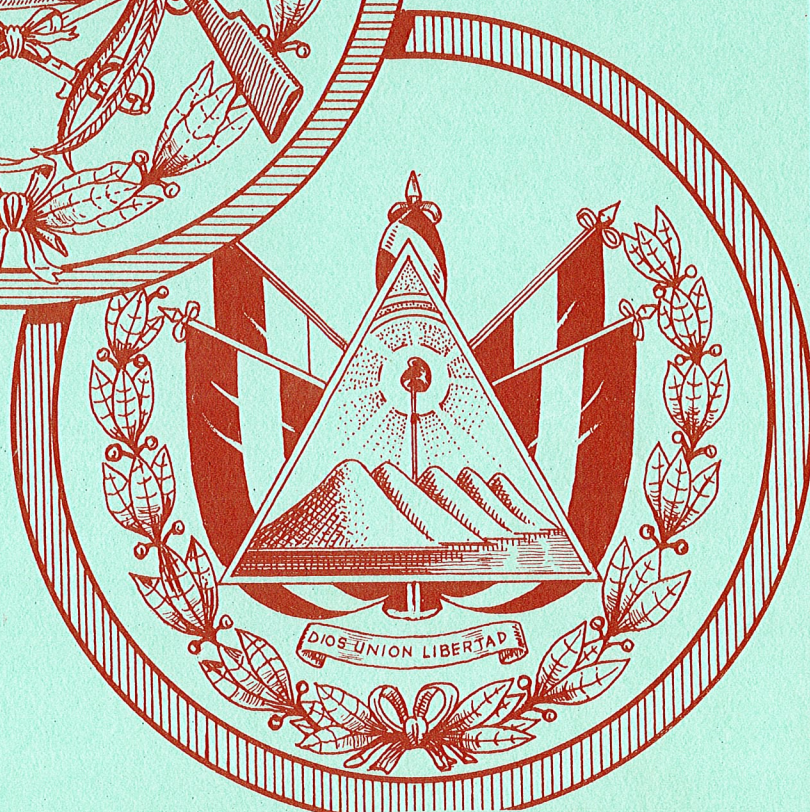
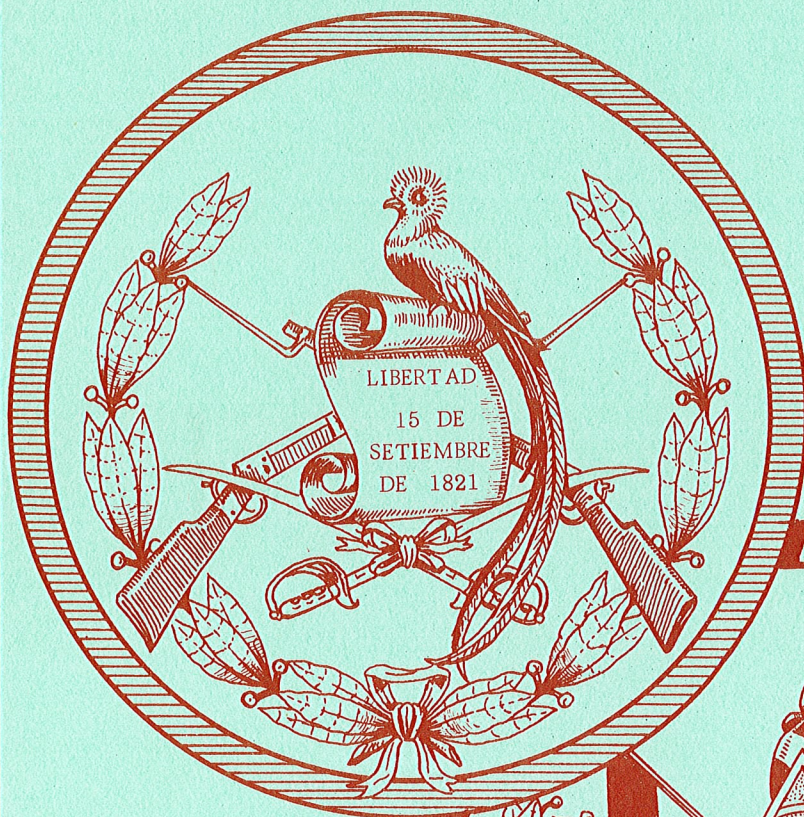


AVANTE

LA MISION GUATEMALTECA
SALVADOREÑA



DICIEMBRE 1966

100-1000000000

Dear Fellow Missionaries:

One of the greatest and most needed principles of the gospel of Jesus Christ is the principle of repentance. As missionaries we teach this principle to our investigators because they are in need of it prior to their baptism and it helps and strengthens them as they begin a new life within the framework of the church program.

Missionaries too, stand to benefit greatly from personal application of this great principle. Too often we become victims to our own habits or desires, or we are too easily influenced by others and our actions are not consistent with the highest standards of the Church.

In our missionary work we baptize families and often include a child of eight years of age. At that young age we say that a person is accountable and knows the difference between right and wrong. And if we say that of a child, we must also say the same about adults. And more especially about missionaries. We do know the difference between right and wrong. Our problem seems to be the lack of self-discipline.

