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POCATELLO DISTRICT LEAGUE MESSENGER

Irl VanCleve Maxey, Editor

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By Holiness Data Ministry

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BIG SPRINGS

FILE INTRODUCTION

The following publication was found with data of our father that was passed on to our brother, I. Parker Maxey, and which I received day before yesterday from his daughter Keren via his son Gary. Since I am publishing this file in the HDM Digital Library as hdm3276, as well as to the family, I have placed the HDM Copyright and publication information above. Below, is Volume 1, Number 1 of the "Pocatello District Messenger" with Papa as Editor. In our brother Irl Parker Maxey's book, "We'll Get To That Later" (hdm0129), he writes: "My earliest recollection was while Father was pastoring in Ashton, Idaho near Yellowstone National Park where we had moved in 1916. While pastoring in Ashton Father added to his duties that of editor of the 'Pocatello District League.'"

Papa was born on March 12, 1882. Therefore, at the time this first issue of the paper was published in March of 1917 it was close to his 35th birthday. He was still

a young man -- the right age to be, as he was, President of the Methodist [E]ndeavor [L]eague for the Pocatello District. This Young People's league is identified in the paper simply by its initials, "E. L.". As the reader will note, the paper contains a mixture of news and spiritual exhortations along with a bit of humor. This first issue of "The Pocatello District League Messenger" was published quite close to 90 years ago today. I would like to have had other issues to publish also, but this was the only one among the data I just received. -- Duane V. Maxey, Holiness Data Ministry, Chandler, Arizona, March 17, 2007.

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POCATELLO DISTRICT LEAGUE MESSENGER
Our Motto: "Every Day Life"

I. V. MAXEY, Editor
Ashton Enterprise, Pub.

Ashton, Idaho, March 1917

Vol. 1, No. 1

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A WORD FROM THE DISTRICT SUPT.

I believe we speak advisedly when we say that the Young People, Work has never been in more thriving condition on the Pocatello Dist. than it is at present. The young People's work has seemed to take a new lease of life and why should it not? We have the young people we have the organization and the young people have the ability, so why should we not succeed. We have fallen up on the time when the world wants young men and women as never before. Young life with its abounding enthusiasm and energy is just what the world is looking for. Young life has the "pep" behind it to "put the thing across." There is one thing almost as disastrous as losing ones religion and that is to loose our enthusiasm. Youth has not lost its enthusiasm and that is why the world wants young men and women, and that young men and women is why the church wants you as well. Why I think the young people's service should be the liveliest service of the church, because anything short of that. Young people are not true to themselves. As the Irishman says, "We have but to spit on our hands." and the thing is done. Just stir in some of the "get up and get" that you put into the basketball game and the football game and the Old E. L. Y. P. S. will come through with flying colors.

The organization of the Dist. League into two branches for greater helpfulness has resulted in great advantage to the young peoples work. The Dist. Organization in place of being heard from but once a year is on the job all the time. The visiting leaders have been a distinct success wherever it has been tried out.

Many Leaguers, down in the "Slough of Dispond." ready to die. an sometimes almost ready to say, "won't somebody kindly come along an knock me in the head that I may have a decent excuse for dying," have been revived and sent on their way rejoicing, with a new vision for young peoples work. There's strength in organization. One League that has only been organize this year had 80 present at a meeting not long ago. The Blackfoot League has "thrown down the gauntlet" to the other Leagues of the Dist., in the assertion, "That Blackfoot has the best Young People's society on the Dist." If any League was to dispute that, they might compare notes with Blackfoot.

The new officers of the League for the League for the Dist. as a whole are:--
Pres. I. V. Maxey, 1st Vice Pres. Christopher Barnstable. 4th V. P., Harry Crandall;
Sec.. C. Picket: and Treas., Earl Provost.

It is the plan of the Dist., to hold this year an E. L. institute and to this end the Dist. Officers have already begun to lay their plans. As a last word to the Young People's organization of the Dist., the D. S. would like to say, "Let us make this year the best ever in our Young People's work." If in some places we have been discouraged and we have felt that the "Sword of the Spirit" has been too short, let us head the old Spartan injunction and add a step to it, an that step never a backward step.

