 3:3). This does not mean that they just obey *most* of them, but that they obey *every one* of them (James 2:10).

Furthermore, God forbids members of the true Church of God to just decide to meet together on their own for "spiritual fellowship." Past experience has taught that this does not work for good. It leads to selfishness. God did not leave this problem for individuals to work out according to their own understanding. He **ORDAINED** evangelists, ministers and elders to teach the people in the way that He, God, directs.

To go contrary to these directions is disobedience to God and cannot end in goodness. Therefore the true members of the Church of God hold meetings

only when one of God's ordained ministers is present to guide the proceedings.

When we properly keep the Sabbath, we actually have opportunity to **REST** from pursuing our own wills and laboring for our substance. It is a time to draw nearer to our Creator. We are given opportunity to learn benevolence toward God and neighbor, from which true happiness comes.

If we can remember the vital lessons which we learn every Sabbath and apply them every day of the week, our lives and the lives of those around us become meaningful and happy. We will have discovered the **ONLY** happy, joyful, wholesome **WAY OF LIFE**. The way of thinking and doing for others!

Those who have believed and trusted Him to the extent that they have obeyed Him fully, from the heart, have come to see that this is true. Yes, they who have proved God in this way have never been disappointed.

Pitfalls

Yet, there have been *some* who **THOUGHT** they have obeyed God and proven His way to be unpleasant. From the very start their hearts were not in their obedience. They could not wait for God's Sabbath to be ended, for example, so that they might go back to the pursuit of their fleshly desires.

Some well-meaning brethren make the mistake of continuing in the "Sunday Spirit" by reserving Sunday for themselves—as a sort of "rest day" wherein they are free to pursue *their own* wills and satisfy *their own* fleshly desires. They *still keep Sunday* just as they did before conversion.

The true Christian is the one who has changed from following after the ways of this world swayed by Satan, and who has **COMPLETELY CHANGED** so that he now follows every word of God, in complete subjection and humility to the **RULER** over his life—**Jesus Christ**.

He will no longer be trying to **take**

a holiday during which he serves the fleshly desires in the same selfish manner that this world keeps Sunday. Ephesians 4:17-19 commands: "Henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their minds, having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with

greediness."

GOD KNOWS AND TEACHES THE WAY OF HAPPINESS. The instructions on "How to Live" are recorded in every page of your Bible.

If you are diligent to study them and obey *Him*, you can enjoy this happiness for all eternity.

Don't let your human nature, led by the "Sunday Spirit," rob you of it and lead you to **SELF-CENTEREDNESS** again.

rotteness and its evil.

But Jesus was not **LED BY** human nature, though He had it in Him. He was *led by* the **SPIRIT OF GOD**. And it is only those—even among *us*—who are led by God's Spirit who are the begotten **SONS** of God (Rom. 8:14).

And the Spirit of God in Jesus cried out: "Father, *forgive* them! for they know not what they do!" Even here He did not condone—He acknowledged their guilt—yet pled for their forgiveness! **HE KNEW THEIR EYES WERE BLINDED**—they did not fully realize how terribly they were sinning!

The church people you know, now participating in Christmas customs, are not doing it because they know it is wrong—that it is an **ABOMINATION** in the eyes of God. They are deceived. They think it is right. "*They know not what they do!*" As **PEOPLE**, they may be just as good—perhaps *better* than we. Judgment of them is not ours—not now! The only difference is what **GOD** did for us. Let us not get *self-righteous!*

Let us not think more of ourselves than we ought, or become resentful at the world.

It is human nature to go to extremes. Let us avoid becoming embittered at the world, on the one extreme. But **BEWARE** of the other extreme of condoning sin. Because we do not condemn the people of the world—because we have compassion and **LOVE** for them, and act kindly toward them, with full respect and courtesy—let us not go to the other extreme of *approving of* worldly ways and sins.

The right balance is to be able to *see*, and *abhor* the **SINS**, and wrong **WAYS**, beliefs, and doings of the world—to really **HATE** these wrongs that are so contrary to God's Law—yet to have **UNDERSTANDING**, with **LOVE** toward the misguided and deceived people who participate in these evils.

Let us **SHUN** their beliefs, customs, and ways—we cannot participate with them in these things—but let us not get resentful, or in any way unkind. We must **LOVE** even our enemies. We must treat people outside God's Church—and this includes our own families or relatives who persecute us—with full courtesy, politeness, and consideration, not esteeming *ourselves* better than they.

And even though we know God's **WAY** is better than theirs—right, while theirs is wrong—let us never mention that to them or reprove them, or argue with them. **PRAY** for them (not against them) but do not try to talk them into God's Truth—it just can't be done!

Letters to the Editor

These Things Are Real

"We have been reading in our own Salina, Kansas newspaper of the coming water shortage to Kansas, in a few years. After reading in The **PLAIN TRUTH** we always find something in the newspaper backing up every word."

Woman from Tescott, Kansas

Dial Twiddler Stopped

"Whilst engaged in a little dial-twiddling your voice came through loud and clear from radio station 7AD. I listened because of your challenging and dogmatic tones. And although not in agreement with your view, I would like to have the booklet you mentioned."

Tasmania

Minister Pays Call

"The minister from a church near us paid a call. I brought up the subject of world conditions and what he thought of them. I asked him, 'What do you think of the Common Market in Europe?' His answer was, 'What is that?'"

Woman from Poland, Ohio

Receives Promotion

"Tuesday my supervisor said, 'You have received a promotion of \$795.00 per year.' I said, 'Well, what did I do to deserve that?' He replied, 'That's what I would like to know.' Here it is our third-tithe year and we get a blessing even before we could give anything. I started getting it on the Last Great Day of the Feast."

Man from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Editor's comment: This supervisor's reply may have been innocent in intention. The true answer is that this member is obeying one of God's working laws—tithing. Obedience to God's laws has brought this man a tangible, physical blessing.

Answer to Unemployment

"I sent my tithes the first day of this month and immediately things improved. I worked that very morning. Then six days later I got a job in a gro-

cery, and have been working there for the last two weeks earning considerable more than at the other job I had."

Man from Clarksville, Tennessee

Healed of T.B.

"I want to thank you for your prayers for my healing (T.B. of left lung). Also for literature and the prayer cloth I received. On my recent X ray there showed just a little disturbance left on my lung which I feel sure will be all cleared away before the next X ray. I thank the Lord for healing me."

Woman from Tucson, Arizona
(Please continue on page 12)

Heart-to-Heart Talk with the Editor

(Continued from page 2)

They were free moral agents. The decision was theirs. Christ would do nothing to *force* them to accept His love and free salvation.