Back home the thought is prevalent that once we send someone on a mission, that in itself is tantamount to salvation. All missionaries are perfect, they say. And they live in a protected environment and under constant influence for good, they say. But those of us who have been here in the mission field know only too well that just being here is not any kind of a guarantee. We find exactly what we are looking for. Our spiritual transition and growth comes slowly. Even more slowly when we resist the counsel of those who preside over us. We are surrounded by sin. The Devil and his legions never sleep. On every side and in every glance it is possible to behold temptation. Abundant, worthless reading material is easy to buy. Cheap, suggestive movies are being shown all the time. And there seems to be no end to evil.

But, the power of the priesthood and the call to serve as a missionary transcend all the combined forces of the adversary.

With the spirit of Christmas upon us and the New Year ahead it behooves all of us to ponder the deep meaning of exaltation and the need to repent and become more perfect in order to inherit the promises made to the faithful.

¡FELICES PASCUAS Y PROSPERO AÑO NUEVO!

Terrence L. Hansen

Dear Fellow Missionaries:

Shakespeare in one of his many plays penned these lines: "Sir, he hath not fed of the dainties that are bred in a book; he hath not eat paper, as it were; he hath not drunk ink; his intellect is not replenished; he is only an animal, only sensible to the duller parts." And again he wrote, "And seeing ignorance is the curse of God, knowledge [is] the wing wherewith to fly to heaven."

We all know and teach that man can not be saved in ignorance. And in our last missionary conferences we were told to rededicate ourselves to careful study of the standard works of the Church. It is part of our calling -- "Seek not to declare my word but first seek to obtain my word..." (D&C 11:21). It would seem almost ironical if we as missionaries on the "Lord's errand" were to become too busy to study his will concerning us.

I hope we will remember that we must continually "replenish our gospel intellect" to deliver our message effectively.

Sincerely,

Elder Paul R. Fillmore

Dear Fellow Missionaries:

"Behold, I speak unto you...who have desires to bring forth and establish this work; And no one can assist in this work except he shall be humble and full of love, having faith, hope, and charity, being temperate in all things, whatsoever shall be entrusted to his care." (D&C 12:7,8)

It was brought to my attention the other day by one of the Elders that just arrived from Provo that he felt that some of the Elders were quite different than he had expected in their mode of talk. He expressed that he felt like some of the subjects and expressions that the Elders were using were not appropriate to their individual callings.

His statement reminded me of the importance of my calling and my responsibility to the Lord. I accepted to come on this mission of my own free will. Nobody forced me. I had the desire to come. Now I have to choose how I will serve. Likewise you have to choose how you will serve. But let us all remember the qualification: "...no one can assist in this work except he shall be humble...."

Sincerely yours,

Elder Jerry W Larson

District of the Month

Led by District Leader, Gordon Steven Wright, the San Salvador #3 district was able to attain 142% of their purposed challenge in the month of November thus becoming November's DISTRICT OF THE MONTH. We extend our congratulations to the following elders for their diligence and hard work:

GORDON S. WRIGHT - Has been serving as District Leader. Now has about 23 months in the mission. Has worked in places such as Guatemala City, San Salvador, Chiquimula and in the office on Public Relations.

DAVID GONZALEZ - Entered the mission November 24, 1966. From Tiburon, California. Is now working in Salvador.

MICHAEL HEREDIA - Has been in the mission about 11 months. From Monterey Park, California. Has worked in Guatemala City, San Salvador and Santa Tecla.

WILLIAM CORPRON - From Granger, Utah. Came into the mission April the 26th 1966. Has worked in Guatemala City and San Salvador.

BLAINE BREINHOLT - Has now a year in the mission. From Richfield, Utah. Has worked in Retalhuleu, Guatemala City, Quezaltenango and San Salvador.

BURTON JOHNSON - Entered the mission July 22, 1966. From Farmington, New Mexico. Has served in San Salvador and is now working in Sololá.

DONALD RUSSELL - From Salt Lake City, Utah. Now has 21 months in the mission. Has worked in San Pedro Sula, San Salvador, Jalapa, Guatemala City and Escuintla.

GEORGE SEVY - From Brigham, Utah. Now has about 11 months in the mission. Has worked in places such as San Salvador, Guatemala City and Cobán.

* We also congratulate: the San Salvador #1 district with 138%, the Guatemala #6 district with 125%, the Guatemala #4 district with 113% and the San Salvador #2, San Salvador #4, San Salvador #5, Santa Ana, Guatemala #3, Office, and Mazatenango districts who all attained 100% of their challenge.

** It should also be recognized that the entire El Salvador Zone reached its challenge and plus.

november !