J. E. Baker.

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THE BEGINNING OF A STORY (Probably by I. V. Maxey -- Duane)

I once knew a beautiful blue-eyed woman that had a story worth writing in a paper. She was raised as any other girl on a farm. Plenty to do, plenty of fresh air to breathe, and plenty of rich wholesome exercise. And, like all other girls who have been raised away from the vices of the City and have been told nothing of their rising womanhood and mysteries of self, she was innocent of all willful sin and wonderfully curious of why some things are, as they are. To her all people were honest and all people who professed to be Christians were Christians. Not a sorrow of any great consequence ever dimmed her eye. At sixteen she was as fresh and pure as the rose in the early morning dew. She went to church and Sunday school and took part with increasing interest. In that same town lived a boy several years her senior and in many ways so different. He too had been raised in a Christian home but when reaching that knowing age, had gone from home and learned all the sins of the world and some of the vilest. His knowledge of sin was unknown to his parents or acquaintances in the neighborhood. He cast his attention toward this pure girl. He went with her to church and Christian Endeavor. They went on rides, on cars, in autos and buggies. (To be continued)

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EDITORIAL

(By I. V. Maxey -- Duane)

Now we want every Leaguer to know all about our proposed plan to have an Institute next July at Big Springs, Idaho. On the front page of this little paper you will see a cut of the place. This picture was taken in the winter time but it shows you the place where the water just boils right out of the ground a full river at once. This with Henry's Lake a few miles away forms the start for the North Fork of Snake river. Here you will find plenty of fishing and numerous scenes that makes you feel that God is near. We all know that viewing the fields of nature will never bring a soul nearer God. Almost instinctively we turn from our views to the only means of finding God and that is prayer. Seeing what God has done makes us appreciate and turn to find more of the precious father who did so much to make himself known to us. As Leaguers we have promised to seek the highest New Testament standard of Experience and life and we want this Institute to be very helpful on this plan.

Read the first page carefully to see how our Baker wants things done. Gospel team Work nicely portrayed by Christopher Barnstable our First vice. Come Leaguers now begin to make your plans to attend this Institute. Pray and ask God to make it plain how you are to make the money to get there and ask him to bless you and make you a blessing to others in coming. Is anything to hard for God? We can just make this gathering one of great power to you and your neighbors, and the whole E. L. of this District be a flame of Power in soul winning and real Christian life. God wills it.

Now lets turn to our study courses with new energy. Consecrate our knowledge and be about our Master's business till our every day life, is life from the dead. EVERY DAY LIFE E. L. is our Motto. Yours to pray, push and work. Editor.

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Nor deem the irrevocable past
Wholly wasted, wholly vain,
If standing on the wrecks at last
To something nobler we attain.

My sleeve with tears still is wet
Because I have forgotten to forget.

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BIBLE LESSONS

(I suspect by I. V. Maxey -- Duane)

The key note of the Bible lessons in this Messenger shall be the personality of the Holy Spirit. He is the one for the church and League to follow for he was promised to be sent by the Father in the Sons name and to be the guide into all truth. He may not be the blessed experience. We have promised as Leaguers to have the highest New Testament experience and this is the experience. You know the Trinity are one and he comes to give Power and Zeal and expression but best of all he comes to take the things of Christ and show them to us. He vivifies the personality of Jesus to our soul. John 15:26., then will be our Scripture for this time. But when the Comforter is come whom I will send unto you from the Father even the Spirit of truth, which comes from the Father. He shall testify of me." Now I take it for granted that you are Methodists, and we will not talk of the various ideas of the Holy Spirit. But understand at once that HE comes, a person, and HE does things, HE shows things and HE testifies. Oh Leaguer I hope you know that HE comes and if you do not know that quietly seek him. Betake yourself to some lonely place and seek him till he comes. Do not forget two things. First he is given to the obedient. He never comes to the sinner only to convict and to you he will come to stay if you are saved and obeying God. Second, he does things.