But notice his recognition of their **SIN!** Notice He would not compromise one iota—He would not gather them, or save them, against their will, or **IN** their sins. Yet notice the **LOVE**, the overwhelming compassion, and deep heart-felt **REGRET** that *they would not!*

He didn't show resentment. God does, on occasion, blaze with righteous indignation—but never with resentment which is a form of, and leads to **HATRED**.

It would have been *natural* for Jesus, on the cross, to have become resentful, bitter, and to have called out to God, saying, "O God, look at the unjust, murderous, damnable thing these rotten, filthy murderers have done to me. **STRIKE THEM DOWN!** *Torture* them, O God! I want them to **SUFFER!** Pay them back **DOUBLE!** Take **VENGEANCE** on them, O God!"

That would have been perfectly natural—just as natural as for you to work yourself up into resentment and bitterness against the world when you see its

IS JUDAISM *the Law of Moses?*

Why were the Pharisees in New Testament times divided among themselves? Why did they come to Jesus to ask Him to settle disputes? Here is the answer!

by Ernest Martin

PREVIOUS installments of this series have shown how the Pharisees and the other chief leaders of the Jews disregarded the Word of God. They had accepted customs that came directly from heathenism, which the Scripture clearly commands us not to do (Jer. 10:1-4). In many cases they knowingly taught commandments that were completely contrary to the plain words of God. They even ADMITTED that in so doing they were leaving the teachings of Moses.

The majority of these commandments of the Pharisees were enacted on the pretext that they had special divine revelatory powers from God to reveal to the Jews His *present* will. The Scriptures, to their reasoning, could not suffice alone for teaching the people.

"The written Torah [the old Testament] was good for the age in which it was given, or in which it was first read; but the written Torah alone *could not suffice for later ages*" (Herford, *Talmud and Apocrypha*, p. 113).

This prevailing opinion of the Pharisaic teachers is manifest today also in modernism among Protestants.

Pharisees Make Void God's Law

The Pharisees were confronted time and time again with many Mosaic commandments which they considered impractical in the society in which they were living. This led them to a dangerous conclusion. Since they were living in a later age than Moses and because times had changed considerably, they felt that many of the Laws of the Scripture had to be drastically altered or, in some cases, completely annulled. The Pharisees saw no reason why such alteration or rescission should not be done, especially since they convinced themselves they were in authority to reveal the *current* will of God.

Herford says that these Pharisaic teachers came to the place many times of "*actually annulling an express command in the written Torah [the Scripture] and replacing it by a halachab [their own law] in accordance with a [supposed] higher moral standard*" (*Talmud and Apocrypha*, p. 73).

Jesus refers to one Law of God, among many, that they completely set aside or annulled. Notice Mark 7:10-13:

"For Moses said, 'Honour your father and your mother'; and, 'He who speaks evil of father or mother, let him surely die'; but you say, 'If a man tells his father or his mother, What you would have gained from me is Corban' (that is, "given to God")—then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, *thus making VOID the word of God through your tradition which you hand on. AND MANY SUCH THINGS YOU DO*" (RSV).

In this case, they had actually annulled a specific one of the Ten Commandments of God that had been given through Moses. They claimed to have given to God offerings that should have been used to help Father and Mother.

We are left in no doubt about the attitude of the Pharisees in regard to Moses and his teaching. If they did not approve of what Moses taught, they rejected him! It was just that simple! Jesus said: "Had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me...**BUT YE BELIEVE NOT HIS WRITINGS**" (John 5:46, 47).

Actually, the Pharisees had come to the place of believing it impossible to keep the civil Law of Moses. The only thing they could do, they reasoned, was either to alter, or disregard, many of its "impractical" instructions. They had no hesitation in carrying out their intentions.

"The teachers... were quite aware of the extreme gravity of the step they were taking. *They intended to modify the written commandment in various ways, and in the course of time actually did so in NUMBERLESS CASES. Yet they had before them the plain injunction* (Deut. 4:2): 'Ye shall not add to the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish from it; that ye may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you'" (Herford, *Talmud and Apocrypha*, p. 113).

It is almost impossible to believe that religious leaders claiming to serve God would be so bold as to do such things, but the Pharisees intentionally did so.

"This conclusion that the written word of the Torah *might be modified or set aside, or even annulled (as was sometimes done), was DELIBERATELY DRAWN AND CONSISTENTLY*

ACTED UPON by the teachers who developed the *halachab* [the new Pharisaic laws]" (*ibid.*, p. 112).

Why Christ Condemns Teaching of Pharisees

Is it any wonder that Christ was so indignant at the doctrines of the Pharisees? Should we be amazed that He so sharply rebuked them?

"Well has Isaiah prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, this people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. Howbeit *in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. FOR LAYING ASIDE THE COMMANDMENT OF GOD YE HOLD THE TRADITION OF MEN... FULL WELL YE REJECT THE COMMANDMENT OF GOD, that ye may keep your own tradition*" (Mark 7:6-9).

Now that we have the background to the beliefs of the Pharisees and their attitudes regarding the Word of God—as has been presented thus far in this series—this Scripture should take on much more meaning. Jesus was rebuking the Pharisees as they had never been rebuked before. And they needed every bit of it!

Notice what Christ said elsewhere!

"Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your own tradition?" (Matt. 15:3.)

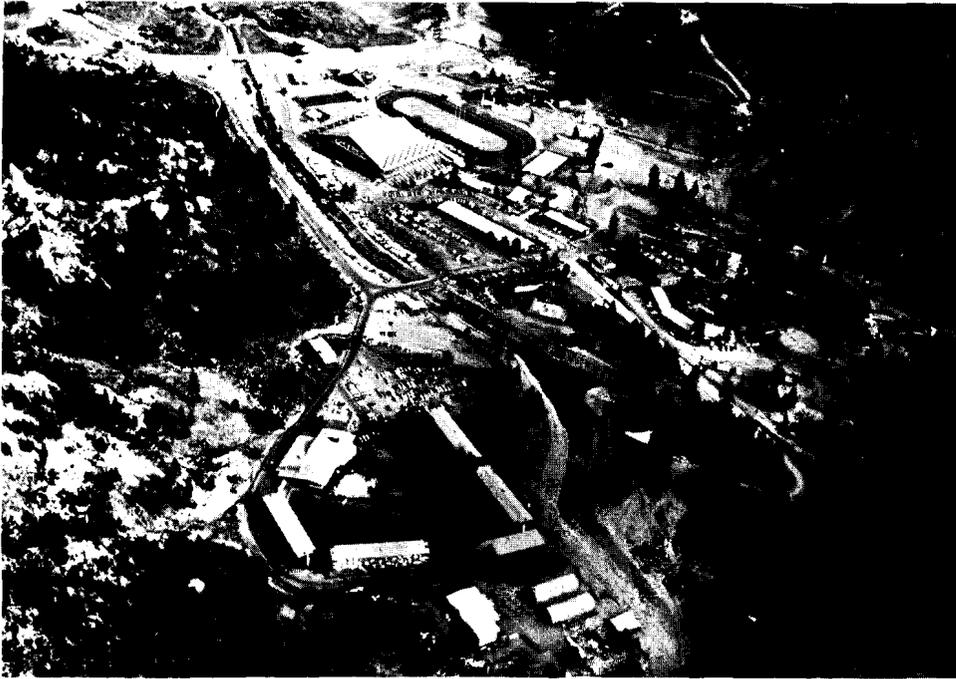
"*Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition*" (Matt. 15:6).