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>CHALLENGE</u>	<u>BAPTISMS.</u>	<u>% CHALLENGE</u>	<u>D. L.</u>
San Salvador #3	12	17	142%	Wright, S.
San Salvador #1	8	11	138%	Morby
Guatemala #6	12	15	125%	Betz
Guatemala #4	15	17	113%	Hernández
San Salvador #2	13	13	100%	Allred
San Salvador #4	9	9	100%	Madsen
San Salvador #5	4	4	100%	Orton
Santa Ana	11	11	100%	Christiansen
Guatemala #3	16	16	100%	Farley
Office	12	12	100%	Hart
Mazatenango	10	10	100%	García
Quiché	5	4	80%	Abbott
Guatemala #1	16	9	56%	Smith, S.
Quezaltenango	16	7	44%	Roth
Atitlán	9	2	22%	Stone
Guatemala #5	10	1	10%	Welsh
Guatemala #2	6	0	0%	Nelson, G.
Total	184	158	86%	

december?

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>CHALLENGE</u>	<u>D.L.</u>
Guatemala #1	13	Wright, C.
Guatemala #2	6	Nelson, G.
Guatemala #3	17	Farley
Guatemala #4	21	Hernández
Guatemala #5	12	Welsh
Guatemala #6	16	Betz
Office	12	Hart
Quiché	10	Abbott
Atitlán	9	Stone
Mazatenango	10	García
Quezaltenango	17	Roth
San Salvador #1	19	Morby
San Salvador #2 (San Miguel)	8	Allred
San Salvador #3	12	Wright, S.
San Salvador #4	15	Madsen
San Salvador #5	4	Orton
Santa Ana	14	Christiansen

Where are you?

Zone Leaders -- L. Neil Johnson and Myron Davenport

SAN SALVADOR #1

W. Morby
S. Colwell
F. Oswald
T. Méndez
K. Johnson
J. Davis
N. Jones
C. Herring

SAN SALVADOR #3

S. Wright
D. González
L. May
W. Corpron
L. Felt
G. Perkins
B. Breinholt
N. Garrett

SAN SALVADOR #4

R. Madsen
R. Goodwin
D. Carpenter
M. Smith
D. Taylor
T. Stillman
P. Taylor
M. Dever

SAN SALVADOR #5

L. Orton
R. Peay
D. Farar
A. Hunter

SANTA TECLA

T. Liechty
G. Mortenson

SANTA ANA

D. Christiansen
M. Hanks
J. Runyan
M. Peel
R. Egan
A. Pérez
R. Cluff
B. Lloyd
A. Manwaring
R. Lindsey

SAN MIGUEL

C. Allred
R. Brown
W. Goldthwaite
P. Petersen

and you?

Zone Leader -- Ronald Farley

GUATEMALA #1

C. Wright
J. Wendt
R. Simpach
R. Williams
R. Witten
D. Russell
J. Workman
D. Davis
G. Davis
K. Rasmussen

GUATEMALA #2

G. Nelson
G. Jordan
S. Hoffman
R. Alexander
D. Davis
R. Cloward

GUATEMALA #3

H. Hernández
T. Carpenter
H. Moon
R. Dickson
G. Simonton
D. Hamilton
P. Lewis
R. Speaker
R. Frazier
F. Scheurich
M. Katona
K. Jensen
S. Pearson