Now do not mistake the ecstasy for HIM, for he always does things sanely. When you feel HIM in your soul he will give you the very strongest desire for service you have ever known. Oh for the Spirit filled League and then it will not be a question of who will we ask to do this. It will be always, "Here am I send me" for that is I the language of one Spirit filled. His showing is always in the doing and not before.

The Power will come before, but the revelation of all truth is in the doing. The Father told the world of the Son, but the real Son was when he walked the waves of Galilee and stilled the tempest on the Lake or healed the men and women or opened the eyes of the blind and forgave the sinners. So it is futile to stay in your closet with the Holy Unction burning in your soul asking what and how to do. As you speak it will be given you in that hour, as you go the way will open before you.

Do not be mistaken. HE is a doer in your soul and if you spend hours in mere ecstasy you may lose the Spirit entirely and attribute things to HIM various shades of physical and mental feeling that are not as much akin to HIM as the evil one. He shows us the great Universal idea of Jesus and will show, in the spirit of Prophecy, things to come written in the Word. (The leader into truth). If he is not confined to the Word then he may be taken as showing all manner of things which will complete the Cannon later and Mrs. White, Joseph Smith and Madam B. may be taken as true prophets and Leaders of the Spirit. The language in the doing is always backed up by the Word. How he speaks, "Go ye into all the world." Nothing can be interpreted to mean much, unless it is universal. It is a world Spirit. It is a world work. It is a world Gospel. Jesus always sent them out by twos and now you and the Spirit go out and you will always have four in your company of doers.

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BUNNYISMS

"A little nonsense now and then is relished by the best of men."

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A HUMAN DICTIONARY

"Pop," asked a small colored boy, "what am a millennium?" "A millennium, my son, is about the same as a centennial, only its got mooh laigs," answered "Pop" with a knowing air.

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A TIMID COWBOY

A company of National Guards near the border, having trouble with the natives, telegraphed for a company of Texas Rangers to help quell the disturbance. When the train pulled in the crowd had gathered to greet their reinforcements and accordingly were much dismayed when a lone cowboy stepped off the train. "Where's the company?" yelled one man excitedly "Aw, shucks," drawled the cowboy, "They ain't but one riot heah, is they?"

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GREEN (CORN)

A certain man has a very fond feeling for green corn, and so, visiting a friend one day, made his entire meal on green corn. "Bill." said this friend. "What do you have to pay for board in your city?" "Oh! about seven dollars a week." "Then don't you think it would be cheaper to board in a livery stable?" asked his friend.

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LEAGUE WORKS

(I suspect that this is also by I. V. Maxey -- Duane)

The value of real Christian experience in League work can never be overestimated. The officers should know that Jesus saves from sin ere they go out to help save others. How can they save others unless they tell them of Jesus who has saved them. Often the League has the idea of a certain form for having a devotional service and it is followed until reading slips of paper or reference from the Bible and a few formal papers is all there is to it. It is easy to go the way the other goes and the best for a hurried preparation for the lesson. If the Spirit is followed no cut and dried form can be followed. God often uses the field of

literature to bless and the 4th vice president could nicely help in every devotional hour if they would plan ahead but this is scarcely ever done so that part of the 4th vice president work is "nil."

Yes the Holy Spirit will need to use human means and usually can not use those who are not prepared to be used. Now how shall I prepare? Well let your subject be chosen sometime before hand and read over the subject and read all you can get on the subject and tell the 4th vice the subject and let her glean the field of literature and you turn to the Bible and all comments and as Dr. Potts used to say, "Sweat over the whole as if there were no Holy Spirit and all depended on you and your intellect."

Then turn an pray through with it and let your experience be tried by the light of truth it brings. Now what plan for the meeting? This I tell you; that no one can tell you how; for you must be acquainted with the Holy Spirit and know how to follow him. Every subject surely will have a different plan to be followed.

After the leaders have been selected by a cabinet meeting then we should have a leaders' meeting in which some will be able to suggest some collateral reading for our subject and tell us some ideas and we have begun and God will take care of the rest. Let us have a heart to follow Jesus.

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Be sure pastor and work with the E. L. President in making the Messenger and Institute a success. Price 25 cents for all issues.