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in" (Matt. 23:13).

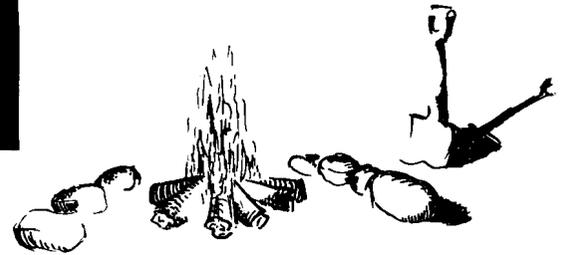
"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity" (Matt. 23:27, 28).

Today's Churches Follow Pharisees

In contemporary secular Christianity we find millions of individuals like the
(Please continue on page 10)



Festival Time in Squaw Valley—a unique ENVOY service to you. Special know how, professional equipment, ENVOY photographers and planes piloted by members of God's Church make possible this unique service to the entire membership. These aerial views have been published in the numerous college and church publications but are permanently preserved for you only in the ENVOY.



The architectural beauty of Ambassador Hall captured by an artistically inclined student.



A time for singing—this spontaneous evening scene is representative of many a song session around the piano following a social occasion.



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The Assembly Hall is filled to capacity at Student Forums. When all faculty members and students are present, there is standing room only. Ambassador has grown from a student body of four in 1947 to the over three hundred seen here. Trained manpower produced by the college has allowed The PLAIN TRUTH to

expand from 8 to 40 pages, The GOOD NEWS magazine to be a 16-page monthly issue, a competent Letter Answering Department and scores of young ministers to be trained. A thousand hands now do the physical work of proclaiming the Good News!

Is Judaism the Law of Moses?

(Continued from page 7)

Pharisees of New Testament times. Numerous professing Christian denominations have *modified* the commandments of Christ; many have *set aside* or *disregarded* His commandments; and many of them have intentionally *annulled* the commandments of Christ! Yes, our modern Christian civilization of this Western World is in the same or worse spiritual condition as were the Pharisees.

The past and present leaders of Christian churches have certainly resorted to the same tactics as did the Pharisaic leaders. It is time we realize that modern Christianity has paralleled the Jewish leaders of New Testament times in assuming the prerogative of altering, overlooking and rescinding the plain commandments of the Scripture. Christ, who is the same yesterday, today and forever (Heb. 13:8), condemns it! "Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the commandment of God ye hold the tradition of men... Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition" (Mark 7:7-9).

Why Churches Modify Commandments of Christ!

There are millions of individuals today who, like the Pharisees, claim to follow Christ, and yet have modified the plain and simple commandments of Christ. Here is one example among many, to illustrate this fact.

In Matthew 5:38,39, we read: "Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: But I say unto you, *That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.*"

This is a classic statement of Christ which has been modified by different groups in numerous ways. Most of the Christ-professing ministers today assume Christ meant just the opposite from what He said in the above passage. Most reason that Christ surely could not mean that you are not to resist evil people and kill them if need be! Is this what Christ said? No! Christ said just the opposite—"love your enemies"—*a plain and simple statement* that any ten-year-old can read and understand. But today, this command of Christ in particular is MODIFIED by interpretations so that it says just the opposite from what Christ taught. The Pharisees were

doing the same thing with the Law of Moses!

Let us notice another commandment of Christ that has been completely disregarded by the overwhelming majority of modern denominations. It is Jesus' command found in John 13:14,15.

"If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. *For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.*"

How many Christ-professing churches do you know which follow this command—an example that Christ gave to His disciples? Very few! Most people have completely disregarded this command and example as though it were not even in the Scriptures. Some ministers, endeavoring to explain away the illustration, say that this was an example for the original twelve disciples and not for us today. But notice Matthew 28:19, 20: "Go ye [the original twelve disciples] therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: Teaching them [all nations] to observe *all things whatsoever I HAVE COMMANDED YOU...*" The example of foot washing was commanded to the disciples, and Christ ordered them to teach all NATIONS the very things He had taught them. But again, the majority of ministers today are using the same reasons for disregarding the Scriptures (i.e., times have changed) as did the Pharisees in Christ's day.

Take another example. All readers of the Bible, scholars and laymen alike, are quite aware that the Sabbath is the day set aside by God for divine worship (Gen. 2:1-4; Lev. 23:1-3; Isa. 58:13, 14). The Sabbath day is from Friday sunset to Saturday sunset. All true followers of God have kept this day as the day of rest and worship. The Jews of Christ's day as well were observing this day. Christ, Himself, kept the true Sabbath, having ordained it at re-creation as a day for the benefit of all mankind (Mark 2:27, 28). The early New Testament Church observed the Sabbath, and that day only, as the weekly day of rest and worship. This was the only day which the early Church observed: this all competent Church Histories affirm.

There is no indication, or even the slightest hint, in the Scripture that the Sabbath was to be abrogated and another day substituted for it. In fact, you

might ask yourself the questions: Just why should the Sabbath have to be changed? Wasn't it good enough? Was there something inherently *wrong* with that particular day—so that a *better* had to be found as a substitute? Just *what* could make one day *better* than another? And if one day is not inherently better than another, why should it be set apart—sanctified—by any other authority than God's express commands?

But there are millions of people today who claim to be following Christ and the Bible, who repudiate the plain command of God in regard to His holy day, the Sabbath, by observing another day. These people are not following the Bible command but are rather following the command of the Roman Catholic Church which admits that it, not the Bible, is the author of Sunday keeping. (See *Who Changed the Sabbath?* pp. 1-5, Published by Knights of Columbus, St. Louis, Mo.)

The majority of professing Christians today assume the Sabbath command has been *annulled*. But it certainly has not been done away with *in the Bible*. It has only been supposedly annulled by the Roman Catholic Church and all the Protestant denominations which follow her decision in this matter.

Our Western World is doing today exactly the same thing the Pharisees did in New Testament times. It is about time we wake up and get back to the true faith which was *once* delivered to the saints of God (Jude 3).