GUATEMALA #4

W. Jones
K. Jones
D. Dunn
M. Thompson
R. Morales
C. Hymas
M. Heredia
M. Gardner
R. Harris
L. Fackrell
D. Lear
C. Bishop

GUATEMALA #5

W. Welsh
R. Fraser
J. Hales
D. Thornton
K. Miller
R. Grange

GUATEMALA #6

W. Betz
L. Rex
J. Beare
T. Proctor
T. Humphery
D. Fox
S. Thorne
G. Gibson

OFFICE

S. Smith
J. Larson
T. Hart
D. Campbell
S. Guymon
W. Johnson

TOTONICAPAN

D. Hunt
J. Payne

QUICHE

J. Aagard
J. Marineau

PATZUN

R. Helquist
D. Rencher

MOMOSTENANGO

R. Nelson
M. Anderson

SOLOLA

B. Smith
B. Johnson

PATZICIA

J. Stone
G. Sevy
W. Schofield
L. Henderson

QUEZALTENANGO

M. Roth
J. Cazier
M. Masbey
W. Southwick
C. Beedle
J. Miller
D. Corrigan
P. Mendenhall
V. Lindsay
D. Jim

SAN MARCOS

R. Johnston
G. Dean

ESCUINTLA

K. Thomas
J. Freeman

RETALHULEU

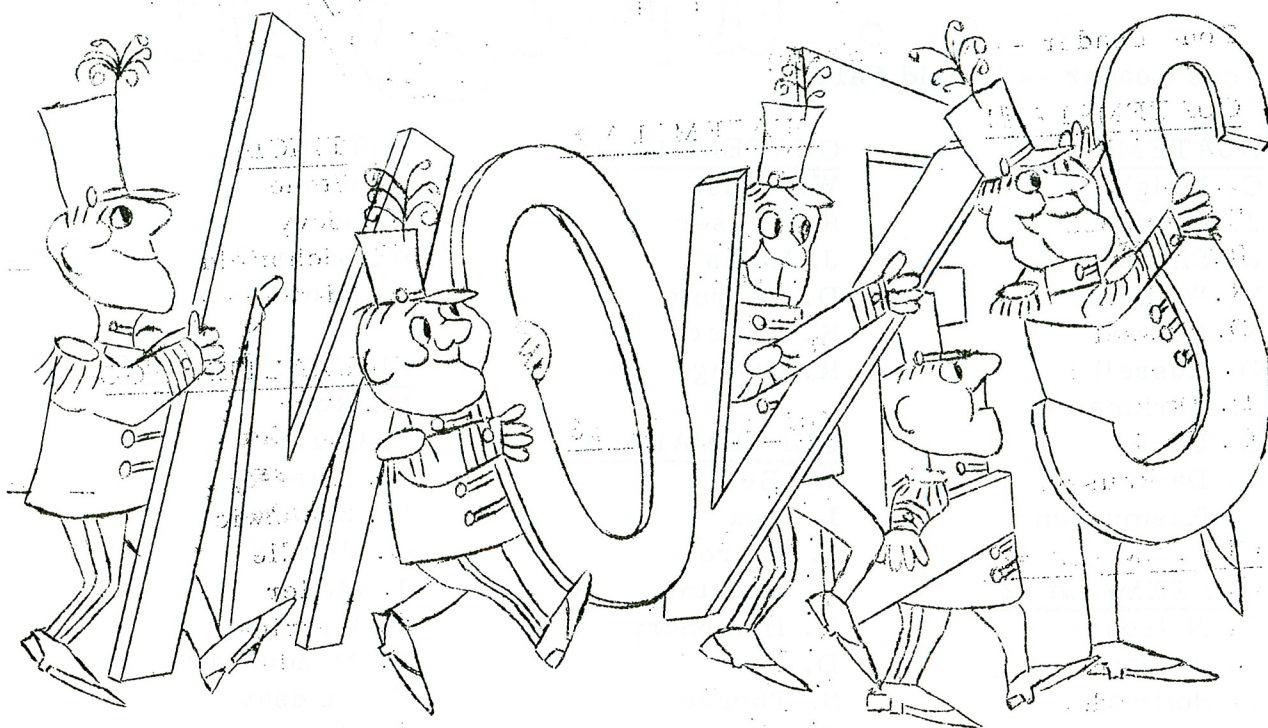
C. García
V. Sharp

MAZATENANGO

K. Humphreys
E. Crosby

COATEPEQUE

J. Markle
J. Robison



MOVES FOR THE 24th OF NOVEMBER, 1966

ELDERS

TO

WITH

Corrigan	Xela
Harris	Guate. #2
Brower	Sonsonate
Adams	Santa Ana
Egan	Santa Ana
Allred	San Miguel
Miller, K.	Guate. #5
Cazier	Xela
Workman	Guate. #1
Dickson	Guate. #3
Felt	Coatepeque
Fraser	Guate. #5
Robison	Xela
González	Salv. #3
Méndez	Salv. #1
Edmunds	Salv. #1
Speaker	Guate. #3
Corpron	Salv. #3
Davenport	Guate. #4
Sharp	Retalhuleu
Johnson, K.	Salv. #1
Pérez	Santa Ana
Cloward	Guate. #4
Jones, K.	Guate. #4

Beedle	Jr.
Nelson, G.	Jr.
Goldthwaite	Jr.
Egan	Co.Sr.
Adams	Co.Sr.
Brown	D.L.
Humpherys	Sr.
Roth	Jr.
Thorne	Sr.
Wright, C.	Jr.
Markle	Jr.
Welsh	Jr.
Frazier	Sr.
Wright, S.	Jr.
Oswald	Jr.
Honeycutt	Jr.
Lewis	Jr.
Heredia	Jr.
Fackrell	Sr.
García	Jr.
Cluff	Jr.
Christiansen	Jr.
Dunn	Jr.
Hernández	Jr.

MOVES FOR THE 30th OF NOVEMBER, 1966

<u>ELDER</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>WITH</u>	<u>AS</u>
Carpenter, T.	Guate. #3	Farley	Jr.
Goodwin	Salv. #4	Madsen	Jr.
Massey	Xela	Southwick	Sr.
Taylor, D.	Salv. #4	Stillman	Sr.
Dean	San Marcos	Johnston	Jr.
Hales	Guate. #5	Thornton	Sr.
Hymas	Guate. #4	Morales	Jr.
Mortenson	Santa Tecla	Liechty	Jr.
Lloyd	Santa Ana	Johnson, W.	Jr.
Peel	Santa Ana	Hallenberger	Jr.
Rex	Guate. #6	Lear	Jr.
Crosby	Mazatenango	Schell	Jr.
Wendt	Guate. #1	Smith, S.	Jr.
Humphery, T.	Guate. #6	Proctor	Jr.
Sevy	Salv. #3	Russell	Jr.
Taylor, P.	Salv. #4	Dever	Sr.
Simonton	Guate. #3	Hamilton	Sr.
Lindsay, V.	Xela	Jim	Sr.
Manwaring	Santa Ana	Lindsey, R.	Sr.
Pearson	Guate. #3	Katona, Jensen	Jr.
Williams	Guate. #1	Guymon, Bishop	Jr.

