

# THE SUMMIT

INDIANOLA METHODIST CHURCH

Volume 3

September, 1956

No. 1

September 30 will be celebrated as Indianola Church's traditional Freshman Sunday. On this day our church extends a warm and cordial welcome to all of the new students of Ohio State University who may be worshipping in our congregation. For the occasion Dr. Moorehead will preach a special sermon directed to the students: "Don't Sell Your Birthright!" The service is at 10:30 A.M.

Having a part in the service will be the Rev. A. Darold Hackler, Director of the Wesley Foundation, and the Rev. Paul Stopenhagen, Associate Director. Mr. Evan Hartman, president of the Indianola Student Center of the Wesley Foundation, will bring a brief message of greeting and welcome to the new students.

Following the service a reception and coffee hour will be held in the church parlor in honor of the new students, as well as those upperclassmen who will be returning. Mrs. Guy Newhouse, Student Secretary of the W.S.C.S. will be in charge of the reception.

The heart of Indianola has always gone out to students. Therefore all are heartily invited to make this their church home during the important days of college life.

## SERMON TOPICS

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| Sept. 30 | FRESHMAN SUNDAY: "Don't Sell Your Birthright!"            |
| Oct. 7   | WORLD COMMUNION: "The Un-American Activities of God"      |
| Oct. 14  | "Do you Think as you Please?"                             |
| Oct. 21  | "Is Your Life Your Own?"                                  |
| Oct. 28  | PROTESTANT REFORMATION SUNDAY: "The Protestant Principle" |
| Nov. 4   | "A Welcome to the Irreligious"                            |
| Nov. 11  | "The Fatigue of Freedom"                                  |

## LAYING EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATIONS

For the past few months the members of the Building Committee have been passing among the many departments of the Church and Church School gathering opinions on the second preliminary plans furnished by Mr. Harman, the architect. This study is most important for it is the very foundation of our educational system in the Church and it will effect this system for years to come.

The Building Committee will send the second preliminary plans, including a list of desired revisions, to Mr. Harman. We should then receive the final set or third preliminary which after approval will become the working drawings. The Committee members wish to thank all the officers, chairmen, teachers, etc. who have taken time to offer their ideas and opinions on these plans.

W. S. Crooks

## From The Minister's Study

Our family this summer in England received a royal welcome among English Methodist friends. Our hearts were strangely and wonderously warmed by the natives of John Wesley's land. I think that in the love we have for the English people and the tiny island on which they live we shall forever after have to be classed among the "Anglophiles." All summer long I kept recalling Alice Duer Miller's celebrated narrative poem, "The White Cliffs," which extolled the moral majesty of England as it stood alone against the massed might of Hitler. Alice Duer Miller, an American, had gone to England, fallen in love with an Englishman and the English people. Nothing more adequately describes my love for these remarkable people than the last lines of her long poem:

*I am American bred,  
I have seen much to hate here—much to forgive,  
But in a world where England is finished and dead,  
I do not want to live.*

So I said to these dear friends, on the last night of our exchange, "There must always be an England."

Naturally there are many things about America, which in comparison with England, I greatly prefer. After being abroad in Europe for nearly three months I have returned sensing more deeply the great privilege of being an American. Yet, though England occupies now an extremely perilous position in the world, I do deeply believe that the free nations of the world need the assurance of her maturity and moral leadership. The danger to America would not only increase fantastically, but we would be spiritually and morally the poorer if England were eliminated from its present place of authority in the world. There are a good many Americans who like to twist the lion's tail, and there are frankly a good many English people who strongly dislike America. Yet there is so rich and deep a relation between us that either side would break its ties under the threat of extreme peril and impoverishment.

British Methodism is quite different from our own. Truthfully I should have to say that I think American Methodism has many characteristics which render it more effective and powerful. But a summer with these English friends has caused me to lament our materialism, shallowness, and smugness. How greatly we need to share our strengths and compare our weaknesses with each other. After all, we have in common two of the vital heritages of human history — the culture of the English-speaking peoples and the divine dynamic of John Wesley. I am deeply grateful for having been a member of this Exchange.