God's Church today does not add to His words, neither does it subtract from them. It is in obedience to His commandments.

"And hereby we do know that we know Him, *if we keep His commandments*. He that saith, I know Him, and *keepeth not His commandments, IS A LIAR*, and the truth is not in him" (1 John 2:3,4).

Pharisees' Commandments Considered More Binding Than Scripture

The Pharisees did not stop with merely modifying, disregarding or even annulling Scripture. They maintained that the commandments they enacted in the place of Scripture were of *more importance* than the Scripture itself!

"The law of custom was quite as binding as the written Torah; nay it was *even decided that opposition to the decrees of the Scribes was a heavier transgression than opposition to the decrees of the Torah*" (*The Jewish People in the Time of Christ*, sec. ii, vol. i, pp. 333, 334).

Now let us go to the Talmud itself

and notice some of the statements of some of the early Pharisees themselves. Their situation in regard to their own teachings will be obvious.

From the Jerusalem Talmud, Bera-koth i, 7, we read: "The sayings of the elders *have more weight than those of the prophets.*" The elders, in this case, are the Pharisees.

In Sanhedrin xi, 3, it says: "An offense against the sayings of the Scribes is worse than one against those of Scripture." They demanded the people refer to them as spiritual "Father," "Rabbi," or "Master" (Makkoth 24a and Matthew 23:7-10). The Pharisee teachers even required the people to reverence them almost as God Himself. "Let thine esteem for thy friend border upon thy respect for thy teacher, and respect for thy teacher *on reverence for God*" (Aboth, iv, 12).

"Each Scribe [learned Pharisee] outweighed all the common people, who must accordingly pay him every honour. Nay, *they were honoured of God Himself, and their praises proclaimed by the angels; and in heaven also, each of them would hold the same rank and distinction as on earth. Such was to be the respect paid to their sayings, that they were to be absolutely believed, even if they were to declare that to be at the right hand which was at the left, or vice versa (i.e. even if they proclaimed doctrines contradictory to Scripture)*" (Edersheim, *Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah*, vol. i, p. 90).

Because of the religious authority that the Pharisees claimed they had, they in general demanded the first rank in all circumstances. "They loved the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi" (Matt. 23:6,7). The term "Rabbi" means, literally, "My Master." It denotes the personal ruler or leader of the people.

Edersheim records an incident of two great Rabbis who were complaining because they had been greeted in the market place by the common greeting "May your peace be great" without the added "My Masters" (*Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah*, vol. ii, p. 409). "So weighty was the duty of respectful salutation by [use of] the title Rabbi, that to neglect it would involve the heaviest punishment" (*ibid.*, vol. ii, p. 409).

The unusual esteem accorded to the Pharisaic teachers is purely a product of Hellenistic influence. The Greeks maintained a high reverence for the scholars, teachers and men of wisdom. Titles of respect and reverential honor were used in the Greek schools for their teachers.

The use of "Rabbi," "Master," "Father" and various other exalted titles of the Pharisees was certainly borrowed from the examples of the Greeks. A learned Jewish historian, Moses Hadas, admits that these various customs of the Rabbis "were parallel to Greek usages, and shall suggest that since they were introduced after the spread of Hellenism they might have been inspired by Greek practice. The extraordinary reverence paid to learning may be part and parcel of this same influence" (*Hellenistic Culture*, p. 71).

True Christian disciples are warned not to assume these exalted titles of "Rabbi," "Father" or "Master." Such high, eminent titles of respect are deserved only by God. He is *Master and Lord*. He is the spiritual Father of the faithful. The Pharisees had no right to arrogate to themselves such titles, and neither does any minister. Today, however, the majority of Christian ministers are appropriating as a designation the very names that God says not to use. How many priests today are called "Father"? How many ministers use the title of "Reverend" which, in the Scripture, is used only as a designation of God? (Psa. 111:9.)

Pharisees Contradict Each Other

Just before the birth of Christ, many of the Pharisees had formed themselves into institutions, or what became known as Schools, for the purpose of study and for counsel concerning the legislation of new laws. Those who felt one particular way in regard to new legislation would assemble with other Pharisees who believed in a similar vein.

The two major Schools of the Pharisees were the School of Hillel and the School of Shammai. The two founders of these Schools, Hillel and Shammai, gathered together other Pharisees who believed in many ways similar to themselves. Both these Schools issued new commandments in regard to religious worship.

These two major Schools of the Pharisees were the rivals of one another. The points in which they disagreed were virtually *innumerable* (*Cyc. of Bib., Theo. and Ecc. Lit.*, vol. ix, p. 472).

It has been supposed that the tendency of the Hillel School was to make the new commandments they enacted less burdensome, and that the Shammai School made commandments which were heavier and more burdensome. However, both Schools legislated many strict and burdensome commandments, over and above the requirements of Scripture, and Edersheim shows that the Hillel School was even more strict than

the Shammai in some cases (*Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah*, vol. ii, p. 407).

The commandments of these two Schools covered practically every religious practice of the Jews. They made many ridiculous and overly burdensome commandments concerning the observance of the Sabbath. They enacted strict ritualistic laws regarding the washing of the hands, pots, pans, jars, etc. They also made numerous ritualistic regulations regarding the preparing and eating of foods. Their teachings extended to all phases of physical worship.

It is rather ironic that these two Schools were both composed of Pharisees and yet their teachings, in so many cases, were totally at variance with one another. One School would bring out a new commandment regarding a particular religious rite or custom, and proclaim that the new commandment was mandatory for all pious Jews to perform. In consequence of this, the other School would issue a similar commandment, usually as a rebuttal and in most cases diametrically opposite from the other.

"Controversy between these two groups extended over many topics and excited considerable warmth of feeling" (Herford, *Judaism in the New Testament Period*, p. 160).

As mentioned before: "*the points on which they differed were almost innumerable*" (*Cyc. of Bib., Theo. and Ecc. Lit.*, vol. ix, p. 472).

Both Schools Vied for Absolute Authority!

The controversies between these two major Pharisaic Schools were undoubtedly sparked by the desire of both of them to be the ultimate authority among the Pharisees.

Edersheim says: "*In truth, their differences seem too often prompted by a spirit of opposition, so that the serious business of religion became in their hands one of rival authority and mere wrangling*" (*Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah*, vol. ii, p. 407).

This was the condition of the Pharisees just before and during the days of Christ! Like professing Christianity today, the Pharisees were in confusion over their own doctrines. Their continual arguing among themselves placed them in embarrassing positions among the people and the other religious sects. Yet, they continued their squabbles and controversies! Little wonder many sought to hear Christ.