MOVES FOR THE 6th OF DECEMBER, 1966

Colwell	Salv. #1	Morby	Jr.
Davis, D.C.	Guate. #1	Workman	Jr.
Fox	Guate. #6	Humphery, T.	Jr.
Freeman	Escuintla	Thomas	Jr.
Gibson	Guate. #6	Thorne	Jr.
Grange	Guate. #5	Miller, K.	Jr.
Rasmussen	Guate. #1	Davis, G.	Jr.
Scheurich	Guate. #3	Frazier	Jr.
Smith, M.	Salv. #3	Carpenter, D.	Jr.
Humpherys, K.	Mazatenango	Crosby	Co.Sr.
Peay	Salv. #5	Orton	Jr.
Schell	Guatemala	Malm	Jr.
Jordan	San Miguel	Petersen	Sr.
Thompson	Salv. #1	Honeycutt	Jr.
Edmunds	Sonsonate	Hess	Jr.
Miller, J.	Xela	Beedle	Jr.
Witten	Guate. #1	Moon	Jr.
Beare	Guate. #6	Proctor	Jr.
Corrigan	Xela	Robison	Sr.
Betz	Guate. #6	Rex	D.L.
Lear	Guate. #4	Bishop	Co.Sr.

MOVES FOR THE 13th OF DECEMBER, 1966

ELDER	TO	WITH	AS
Johnson, B.	Sololá	Smith, B.	Jr.
Sevy	Patzicá	Stone	Jr.
Blevins	Sonsonate	Edmunds	Jr.
Heredia	Guate. #4	Gardner	Co.Sr.
Russell	Guate. #1	Witten	Co.Sr.
Goldthwaite	San Miguel	Petersen	Sr.
Moon	Guate. #3	Dickson	Sr.
Davis, J.	Salv. #1	Johnson, K.	Jr.
Garrett	Salv. #3	Breinholt	Jr.
Jordan	Guate. #2	Nelson, G.	Jr.
Johnson, W.	Office	Guymon	Mem. Sec.
Guymon	Office	Johnson, W.	Fin. Sec.
Cluff	Santa Ana	Lloyd	Sr.
May	Salv. #3	Corpron	Sr.
Wright, C.	Guate. #1	Wendt	D.L.
Smith, S.	Office	Campbell	1st Assist.
Farar	Salv. #5	Hunter	Sr.
Herring	Sal. #1	Jones, N.	Jr.
Felt	Salv. #3	Perkins	Sr.
Robison	Coatepeque	Markle	Co.Sr.
Mendenhall	Xela	Corrigan	Jr.
Brower	Sonsonate	Hess	Jr.
Harris	Guate. #2	Davis, D.	Jr.
Beare	Guate. #6	Proctor	Sr.

MOVES FOR THE 16th OF DECEMBER, 1966

Thompson	Guate. #4	Dunn	Jr.
Harris	Guate. #4	Fackrell	Sr.
Davenport	San Salvador	Johnson, L.N.	ZLC
Jones, W.	Guate. #4	Jones, K.	D.L.
Hernández	Guate. #3	Carpenter, T.	D.L.
Cloward	Guate. #2	Davis, D.	Jr.
Runyan	Santa Ana	Peel	Sr.
Farley	Guatemala	Schell	Z.L.
Hanks	Santa Ana	Christiansen	Jr.
Pérez	Santa Ana	Egan, Adams	Jr.

MOVES FOR THE 17th OF DECEMBER, 1966

Simpach	Guate. #1	Williams	Sr.
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THE MISSION CHRISTMAS TREE

There was once a shining Christmas tree,
Standing out where all could see.
Its brilliance captured every eye,
And seemed to cheer each passer-by.
"The lights are beautiful," they'd say
And hesitate to walk away.
The tree stood proud, ablaze with light,
For each small bulb kept burning bright.

Then one globe was heard to say
"I'm tired of burning night and day.
I think I'll just go out and rest,
For I'm too tired to do my best.
Besides Heaven knows I am so small,
I doubt I would be missed at all."

Then an investigator touched the light
Saying, "Look, this one shines so bright;
Of all the lights that's on the tree,
This one looks the best to me."
"Oh my goodness," thought the light,
"I almost dimmed right out of sight.
I thought perhaps no one would care,
If I failed to shine my share."
With that a glowing brilliance came,
For all the lights had thought the same.

Our Mission's like this Christmas tree,
The little lights are you and me,
Each of us have a space to fill,
With Love, and Lessons, and Good Will.
Let's keep our tree ablaze with light,
With Testimonies burning bright.
For our Mission is a living tree,
That lights the way to Eternity.

