Members of the Gospel Messengers’ team making a two-week tour in Florida during the holiday season are, left to right, Jesse Deloe, Pearl Rathbun, Virginia Seguine, Gladys Mighells, and James Reese.

Stevens Contrasts Ministry of Angels and Christians In Message at Annual Yuletide Banquet December 7

The ministry of the angels, especially in heralding the birth of Christ, was the focal point of the devotional message delivered by the Rev. W. Earl Stevens, Chattanooga minister, at the Christmas banquet December 7. Contrasting this ministry with that of Christians, Mr. Stevens, went on to point out the unique privilege and responsibility Christians have in announcing the good news of redemption to the world.

The brass quartet and a group of carolers composed of kitchen workers for the banquet provided Christmas selections as a background to the evening program, for which Dr. Donald Campbell served as toastmaster. R. E. Maynard read the familiar account in Luke describing the birth of Christ, and Stuart Meissner led the nearly 300 guests in carol singing. A clarinet solo by Hilary Evans and a piano solo by Ardis Johnson rounded out the program.

Gospel Team Tours Florida During Christmas Holidays

Reaching as far south as Miami, Florida, a twelve-day trip is planned for a team of Gospel Messengers with D. W. Ryther, executive vice-president and dean. The versatile group of five students includes a ladies’ trio and two male trombonists, who also combine for duets and quartets.

With an introductory stop at the Mikado Baptist Church in Macon, Georgia, December 30, the Gospel Messengers will travel on to north Florida for an appointment at the Trinity Bible Church in Lake Butler, December 31. In the Orlando area, the team is booked for Youth for Christ January 2, and the Azalea Park Community Church the evening of January 3.

The Sylvania Heights Baptist Church will be the host church January 6 in Miami, and the Community Gospel Church in Auburndale January 8. Apopka, Bradenton, St. Petersburg, and Gulf Hammock are also listed on the itinerary, with the final appointment to be in Valdosta, Georgia.

The “Florida Messengers” offer a variety of combinations in vocal and instrumental arrangements with vocalists, Virginia Seguine, senior of Chicago, Illinois; Gladys Mighells, freshman of Randolph, New York; Pearl Rathbun, sophomore of Glen Ellyn, Illinois; and James Reese, sophomore of Williamston, Michigan. James doubles as a trombonist to join Jesse Deloe, sophomore of Winona Lake, Indiana. Both were members of the brass quartet which traveled in the midwestern states last summer. Pearl Rathbun acts as accompanist for the group and adds her solo arrangements for both piano and organ.

Prior to their tour the “Florida Messengers” presented special music in Dayton churches.
From My Heart to You

Many of us will never forget that special holiday, the "bank holiday" of some twenty years ago. How we wondered what would happen next as we read the newspaper reports of the closing of banks in Detroit, then in Indianapolis and Columbus, and then in Louisville and a day later in Nashville. Finally the banks were closed here and over the entire nation. Although the wave of hysteria was coming our way, we at Bryan deposited our funds in the local bank as long as it remained open, feeling that to do so was a part of our Christian testimony.

At this time Bryan University did not have a mailing list although we did have subscriptions signed by people in various parts of the country. Most of these had proved uncollectible even before the "holiday," however, so there seemed to be nothing that we could do to help ourselves. As a result, we learned how God works, and what He can do in response to prayer. We shall never forget that through God's faithfulness our friends sent currency rather than checks, and with many small gifts and a few larger ones, the need was supplied on a day by day basis.

Through this experience, and through the help of my close and good friends, brother J. B. Thornton of Hope Congregational Church in St. Louis and brother Ernest Wadsorth of the Great Commission Prayer League in Chicago, I came to appreciate the true significance of "giving and receiving" as pertaining to Christian work. Two significant passages of Scripture which were impressed upon my understanding and which remain with me to this hour are as follows:

"For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many abound to the glory of God." II Corinthians 4:15.

"From the administration of this service not only supply the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God . . ." II Corinthians 9:11-12.

I learned that the gifts of a few may become a great spiritual experience to the whole family of God, and it works this way: The Lord puts it upon the hearts of His people to give where there is a need. Those who receive the Lord's money, use it in accordance with His guidance and direction and make a report to the Christians. Since this report is received by those who are unable to contribute as well as those who are, there is an increase and overflow of rejoicing in the entire household of faith as thanksgiving to God is made to abound.

From beginning to end, there is a unity in the fellowship of Christ's service. When He lays a burden upon our hearts, it is service when we pray. It is also service and worship when we fellowship with our gifts in meeting the needs of His work. Further, those who render an account of this stewardship do so in an attitude of worship. Finally, the entire circle praises God in unison for His mighty works. Following this, the enlarged and strengthened circle of prayer, performance, and praise will be repeated.