"*Many, very many of them [their controversies] are so utterly trivial and absurd that only the hairsplitting ingenuity of theologians can account for them:*

others so profane that it is difficult to understand how any religion could co-exist with them. Conceive, for example, two schools in controversy whether it was lawful to kill a louse on the Sabbath" (*ibid.*, vol. ii, p. 407, note 4).

The controversies between these two Schools were so numerous—and some so vulgar—that it is impractical to list them all. For any who may be interested in them, a list has been prepared by Schurer. See his *The Jewish People in the Time of Jesus Christ*, sec. ii, vol. i, p. 361.

You can imagine what the controversies between these two prominent Pharisaical Schools did to the faith of the people who were endeavoring to observe the teachings of the Schools. Who were the people to believe? Both Schools claimed to be speaking the words of God, and yet they violently disagreed with one another in almost every point.

These two Pharisaic Schools were not the only dissentious bodies among the Pharisees.

"The Pharisees at this time were sharply divided into various sections which were NOT exhausted by the rival schools of Hillel and Shammai" (*ABC.*, p. 841).

"The Pharisees were divided into many sects, and the doctrines of individual teachers were often contradictory..." (Conder, *Judas Maccabæus*, p. 205).

It is important we realize that no real creed existed among the Pharisees. "The Pharisees were never a homogeneous body possessed of a definite policy or body of doctrines" (*Encyclopædia Britannica*, 11th ed., vol. xxi, p. 347).

The differences of opinion among all the Pharisees, remember, arose with the making of new commandments, in the Second Century B. C., by Joseph ben Joezer, called "The Permitter."

This reminds a person of modern Christianity with all its differing doctrines and conflicting beliefs. And yet, each church, today, claims that it is preaching the truth of Christ.

Contradictory Commandments Called Those of God!

We have the records of some Pharisees who attempted to conciliate the differences between the two main antagonistic divisions of the Pharisaic group. But, in their undertaking to reconcile the groups, they still had to maintain that both divisions were truly teaching the Word of God.

Lauterbach records an attempt to reconcile the teachings of the Hillel and Shammai Schools and still show that both their teachings were the Words of

God. He refers to a statement in the Talmud found in Erubin 13b. Lauterbach records:

"A heavenly voice was heard declaring that both the words of the School of Hillel and the words of the School of Shammai [despite their disagreements] are the words of the living God, but the practical decision should be according to the words of the School of Hillel" (*Rabbinic Essays*, p. 243, note 78). (The bracketed portion of the above quote is Lauterbach's.)

The majority of Pharisees favored the Hillel School more than any other, and this led to the conciliating parties leaning toward that particular School's teachings.

In the Talmud, Gittin 6b, there is another reference, this time to a Jew named Elijah [not the prophet] who endeavored to reconcile the differences between two Pharisaic teachers. Elijah is reported "to have said that God declared BOTH the opposing views of Rabbi Abiathar and Rabbi Jonathan to be the words of the living God" (*ibid.*, p. 243, note 78).

What nonsense!

"All these utterances were intended to serve as a refutation of the attacks made against the teachings of the Rabbis [Pharisees] on account of their disagreements" (*ibid.*, p. 243, note 78).

It was impossible for the Pharisees to directly admit that one or the other School was wrong (or as actually was the case, that both were wrong). They were forced to concede that both Schools' conflicting teachings were from God.

Hillel School Becomes Most Important

The proneness of the majority of Pharisees to follow the decisions of the Hillel School (Edersheim, *Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah*, vol. i, p. 239), finally led to the complete ascendancy of that School. It was not until the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D., and the subsequent dispersal of the Jews from Palestine, that the Hillel School became the paramount teaching body. During the lifetime of Christ and the Apostle Paul, the Pharisees were still divided into the various Schools. But with the destruction of Jerusalem, the Jews tended to solidify their schismatic groups. Even many of the Jewish sects became extinct after the Roman destruction of Jerusalem and most of the Jews gravitated towards adhering to the Hillel School of interpretation. Orthodox Judaism today has for its basis the teachings of Pharisees who maintained the commandments and principles of

the Hillel School.

However, in the days just before and during the life of Christ, the Pharisees were still having their rivalries among themselves. They were teaching their manifold contradictory commandments from the various Schools.

It should not be difficult to understand why Christ condemned the Pharisees for rejecting the commandments of God and for "teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." They had left the simple and plain Law which God had given them through Moses and had replaced it with their own set of commandments.

The next installment will reveal more surprising Pharisaic traditions.

Letters to the Editor

(Continued from page 6)

Trusts God to Furnish Needs

"Dear Mr. Armstrong,

"I sent the pledge card some few days ago. I did not know where the money would come from. I had not more than gotten the letter in the mail, when I was given a check of \$30.00. So if God saw fit to furnish me with the first \$10.00 of that pledge, I don't see any reason why I should worry about the rest of it. Please accept this \$10.00 money order for the building fund."

Member from Colorado

Editor's comments: We want to gratefully thank everyone who has sent in his or her pledge. The response has been wonderful.

Steps Out on Faith

"I am herewith sending in our pledge card with our first payment. I am sorry that we can pledge only a small amount, but we had the worst crop in 10 years. We will put our faith and trust in God that He will help us so we will be able to make every payment and more if in any way possible."

Couple from Warrenton, Texas

150 Miles to God's Church

"I have never written and expressed my gratitude and thankfulness for the Church in Little Rock. Even though I am 150 miles away and am only able to go occasionally, I think it is a great blessing indeed and I can't help but feel that if we are faithful and pray enough that God will see fit to open a church still closer to those here in this area and we will be able to attend every Sabbath. Until then I am so glad of the privilege to attend once or twice a month."

Woman from Eudora, Arkansas

Packing Lunches with a Punch!

This is the fourth installment of the forthcoming cookbook.

DO the lunch carriers in your household come home with empty lunch boxes and smiles on their faces? They could and should! Appealing, satisfying and nutritious meals for the packed lunch can be prepared.

By planning ahead it is possible to provide interesting away-from-home meals which meet the appetite needs, promote better health and keep within the bounds of the food budget—instead of adding a strain.

Planning the Lunch

Generally speaking, the basic pattern for the packed lunch should include a protein-rich food, vegetables, fruit, whole-grain bread and beverage. An occasional sweet is also usually desirable. Variations from this general pattern can be made to suit individual needs. Age, type of activity, and whether boy or girl or man or woman govern what lunches should contain.

Conditions which affect the type of lunch to be prepared are distance to be carried, temperature or time of year, place lunch is to be stored prior to being eaten and where and under what conditions the meal is to be consumed. The foods used should be those that will best suit the occasion and person under consideration—whether the meal is for school, work or picnic, for example.