-- May Larson

TOP BAPTIZERS

M. Massey 10	G. Dean 6	G. Jordan 6
R. Morales 10	D. Edmunds 6	J. Markle 6
S. Guymon 9	R. Farley 6	W. Morby 6
C. Bishop 9	R. Fraser 6	K. Thomas 6
W. Johnson 7	J. Honeycutt 6	R. Witten 6
F. Oswald 7	K. Jones 6	

TOP HOURS

B. Lloyd 70	B. Breinholt 68	C. Wright 63
R. Madsen 70	D. Hamilton 67	D. Lear 63
S. Wright 70	J. Hales 67	W. Corpron 62
B. Johnson 69	C. Garcia 67	D. Frazier 62
M. Hanks 69	M. Gardner 66	K. Johnson 62
D. Christiansen .. 69	B. Brower 65	M. Massey 62

TOP LESSONS

J. Hales 75	A. Adams 61	K. Jensen 58
D. Hamilton 75	B. Breinholt 59	E. Crosby 56
W. Goldthwaite ... 64	M. Katona 58	T. Proctor 56

BIENVENIDOS

John Robert Cazier
From: Rupert, Idaho
Comp: Melvin Roth

Melvin Dennis Peel
From: Pomona, California
Comp: Michael Hallenberger

Robert Alston Cloward
From: Clearfield, Utah
Comp: Darryl Dunn

Theodore J. Stillman
From: Kalispell, Montana
Comp: Dennis Taylor

Robert Bryan Speaker
From: So. Gate, California
Comp: Paul Lewis

Ralph Thomas Goodwin
From: Santa Susana, California
Comp: Ross Madsen

Lerl Fackrell
From: La Jolla, California
Comp: Myron Davenport

George Dale Mortenson
From: El Frida, Arizona
Comp: Terrance Liechty

Richard Larson Dickson
From: Tacoma, Washington
Comp: Conrad Wright

Thomas Alan Carpenter
From: Yorba Linda, California
Comp: Ronald Farley

Robert Charles Brown
From: The Dalles, Oregon
Comp: Clyde Allred

Clint Hymas
From: Othello, Wash.
Comp: Raymond Morales

Arthur Pratt Pérez
From: Anaheim, California
Comp: Don Christiansen

John Carter Wendt
From: Rockville Centre, New York
Comp: Sidney Smith

David Manrique González
From: Tiburon, California
Comp: Gordon S. Wright

Lowell Benjamin Rex
From: Woodruff, Utah
Comp: Darrell Lear

Telesforo Alfonso Méndez
From: Houston, Texas
Comp: Ferrell Oswald

Shirlie Rae Pearson
From: Salt Lake City, Utah
Comps: Jo Katona, Karen Jensen

BIENVENIDOS

William Ray Southwick
From: Willits, California
Comp: Michael Massey

Geoffrey Bruce Gibson
From: St. David, Arizona
Comp: Steve Thorne

Doyal Kent Thornton
From: Phoenix, Arizona
Comp: John Hales

Donald Carroll Davis
From: Seattle, Washington
Comp: James Workman

Richard Yuille Williams
From: Venice, California
Comp: Steven Guymon, C. Bishop

David Keith Fox
From: Hardin, Montana
Comp: Thomas Humphery

Michael Wayne Smith
From: Kingman, Arizona
Comp: Daniel Carpenter

Bill Raymond Blevins
From: Taft, California
Comp: David Edmunds

Steven Allan Colwell
From: Grand Prairie, Texas
Comp: William Morby

Paul K. Mendenhall
From: Heber City, Utah
Comp: David Corrigan

Kenneth Howard Rasmussen
From: Raymond, Alberta, Can.
Comp: Grant Davis

Gary Thomas Perkins
From: Salt Lake City, Utah
Comp: Larry Felt

Francis Joseph Scheurich
From: Glendale, California
Comp: Dennis Frazier

Carl David Herring
From: St. Johns, Arizona
Comp: Neil Jones

Robert Leon Grange
From: Boise, Idaho
Comp: Kedrick Miller

John Lawrence Davis
From: Richfield, Utah