Lee C. Moorehead



## HE WOULD NOT SAY "NO!"

Nehemiah had every reason to say "no." That denioralized colony of refugees in far-off Jerusalem, with their unfinished temple and broken city walls had no rightful claims on him. "I was cupbearer to the King" Nehemiah tells us, a post of the highest honor at the Persian court. The suggestion that he undertake the supervision of reconstruction operations at Jerusalem, even to help his fellow Jews, would seem a little preposterous. His fortune, position and even the royal favor might be at stake if he should answer this call to help in the Lord's work.

There were also other reasons for refusal which may well have occurred to him: The ceremonial duties at court were very tiring. The little spare time which he had, Nehemiah needed for rest and relaxation. Also it would involve too much time away from his family. Nehemiah had no experience in working with construction crews, and did not feel competent to design municipal walls. There were certainly others better qualified for this Jerusalem project. Then too, Nehemiah was a lay person with his own job to do, and building the temple was the job of the priests and Levites who were hired to do that sort of thing.

This extra-scriptural digression should not divert us from the glorious decision which Nehemiah did make which was recorded for all time. His decision was neither easy nor quick. It climaxed agonizing days of fasting and prayer. "So I came to Jerusalem" is the laconic comment in his autobiography, which goes on to relate the thrilling story of how he kept his pledge at great sacrifice of energy and wealth, even to the risk of life itself.

We cannot but marvel at the example of this lay person (for he was neither prophet nor priest) who volunteered at least 12 years of his life to the service of his Lord and his people, centuries before mankind was privileged to witness a Life of perfect service to God. Today as then, God's unfinished business calls us. Will our answers be dictated by convenience? Or can this volunteer builder-politician beckoning with his sword and trowel across the centuries, help us each to find his path of service to his own place on some unfinished wall?

Ralph W. Lucas

Dr. and Mrs. Moorehead will tell the story of their Exchange Pastorate in England this summer on Sunday evening October 7. The program will begin at 7 o'clock and all members and friends of the church are cordially invited to attend. The youth groups are expected to participate. Much of the story will be told through colored slides which the Mooreheads have brought back.

## COMMISSION ON MEMBERSHIP

The Commission on Membership and Evangelism will meet the first Wednesday night of each month in the office of the Associate Minister at 8 P.M. Officers and committee chairmen for the year are as follows: Commission Chairman, A. M. Sutherland; secretary, Mrs. Victor A. Feldmiller; chairman of the prospect file and parish visitation, Orin W. Davis; chairman of the assimilation committee, Mrs. Chester E. Baughman; chairman for Young at Heart, Aged and Shut-Ins, Leonard G. Weber. Dr. Warren W. Wiant will serve as Staff Counselor. Members of the Church who would like to join with the members of the Commission in calling on new families and prospective members are asked to contact Mr. Davis, Mr. Sutherland or one of the ministers.

## CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

The Commission on Education is proud to announce the reorganization of the scouting program at Indianola, and the formation of Troop No. 138 Boy Scouts of America. Activities are already in full swing under the leadership of Scoutmaster Frederick Shober. Other officers are as follows: Ben Evans, Asst. Scoutmaster; Guy Newhouse, treasurer; Ralph Scott, explorer adviser; Marlin Sexton, advancement chairman; Wilfred Crooks, transportation chairman; Jesse McDowell, activities. James Pierce is chairman of the Troop Committee, and William J. Meyers, Institutional Representative.

October 21 is the tentative date for presentation of the charter during the morning service.

A part of the warm, lingering afterglow of our pastoral exchange this summer is the following letter received by Superintendent Lucas from the Sunday School of Ealing Broadway Church:

Dear Friends,

I write to thank you on behalf of the Sunday School scholars and staff for the lovely and most acceptable biblical picture which David and Deborah presented to us with your good wishes. We are very grateful for such a gift.

We had a very happy time with Dr. Moorehead and his family. They were delightful and sincere. We did enjoy having them. Unfortunately they did not experience the best of English weather!

Our Sunday School is not very large and we meet during the morning service. We hope you enjoyed the visit of Dr. and Mrs. Lamb and Elizabeth. We are now looking forward to their return. Dr. Lamb is a grand person. Our Sunday School will soon be practicing for the Harvest Festival service, when we have a special speaker to address the children.

Once again, please accept our sincerest wishes and thanks. Should any of your scholars or church members come this way we should be pleased to welcome them and to hear from you all again. With every good wish and God's Blessing.

Yours sincerely,  
Audrey L. Hounslow (Secretary)