When it is possible to refrigerate portions of a lunch you might like to include foods which would be unwise to use if they were to have to remain in a warm or hot temperature. Such items are meat, fish or poultry *salads* and potato salad. In the summer months beware of sandwiches which contain meat spread, fish or poultry *salad* if the food must remain at room temperature until eaten. If the *lunch* can be refrigerated in warm weather then these types of sandwiches could be used in the packed lunch. An exception is frozen sandwiches containing meat. Placed in the lunch box or sack directly from the freezer, they will be thawed and ready to eat by lunch time and the lunch does not need to be refrigerated.

As a rule, sandwiches are a rather constant item in the carried lunch; however, appealing lunches without them are possible. In fact, those with lunches in a sack or lunch box away from home may have the same type of meal as those dining at home. It is easier when the same basic ingredients can be used for the entire family's lunch—the preparation method may vary or be the same, depending upon the food. It takes more planning to provide varied lunches of which your family does not grow tired, but it is worth it for all concerned and simpler in the long run. Careful planning of the packed lunch will promote more pep and energy, better health, more satisfied eaters, less strain on the food budget and a better organized work schedule for the homemaker.

Menu Tips

Keep the lunch menu simple and provide easy-to-prepare, easy-to-eat foods. Younger children and messy hands from difficult-to-eat lunches pose a problem. Avoid this by giving them things which may be eaten with ease, but at the same time are nutritious and appealing. Save the salads and more difficult-to-eat foods for the older child and adults! For the younger child provide "finger" foods such as sandwiches cut small enough to be held easily, cheese cubes, fresh fruits and vegetables. This will make all concerned happier and the meal more enjoyable. Color variety in the packed lunch will add eye appeal as well as promote taste interest. Use the more highly flavored foods

and sandwich fillings for the older children and adults—small children's tastes and stomachs are not ready for such types of food.

Potato chips are an item which sometimes appear in the lunch. They may have taste appeal, but their effect on a close food budget could be disastrous. For example, the snack size ($\frac{1}{2}$ oz. package) of potato chips is a more costly item than you may realize. By using it you are paying more than \$1.50 per pound for potatoes!

Sandwich-less Lunches

For those who desire a lunch without sandwiches there are a multitude of possibilities. For example, the protein rich portion of the lunch may be carried in the form of fried chicken, turkey or chicken slices, sliced beef, veal or lamb roast, hot meat stew, baked beans, bean or pea soup in a thermos (preferably a wide mouth type). Some other non-sandwich main-portion items may include hard-cooked eggs, plain or stuffed, cheese slices or cubes, nut meats, or celery stuffed with cheese or peanut butter.

Nut meats taken in the lunch or those eaten any time, for that matter, should preferably be raw, not roasted. The oil used in the roasting process increases their calorie content, thus making the nuts even more fattening than they naturally are, and also makes them more difficult to digest.

If the flavor of toasted nuts is preferred to that of fresh ones, the nut meats may be toasted without any oil being added. Put them in a wide, shallow pan and let them heat about 30 minutes in a slow oven (250° F. to 300° F.). When done, the nuts should be a light tan color inside.

Vegetables to Go

The various vegetables offer several ways to vary the next part of the meal. Appetizing finger-type salads suitable for use in lunches are carrot and celery sticks, raw broccoli or cauliflower flowerets, raw turnip strips, small tomatoes or tomato wedges, cabbage wedges and green peppers. Raw vegetables should be wrapped in waxed paper or aluminum foil or placed in plastic containers to maintain freshness. For an interesting change try wrapping hard cheese sticks or slices in lettuce or cabbage leaves. Vegetable salads may be carried in cleaned cottage cheese containers, small jars or plastic containers. To avoid soggy salads, omit the dressing or carry it along in a small separate container to be added just before eating time. To help maintain the freshness of vegetables and vegetable salads be sure they are well chilled before putting them in the packed lunch. Hot vegetable soups carried in a thermos also add appeal to the lunch away from home.

Fruits—fresh, canned or frozen—are an enjoyable menu item for the lunch box. Be sure that fresh fruits which are to be eaten with the outer skin or peeling on are washed thoroughly before packing them in lunches. Smaller children can handle such foods as apples better if they are cut in halves or quarters and cored—this is specially true if a child is in the "tooth losing" process when biting and chewing are more difficult. Oranges, if carried in the small child's lunch, need to be peeled and sectioned and then wrapped in wax paper or aluminum foil.

Canned or fresh-cooked fruits should be put into a small jar with a screw top.

Dried fruits—apricots, peaches, prunes, pears or apples—are another possible choice. Washed and steamed to plump

them, they are convenient to eat, especially for younger children, and there is no waste to dispose of. Cooked dried fruits may be carried in a jar just as the canned fruits.

To steam dried fruit, place the washed fruit in a wire strainer or colander. Place this over a pot containing boiling water just as you would the top part of a double boiler. The strainer or colander should not touch the water. Place the lid of the pot over the strainer (it will not fit tightly) and let steam about 5 minutes. A folded tea towel may be placed over the pot to hold in more of the steam.

Frozen fruits can be a pleasant treat for the lunch. If placed in the lunch box while the fruit is frozen it should be thawed sufficiently for eating at mealtime. With some planning ahead frozen fruits can do much to pep up lunchtime. In order to have the fruits available in desirable portions freeze them in *small* plastic bags or containers or wide mouth jars which hold enough for an individual serving. Fruit salads such as peach or pear or pineapple and cottage cheese salad packed in suitable containers (jar, cottage cheese carton or plastic container) offer ways to vary the lunches for older children and adults.

Some menu samples for sandwich-less lunches are:

- (1) Vegetable Soup in Thermos
Hard-cooked Egg, plain or stuffed
Pear and Cottage Cheese Salad
Oatmeal Cookies
- (2) Sliced Roast Beef
Tomato Wedges
Cabbage, Green Pepper and Carrot Salad
Frozen Peaches
Milk

Sensible Sandwich Suggestions

Since sandwiches are usually a standard item in the carried lunch there is wide opportunity for variation of that portion of these meals. Before giving attention to the kinds of sandwiches and recipes for their preparation, consideration needs to be given to general suggestions and hints which help promote desirable products. When certain precautions are taken in making sandwiches they will be more interesting and the eaters will be happier—soggy sandwiches lack appeal! Brighten up lunch time with various kinds of sandwich fillings that still have taste appeal when the time comes for eating.