Many experiences and much study through the years have convinced us that this is God's plan for the support of His work. We have tried to be consistently frank with Christian people about the needs of Christian work. On the other hand we have endeavored to keep ourselves in the place of absolute dependence upon God for the supply of every need.

As we begin a new year, it is with a deep sense of responsibility to God for what He wants done here on Bryan Hill. I am resolved to put a much greater emphasis upon prayer than in recent years. What Bryan needs most is a real backing of intercessory prayer. Human efforts and stewardship are necessary but if Bryan is to be what it can and ought to be, we must all pray earnestly for God to work in a greater measure. I trust that we may turn not only our own hearts but the hearts of others to this ministry of intercession.

"Let us pray more in fifty-four." JUDSON A. RUDD

President

Classes Give Chapel Programs; Freshmen Emphasize Praise

"Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord." The freshman class chapel program, presented November 25, was centered around the theme of praise. Pray, rejoice, adore, incline, sing, and exalt formed an acrostic outline for scripture portions read by Edward Bischoff, and a number of musical selections. Richard Ruble led the singing by the chapel audience, while Dorothy Brown played the organ and Ardis Johnson the piano.

Special musical numbers included a solo by Carol Miesel; a girls' trio composed of Judy and Martha King and Gladys Mitchell; and a men's quartet made up of Joe Miller, Douglas Bol, Richard Ruble, and Larry Hess.

Seniors Stress Submission

The final class program of the fall quarter was given by the seniors December 2. Darwin Neddo, Thomas Taylor, and Alton Witter expanded on the theme, "Following in the footsteps of Jesus," with five-minute messages.

Special music for this program included a mixed quartet number by Thomas Hicks, Kenneth Sewall, Nancy Endicot, and Edythe Howdson; a girls' trio by Kathryn Fromman, June Hively, and Edwina Lien; and a male quartet by Rafe Kaiser, John Rathbun, Lewis Richards, and Thomas Taylor.

Two Sunday afternoon vespers services were also presented by the sophomore class during the quarter. Monthly vespers are regularly planned by the sophomores, and one chapel program a quarter is presented by the other three classes.

Seniors Emphasize Praise

Special feature at the junior class program presented November 28 was the Gospel Singers quartet of a year ago—Jane Hively and Virginia Seguine, seniors; and Mrs. June Dickson and Lenora Dickens, graduates of 1953. Short talks illustrating the pattern of the believers found in I Timothy 4:12 were given by Alva Conner, Richard Mason, L.Jena Barker, and Melba Mays. Soprano leading for the hour was Stuart Meissner.

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Copy writing, layout work, and proof reading combine to keep the executive heads of the Commoner staff busy. Pictured left to right are Barbara Crandall, assistant editor; Edith Crame, secretary; Richard Cornelius, business manager; James Gould, editor-in-chief; and Kermit Zopfi, faculty advisor.

F. M. F. PLANS JANUARY MISSIONS CONFERENCE; FALL PROGRAMS FEATURE CHINA, JAPAN, NAVAJOS

The Rev. William S. Pontier, deputation secretary of the African Inland Mission, is to be one of the speakers at the Foreign Missions Fellowship missionary conference January 22-24. According to R. E. Maynard, F. M. F. president, a pledge system for providing regular support to Bryan alumni serving on the mission field is to be introduced at the conference.

During the fall quarter, F. M. F. programs included a talk on missions in China by King Wong, assistant professor of chemistry. Mr. Wong, himself a Chinese, is a native of Borneo.

Miss Mary Ballantyne, representative from the Woman's Missionary Union, presented some practical aspects of life on the foreign mission field at a later program. Miss Ballantyne has spent a number of years in Japan as a teacher in a girls' school.

Slides of Navajo work taken by Robert Lehnhart, senior student who spent part of last summer on the Navajo Indian Reservation in New Mexico, will be shown at one of the winter quarter meetings. Other programs are planned to include a talk by Mrs. Emil Frey, university nurse, who has served as a missionary in Africa, and a discussion of linguistic activities on the mission field by Garner Hoyt, associate professor of French and linguistics.

Chapel Hour Speakers Listed;
Reed Describes Hi-B. A. Clubs

The Rev. Arthur Anderson, representative of the India Mission, spoke November 10, and Miss Mary Ballantyne, missionary to Japan under the Woman's Union Missionary Society, spoke the twenty-first.

Other speakers included the Rev. William A. Buies, from Charleston, West Virginia; the Rev. Ralph Colburn, Brethren Youth Director; and the Rev. Gavin Hamilton, a Bible lecturer and author. Mr. Hamilton, a native of Scotland, has traveled in evangelistic work in this country for a number of years.