Comp: Kenneth Johnson

Jacky Lynn Freeman
From: Phoenix, Arizona
Comp: Keith Thomas

Norman Anthony Garrett
From: Pasadena, California
Comp: Blaine Breinholt

ADIOS

Roger Lynn Malm
Released: Dec. 16, 1966
To: Pocatello, Idaho

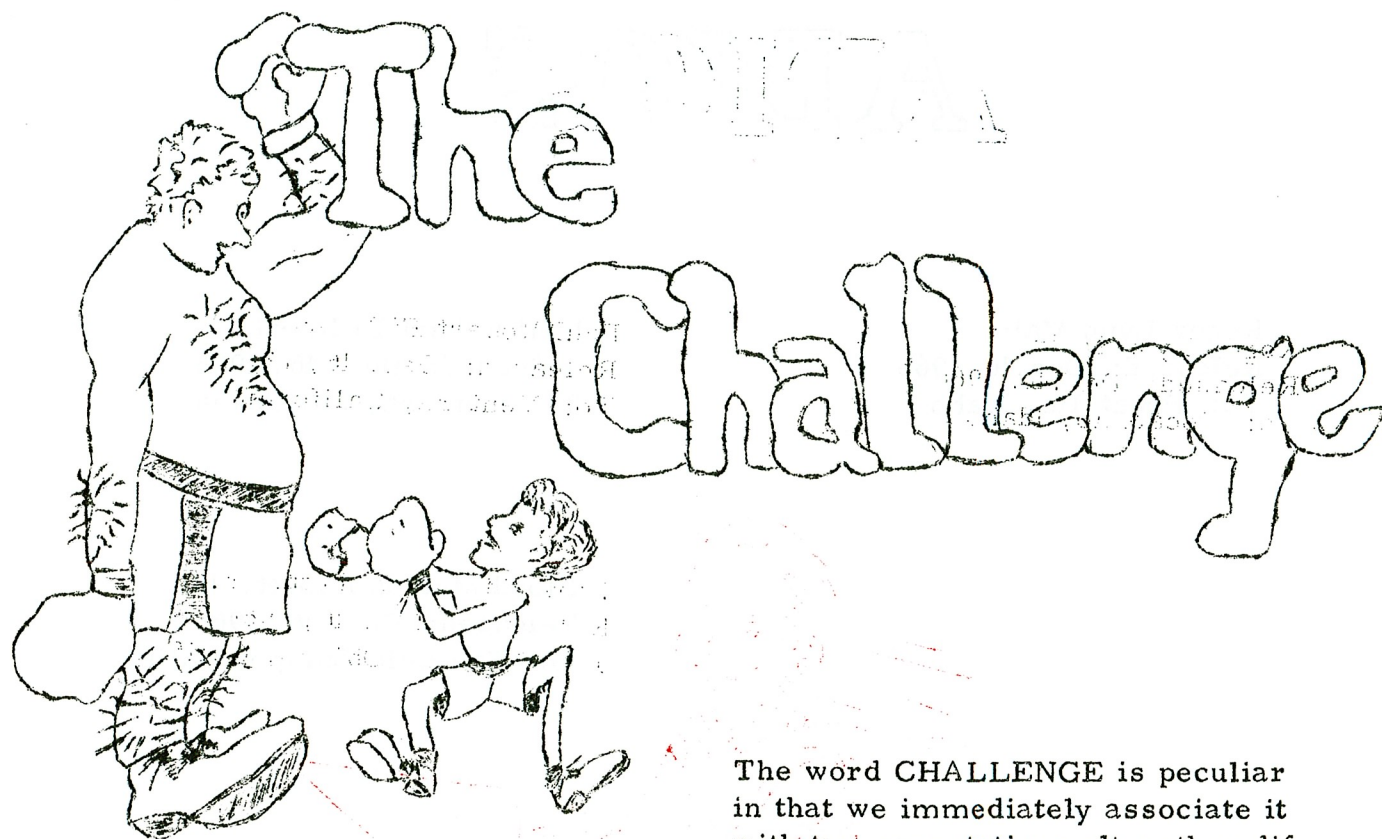
Paul Robert Fillmore
Released: Dec. 16, 1966
To: Ventura, California



Lloyd Marion Abbott, Jr.
Released: Dec. 16, 1966
To: San Luis Obispo, Calif.

Michael Donald Hallenberger
Released: Dec. 16, 1966
To: Boise, Idaho

James Kenneth Honeycutt
Released: Dec. 16, 1966
To: Henderson, Nevada



The word CHALLENGE is peculiar in that we immediately associate it with two connotations altogether different. A hard-working progressive man would associate CHALLENGE with personal achievement or motivation. A man who is indifferent to the values of accomplishment leads himself to believe that CHALLENGE is objection to or questioning something.

We, as missionaries, should familiarize ourselves more with the true Latter-day Saint meaning of CHALLENGE. CHALLENGE must be an everyday part of our labors, not only in our personal lives, but also in relation to our investigator families. If a person does not have any goals, what is there that will urge him on to achievement? Progress comes not by some magic word, but from the thoughts, the toil, the tears, the triumphs of individuals who have accepted the CHALLENGE, and through their respective talents, have produced results. Look behind every successful man and you will find some CHALLENGE that motivated him to his particular accomplishments, whether it be a need or a desire.

Ours is not a world of wishing. The philosophy of just "getting by" has no substance - labor is the law of life. If one has the CHALLENGE, he must also have labor to conquer the same. Let us constructively CHALLENGE our companions, our investigators, and most of all ourselves, so that we will advance against opposition and conquer self-mastery.

The Lord has His CHALLENGE for us. How are we going to meet it?

WHAT IS A MISSIONARY?

Somewhere between the whirl of teenage activity and the confinement to the rocking chair, we find a strange creature called the missionary.

Missionaries are found anywhere, hurrying to, climbing up, knocking on, walking through, preaching to and getting thrown out of.

Missionaries come in assorted sizes, weights and colors; green being the most common among the new ones.

Converts love them, young girls worship them, dogs hate them, the law tolerates them, and Heaven protects them.

A missionary is truth with a pocket full of tracts, wisdom with a scant knowledge of the Godhead lesson, plus a good senior companion, faith with 69 cents in his pocket and a week 'till dad's next check.

A missionary is a composite, he has the appetite of a horse, the enthusiasm of a firecracker, the patience of Job, the persistence of a Fuller Brush salesman and the courage of a lion tamer.