A sandwich is about two thirds bread. Be particular, therefore, about what kind of bread you make them of. For general use, whole-wheat bread is favored, but some other breads may combine better with certain fillings. Rye bread is often favored for cheese sandwiches. Soya bread would be good with vegetable or sweet fillings as the soya furnishes some complete protein. The various fruit and nut breads are good with cream cheese and fruit fillings. All of these breads are best home-made if you have the ability and the time to make them. Since so much of a sandwich is bread, it is best sliced a little thinner than for use with regular meals. The crust should be left on to preserve the shape of the sandwich.

In order to help prevent soggy sandwiches, spread each slice of bread to the edge with softened butter and wrap each sandwich separately. The keeping qualities of sandwiches which contain fish or poultry salads or egg salad can be aided by including such things as green olives or lemon juice or pickles in the fillings.

A freezer can be a great blessing to the sandwich maker. When proper care is taken sandwiches can be made and stored in the freezer for 1-2 weeks (avoid storing longer than 2 weeks). If placed in the lunch box while they are frozen this portion of the meal should be thawed and ready to eat within 3-3½ hours. To keep the filling from soaking into the bread

of frozen sandwiches it is especially important to spread the bread slices with softened butter before putting the filling on them. For further help in keeping down sogginess in frozen sandwiches, keep them away from the side walls and bottom of the freezer and have them wrapped individually in material such as wax paper, aluminum foil or Saran Wrap. (To save time when ready to use them, label each kind of sandwich and place in paper box or carton in the freezer.)

Certain items commonly used in unfrozen sandwiches are *undesirable* to use in frozen sandwich fillings. Some of these are: salad greens such as lettuce and watercress; tomatoes; mayonnaise or salad dressing (do not use as a spread—a *small* amount can be used in the filling itself); jellies, jams and honey (they soak into the bread during the thawing process—they might be used if you first spread the bread *generously* with soft butter); crisp vegetables such as celery, cucumbers, carrots and cabbage; and eggs in the form of egg salad, sliced whole eggs and cooked egg white.

The more desirable fillings for freezing include cheddar or cream cheese, canned tuna or salmon, cooked meat or poultry, peanut butter, cheese or liver or meat spreads, olives, pickles, horse-radish, nut pastes and hard cooked egg yolks.

The sandwich filling recipes and suggestions which follow can be adapted to meet the needs and likes of the lunch carrier(s) for whom you are responsible. The number of sandwiches which result from the following recipes will depend upon the way the sandwiches are made. Large slices of bread and a thick layer of filling will yield fewer sandwiches than when smaller pieces of bread and a thin layer of filling are used. However, the sandwich will be more satisfying if made with a thick layer of filling.

For times when you plan to include meat, fish or poultry in the sandwich portion of the meal the following recipes offer an opportunity for variety.

Tuna Sandwich Filling

- 1 can (7 oz.) tuna
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- ¼ cup finely chopped celery
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise, or enough to moisten
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped pickles (if desired)

Flake tuna, add rest of ingredients and mix until well blended.

Herb Spread for Turkey or Chicken Sandwiches

- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 teaspoon curry powder *or* marjoram
- 2 teaspoons prepared mustard
- 1 teaspoon salt, or to taste

Mix all ingredients and stir until well blended. Use this in the sandwich as you would plain mayonnaise or salad dressing.

Ground Beef Sandwich Spread

The beef used in this spread may be beef which has been ground prior to cooking or beef such as roast which has been cooked and then ground.

- 1½ cups cooked ground beef
- ⅓ cup catsup
- ½ teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tablespoon mayonnaise
- Salt to taste

Combine all ingredients and blend well.

Liver Sandwich Spread

This filling has a flavor similar to that of liverwurst and should appeal to those who like a more highly flavored sandwich.

- 1 lb. beef or lamb liver
- 1 large carrot, cut in quarters
- 1 small onion
- ¼ cup catsup
- 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon prepared mustard
- 1 teaspoon salt, or to taste

Clean the liver, freeing it from large veins and skin. Wash in lukewarm water. Drain. Cook the liver and carrot in about 1 inch of water for 20 minutes—*simmer slowly*, do not boil rapidly. Remove from liquid in which cooked. (Save cooking broth and use in soup.) Put liver, carrot and onion through a food grinder, using the fine blade. After grinding these ingredients add the remaining items and mix well.

The following recipe makes a filling similar in flavor to the one above, but uses different ingredients.

Giblet Sandwich Filling

- Giblets of 1 chicken or other fowl
- 1 hard-cooked egg
- 1 tablespoon cream
- 1 teaspoon catsup
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon minced onion
- ½ teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

Simmer the giblets (heart, liver, gizzard) in a small amount of water until tender, or if the oven is in use, place the pan containing the giblets in the oven and let roast, covered, until done.

Drain off any remaining liquid (to be used in soup or otherwise). Put the cooked giblets and the hard-cooked egg through the food grinder, using the medium blade. Add the remaining ingredients and blend with a spoon or fork until smooth. Makes ⅔ to 1 cup of filling depending on the size of the giblets used.

Some other meat items which could also be used as filler in sandwiches are roast beef or lamb, sliced tongue, sardines and minute or round steak.

For a meat sandwich that is different, try filling it with a patty flavored with herbs.

Herb Beef Patties

- 1 pound lean ground beef
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon pepper
- ½ teaspoon dried rosemary
- ⅛ teaspoon thyme
- ⅛ teaspoon grated nutmeg
- ⅛ teaspoon dried marjoram or sage
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon butter

Have the beef ground fine. Add the herbs and salt and mix well. Form into rather thin patties.

Heat the oil and butter in a skillet or on an iron griddle and fry the patties until browned, on both sides. These may be served hot at the table or cold in sandwiches.

Slices of your favorite meat loaf spread with prepared mustard or mayonnaise may also be used in sandwiches.

Eggs are a popular food for all ages and can be used with different items to make tasty fillings for sandwiches. In the recipes that follow, eggs are used as a base with green and ripe olives and chipped beef added to give variety.

Egg-Green Olive Sandwich Filling

- 3 hard-cooked eggs, mashed finely
- ¼ cup chopped green olives

- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise
- Salt, if desired

Mix all ingredients until well blended.

Egg-Ripe Olive Sandwich Filling

- 3 hard-cooked eggs, mashed finely
- ¼ cup chopped ripe olives
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- ¼ teaspoon salt, or to taste
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise

Mix all ingredients until well blended.

Egg-Chipped Beef Sandwich Filling

- 2 hard-cooked eggs, mashed finely
- 2 tablespoons chipped beef (preferably the kind in jars)
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- ½ teaspoon grated onion, if desired
- Salt to taste
- 1 tablespoon mayonnaise

Tear or cut chipped beef into small pieces. Add remaining ingredients and mix well, adding more mayonnaise if desired.