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DISTRICT WORK

"Start Right And Start Right Away"

Making a life is more than making a living. I can hear you saying; "I know that, more than once I have hear that statement made." Yes, you know it, but do you believe it? If you believe it, do you believe it enough to tell to the world by your life by day that you believe it.

Our mission in the world is twofold. First to be and then to do. Character building and service. My life is my message to the world. At the door of the temple which is can led Beautiful there was a certain man that was lame from his birth. He was at the gate to ask alms of them that entered into the temple. Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked alms of them. Peter, fastening his eyes upon him, with John, said, "Look on us." He gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something from them. Peter said, "Silver and gold have I none; but what I have, that give I thee. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." Immediately

his feet and ankle-bones received strength. He stood, and began to walk: walking, an leaping; and praising God.

What I have, that give I thee. We can only give what we possess ourselves. It is not possible for us to lead men to Christ unless we know Him as our personal Savior. It is not possible for us to lead men to purity of life unless we possess a pure heart. It is not possible for us to serve our fellow-men in the truest sense of that term unless we possess the true Spirit of service. The building of a Christian Character is the great business of life. -- S. J. Chaney, Blackfoot, Idaho.

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"LOOK UP--LIFT UP"

(Again, this I suspect was written by I. V. Maxey -- Duane)

One time two cross-eyed persons were walking along the street and they ran into each other. One said. "Oh I wish that you would look where you are going," and the other replied. "Oh! I wish that you would go the way you are looking." Now first we want to go the way we are looking.

Two young men were, walking down the street one evening and as they talked they came to a church. "Well," said one. "I am going into the church." "Oh no," said the other, "I am not going that way." The one went in and heard the singing and preaching and was impressed and followed the way he was looking that night and afterwards became the great and good preacher, T. DeWitte Talmage; and the other went to the pool room and spent the night in low experiences and passed on to the obscurity of the world. If our eyes are fixed on Jesus, let us go the way we are looking and our lives will always have a lifting power.

Oh, how much there is in a look. Jesus looked on Peter and he wept; many no doubt looked on Jesus and said that he is the Son of God. But if we are to go the way we are looking, so much depends on where we look and what are our idols. It is easy to go the way the multitude goes and look at things as the majority does, but the man who looks for victory many times must outstrip the crowd, as John outstripped Peter on the way to see the evidence of Jesus' resurrection. Can you not see the evidence of his resurrection? Look, the tomb is empty and the message has been given. Do not expect the crowd to see this. So in all Ideals of truth in Jesus you must expect to look and outstrip the crowd in looking. Environment then may help you or hinder your further going but, Oh, go, the way you are looking and look the way you are going and you will lift up folks. Your feet must be firm before you can lift and your strength must come from the look.

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DISTRICT WORK (CONTINUED)

The need for Gospel Team work in the field was never greater. The people of the Pocatello District are about to enter upon a new arena of activity. Within the next eight or nine months the lives of some of the youths of Southern Idaho will take an entirely different trend from that which they might have taken, due to the fact that a Christian College will open her doors of opportunity to them this fall. Now is the opportune time for Gospel Teams to be at work in the field inspiring young men and women to enter an institution of Christian education. If through these efforts one man enters the ministry or the mission field the services of the Teams will be more than repaid. -- Christopher Barnstable.

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ADVERTISEMENTS IN THIS PAPER

By Duane

Papa managed to get a number of area businesses to place ads in this first edition of the "Pocatello District League Messenger" -- something that probably could not be accomplished as easily today for a Christian paper. The ads were placed by the following businesses:

Ford Garage (Humes & Swanstrum), Ashton, Idaho

Wanke & Schroll Company (Everything To Eat and Wear), Ashton, Idaho

Teton Pharmacy -- Ashton, Idaho

Ashton Bakery

Rankin & Robinson (Real Estate, Farm Loans, and Insurance), Ashton, Idaho

Hotel Kirkbride, Ashton, Idaho

Ashton Cash Grocery

The Bon Ton Candy Company, Blackfoot, Idaho

Pearson & Company, The Grocers, Blackfoot, Idaho

Red Cross Garage, Blackfoot, Idaho

French's Cafe, Blackfoot, Idaho

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THE END