Rankin’s Paper Shares Honors At Science Academy Meeting

Thirty-one Gamma Chi members and guests attended the fourth annual meeting of the Collegiate Division of the Tennessee Academy of Science November 28 at Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

The paper, entitled “Some Pertinent Observations of Turdus Migratorius in Tennessee and Michigan,” given by Betty Joy Rankin, senior of Bryan, shared first place with the paper, “A Genealogical Study,” given by Anita Owens of Carson Newman College. Second place was taken by Alice White, Bryan junior, with the topic “The Use of Moist Modeling Clay in the Production of Inexpensive Classroom Models.”

Senior Kenneth Sewall presided at the business meeting following the presentation of papers. John Fain of Carson Newman College was elected president of the Collegiate Division for the coming year.

Activities Well Underway For This Year’s ‘Commoner’

A hustle and bustle of activities in the area of the annual staff headquarters for the past several weeks have indicated big plans are in the wind for the 1954 Commoner. James Gould, editor of the yearbook, a project of the junior class, is supervising the editorial responsibilities, and Richard Cornelius is head of the business staff.

Advertising this year will again be in the form of page sponsorships similar to the system used by the 1953 staff. This eliminates pages of advertising usually placed at the back of the book, and offers parents and home churches opportunity to assist in sponsorships.

Individual portraits were taken in October by Harry Granert, Chattanooga photographer, and the printing is being done by the John T. Benson Printing Company in Nashville.
Rock Takes Tennis Championship in Men's Singles; Women's Tournament and Mixed Competition Undecided

Contending against keen competition from a field of 23 tennis enthusiasts in the second annual tennis tourney at Bryan, George Rock defeated Everett Russell in the final round of the men's singles to take the men's championship. Eleven teams competed in the men's doubles with Jim Dickson and Dick Baxter meeting George Rock and Wilbur Pickering in the final round. In this final, well-played tilt, Rock and Pickering scored the victory to win first place.

Women's tournament results were still indecisive. However, mixed doubles competition pointed to an exciting play-off as a field of eight teams was narrowed down to Janice Baer and Wilbur Pickering versus Pat Fuller and George Rock.

Intramural Basketball Begins; Seniors Lead Class Standings

With a cheering crowd of Bryan basketball fans providing the background sound effects, the 1953-54 intramural basketball season got underway at the Rhea high gymnasium November 28. In the men's game, the seniors trounced the juniors 44-28, and in the ladies' game the juniors upset the seniors 32-24, and the freshmen defeated the sophomores 31-14.

In a series of five games, the volleyball tally at the end of the fall quarter showed the senior fellows and girls ahead with four wins and one loss apiece. In the men's competition, the freshmen had a 3-2 total, the sophomores scored two victories against three losses, and the juniors trailed with one win and four losses. The three underclassmen teams in the women's league were all tied with two wins and three losses.

Intramural point standings at the quarter's end were:

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<th>Class</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
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<tr>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td>70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juniors</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freshmen</td>
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In Cross-Country Invitational

Two Maryville track stars, Richabaugh and McWilliams, finished first and second respectively in the second annual Bryan Invitational Cross-Country Run, leading their teammates to their second successive win in this run.

Bryan's Everett Boyce and Richard Ruble crossed the finish line third and fourth, and were largely responsible for Bryan's winning second place in the event which saw four teams—Maryville, Emory, Berry, and Bryan—competing. Other Bryan runners to complete the course were Jack Romeis in tenth spot, Dale Payne, and James Demet.

Bryan's Larry Hess seemed to have fourth place captured, but within sight of the goal line, he stumbled and fell.

Final score was, Maryville 27, Bryan 50, Emory 54, and Berry 93. The first ten to cross the finish line and to receive ribbons were Richabaugh (M), McWilliams (M), Boyce (Bryan), Ruble (Bryan), Carleton (Emory), Kilpatrick (E), Shackleford (M), Tate (M), P. Payne (M), and Romeis (Bryan).

CHRISTMAS BANQUET
(Continued from page 1)

walls, and cotton snowflakes forming a false ceiling provided a winter setting, along with two huge singing snowmen commanding the corners of the dining hall annex and miniature snowmen perched atop the banquet tables. Miss Lou Rouch is chairman of the social committee, which planned the decorations and the program for the affair.

The spirit of Christmas dominated a number of the December chapel programs also. The brass quartet presented a program of Christmas carols December 4, and selections from Handel's "Messiah," and a recording of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" helped to conclude the chapel services for the fall quarter.

Gift Income for November 1953

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<th>GIFT REPORT</th>
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