An item frequently used in lunches is cheese. In itself cheese offers numerous changes for the sandwich part of the meal due to the different kinds which exist. Some of the many kinds of cheese which may be used are: Swiss, cheddar, Provolone, Münster, brick, Kuminost, Edam, Gouda, cream cheese and cottage cheese. Recipes in which cheese is made into a sandwich filling give an even wider choice to those who have a fondness for this wholesome food. Some examples of the homemade-type cheese spread are:

Tangy Cheese Spread

- 1 cup grated natural cheddar cheese
- ½ teaspoon prepared mustard
- 1 tablespoon catsup
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise

Blend all the ingredients until they are well mixed.

Cream Cheese-Chipped Beef Sandwich Spread

- 1 3 oz. package cream cheese
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise or heavy cream
- 2 tablespoons chipped beef
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- ¼ teaspoon grated onion and juice

Soften cheese by mixing with mayonnaise or heavy cream. Finely cut or tear the chipped beef. Add to the softened cheese. Add lemon juice and grated onion. Mix well.

Cream Cheese-Green Olive Sandwich Spread

- 1 3 oz. package cream cheese
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise or heavy cream
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped green olives

Soften cream cheese by mixing with mayonnaise or heavy cream. Add finely chopped green olives. Mix well.

Cream Cheese-Prune Sandwich Spread

- 1 3 oz. package cream cheese
- 1 tablespoon cream
- 1 tablespoon honey
- ⅛ teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ cup finely chopped, uncooked prunes

Soften the cream cheese by mixing with the cream and honey. Add cinnamon and finely chopped uncooked prunes. Mix well.

Cottage Cheese-Chipped Beef Sandwich Spread

- 1 cup small curd cottage cheese
- 4 tablespoons chipped beef
- ¼ teaspoon prepared mustard
- 1 tablespoon mayonnaise, or enough to moisten

Cut or tear the chipped beef into small pieces. Add beef, mustard and mayonnaise to cottage cheese. Blend well.

Cottage Cheese-Vegetable-Nut Sandwich Spread

- 1 cup small curd cottage cheese
- ¼ cup finely chopped green pepper
- ¼ cup finely chopped pecans
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ⅛ teaspoon celery salt
- Dash of white or black pepper
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 2 to 3 tablespoons mayonnaise

Blend all the ingredients with the cottage cheese. Add enough mayonnaise to moisten. Mix well.

Cottage Cheese-Pineapple-Nut Sandwich Spread

- 1 cup small curd cottage cheese
- ½ cup chopped sliced pineapple (preferably in light syrup or water packed—drain before chopping)
- ¼ cup chopped pecans or walnuts
- Mayonnaise to moisten, if needed

Blend the chopped, drained pineapple, chopped nuts and cottage cheese. Add mayonnaise if needed. Mix well.

If you happen to have some leftover plain-cooked dried beans or baked beans they can be used to make a tasty and economical type filling for sandwiches. The recipes which are given are for beans cooked with salt only as the seasoning. Should leftover baked beans be used the catsup may be omitted if desired.

Bean-Cheese Sandwich Filling

- ½ cup mashed beans
- ¼ cup grated natural cheddar cheese
- 1 tablespoon catsup
- ½ tablespoon mayonnaise, or enough to moisten

(This will depend upon the juiciness of the beans)

Drain the juice from plain-cooked dried beans. Mash with a fork or potato masher or put them in blender and allow to become of mashed consistency. Add grated cheese and catsup to beans. Add mayonnaise if needed.

Bean-Pickle Sandwich Filling

- ½ cup mashed beans
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped sour pickles
- 1 tablespoon catsup
- ½ tablespoon mayonnaise, or enough to moisten

Mash the beans as directed in the preceding recipe. Add chopped pickles and catsup. Add mayonnaise as needed to moisten.

Peanut butter is a food which seems to appeal especially to the younger members of the lunch carrier group. By itself it is rather dry and sticky. When combined with other foods it can be made into sandwiches which gain taste approval. The following recipes use peanut butter combined with carrots and raisins, grated apples and chopped dates.

Peanut Butter-Carrot-Raisin Sandwich Spread

- ½ cup peanut butter
- ¼ cup raisins
- ½ cup finely grated carrot
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise

Wash the raisins, if necessary, and drain well. Grate the carrots finely. Add raisins, carrots and mayonnaise to the peanut butter. Blend well.

Peanut Butter-Apple Sandwich Spread

- ½ cup peanut butter
- ½ cup grated apple
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise

Peel apple and grate finely. Add grated apple and mayonnaise to peanut butter and blend well.

Peanut Butter-Date Sandwich Spread

- ½ cup finely chopped seeded dates
- ½ cup peanut butter
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise

Add chopped dates, lemon juice and mayonnaise to peanut butter. Blend well.

The amounts of mayonnaise used in the peanut butter sandwich spreads will depend upon the consistency of the peanut butter. Add more or use less mayonnaise, depending upon the need.

Dessert Ideas

Dried fruits make excellent desserts. Try them plain or stuffed. Prunes and dates give ample opportunity to try out stuffings for fruits. Some foods which lend themselves well to fillings for prunes and dates are peanut butter, coconut, cream cheese and nuts. A tasty treat which could act as an interest catcher for the younger members of the lunch carrying group is a mixture of equal parts of raisins or dates and salted (or unsalted) nuts. A simple, nutritious way to meet their desire for dessert!

Here is a dessert idea for times when the lunch does not otherwise consist of sandwiches.

Dessert Sandwich Filling

- 1 tablespoon soft butter
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1 tablespoon carob powder or cocoa
- 1 tablespoon cream
- 1 cup ground seedless raisins
- ½ cup shredded or fresh coconut
- 1 to 2 tablespoons milk or water

Wash the raisins if necessary and drain them well. Using the medium blade of the food grinder, grind the raisins and coconut together.

Cream the butter, add the honey, mix well. Add the carob powder or cocoa and the cream and mix again.

Add the ground raisin-coconut mixture and blend. Add enough milk or water to make a stiff spreading consistency.

Use as a filling between thin buttered slices of whole-wheat bread, nut bread or plain cake.

This mixture can also be made into a candy-like confection. Merely leave out the milk or water, form it into small balls and roll in grated coconut or finely chopped nuts.

The Lunch Beverage

Milk is usually a good choice for a drink in children's lunches. It may be carried in a small jar or a thermos. If it is chilled before the lunch is packed, it will generally stay sweet without being put in a thermos jar. Some may enjoy butter-milk also.

With a lunch containing cheese sandwiches, however, milk may seem a little heavy. Canned fruit juice or tomato juice would be more complementary to such a lunch. In cold weather, if a hot soup has not been included in the lunch, a hot drink such as hot apple cider or hot pineapple juice would be most welcome.