He likes letters from home, invitations to Sunday dinner, conferences, checks, testimony meetings, companions and baptisms.

He isn't much for contacting in the rain, ladies who slam doors, hats, apartments, houses, shaking hands at arms length or DEAR JOHNS.

Nobody else is so early to rise or so tired at 10:30. Nobody else can knock so boldly with such a shaky hand, nobody else can get such a thrill at the end of a discouraging day from the words, "Come right in, I've been waiting for you to call."

Yes! A missionary is a queer character. He can get homesick, discouraged and temporarily lose faith in the human race but a strange lump rises in his throat when he receives his release, and on the arrival home his homecoming speech will probably contain the phrase he once considered trite: "The time I spent on my mission is the happiest two years of my life."

The Importance of Being Alma

by Robert Spencer

ALMA, known as "the younger" because he bore the same name as his father who was Chief High Priest or President of the Church, in company with four sons of King Mosiah, secretly sought to destroy the Church by the use of "much flattery" and "many words." The record refers to them as "the very vilest of sinners" (Mosiah 28:4), and Alma as "a very wicked and an idolatrous man." (Mosiah 27:8)

While thus occupied, Alma received a miraculous visit. An angel of the Lord appeared to him, explaining that his presence was an answer to the faith, the fasting, and the prayers of Alma's father. The angel told Alma that unless he stopped his deliberate effort to destroy the Lord's work, he would be destroyed himself.

During the next three days and nights, Alma suffered the torments of the damned. He recounted the experience to his son Helaman in later years:

...as I was thus racked with torment, while I was harrowed up by the memory of my many sins, behold, I remembered also to have heard my father prophesy unto the people concerning the coming of one Jesus Christ, a Son of God, to atone for the sins of the world.

Now, as my mind caught hold upon this thought, I cried within my heart: O Jesus, thou Son of God, have mercy on me, who am in the gall of bitterness, and am encircled about by the everlasting chains of death.

And now, behold, when I thought this, I could remember my pains no more; yea, I was harrowed up by the memory of my sins no more.

And oh, what joy, and what marvelous light I did behold; yea, my soul was filled with joy as exceeding as was my pain.

Yea, I say unto you, my son, that there could be nothing so exquisite and so bitter as were my pains. Yea, and again I say unto you, my son, that on the other hand, there can be nothing so exquisite and sweet as was my joy. (Alma 36:17-21)

A father's faith and prayers inspired a son's conversion.

And Alma, the younger--what happened to him?

He became the President of the Church, succeeding his father. He also became the Chief Judge, the highest elective office of his people.

So?

So, from Alma, the younger, we learn that the result of true repentance

is NOT, in the eyes of God, like

- a board into which a nail has been driven, then withdrawn, but leaving a hole;
- a bird with broken wing, now mended, which can never again fly so high;
- a train derailed, back again on the track, but never able to make the distance it might have reached.

God has taught us, through the prophets, that sincere

REPENTANCE BRINGS FORGIVENESS —COMPLETE FORGIVENESS

Alma repented, and God forgave him. He became the Chief High Priest, the Lord's Anointed. He Learned obedience and fulfilled his full potential -- in this life.

that's

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING ALMA.

NOTE-QUOTES

BY THE WATERS OF GALILEE

Behold, a teacher went forth to teach
Some two thousand years ago
Before the age of the telegraph,
The car or the radio.
He had no books and no magazines
And held no scholastic degrees;
But men still ponder the things he taught
By the Waters of Galilee.
He didn't teach that the world was round,
That water was H_2O ,
The fourth dimension was still unknown
In Jerusalem and Jericho.
But his soul was stirred with the urge to break
All fetters and make men free.
So he gave the best he had to give
By the Waters of Galilee.
We know full well that the earth is round,
That water is H_2O ,
The fourth dimension has lost its kick;
There's little we do not know.
But it's not the mechanics this old world needs
But rather to make men free.
More teachers to teach as the Master taught
By the Waters of Galilee.

A hard fall should mean a high bounce -- IF you're made of the right material.

Common sense is not so common.

--- Voltaire

Understand men and women as they are, and do not understand them as you are.

--- Brigham Young

What you are hereafter depends
a lot on what you are after; here.

Give the best you've got today.
That is a good recipe for a
better tomorrow.

Leisure is an empty cup. We
can fill it with whatever we like.

Success often comes in a measure
of three: Doing the right job, at
the right time, and in the right
way.

A philosopher once said: "You
cannot teach what you do not
know anymore than you can go
back where you've never been.

I count no man much because he
lows or silences me. Any fool
can do that. But if his conversa-
tion enriches or rejoices me, I
must reckon him wise. --- Emerson

He that governs well, leads the
blind. But he that teaches well
gives them eyes.

You teach your boy to walk; he
learns to run himself.

--- Emerson

The responsibility is upon each individual to choose the path of righteousness,
of faithfulness and of duty to fellow man. If he chooses otherwise and as a
result meets failure, misery, and death, he alone is to blame.

--- David O. McKay



President and Sister Hansen

and family and the office staff

wish you a Merry Christmas

and a Successful New Year

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