



Folks

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GM Folks magazine



*Glory to God
in the Highest*

Courtesy of Gerald Alred
and Fred Moore

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Under the direction of Joseph P. Geiger, the Inland Children's Chorus rehearses for annual

Christmas concert, a holiday tradition in Dayton.



For a soloist a missing tooth would be a catastrophe. But for chorus member Larry Deis the temporary gap will hardly be noticeable with 99 other members of the Chorus.

There Shall Be Music

Inland Children's Chorus In 20th Year

One of the Christmas traditions in Dayton is the annual concert given by the 100-voice Children's Chorus of the Inland Manufacturing Division. (See also front cover.)

Now in its 20th season, the Chorus is widely known as one of the best children's singing groups in the country. It has been heard on national radio programs and has appeared frequently as guests of the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra.

The Chorus was organized in 1936. It was an outgrowth from Inland youngsters appearing on the entertainment programs at Inland's annual Christmas parties. The late Richard B. Westbrook trained the group with remarkable results until his untimely death early this year. The Chorus is now under the direction of Joseph

Geiger. He has had more than 27 years of concert work, 25 of them devoted to the training of children's voices.

Programs are presented only under exacting stage conditions. The scenery is traditional to the group as are their costumes of dainty powder blue dresses for the girls with blue hair bows to match, and smart Eton suits for the boys.

To be eligible for enrollment, children must be between eight and 16 years of age and have an "ear" for music. Total enrollment in the Chorus is approximately 180 voices. However, the concert group consists of only 50 boys and 50 girls.

Members of the Chorus are selected solely from families of Inland employees. Since its inception, approximately 1,600 children have sung in the chorus. Some of the early members are now employees at Inland. Nearly 100 of them continue their singing in a Senior-Adult group.

Comic books and cokes keep girls amused during practice intermission. They are Kathleen Liddy, Jean Lamoreux, Carolyn Walker, Mary O'Brien, Frances Little.



Girls in the Chorus wear floor length, powder blue gowns and blue hair bows for their concert appearances. Helping Sharlene Slaven with her ash is Frances Little.



Members of the Chorus take as much pride in their appearance as they do in their singing. Lacking a mirror, Ronald Kaley gets help on his necktie from Michael Deis.



Three members putting polish on a difficult passage with Mr. Geiger are Charles Cichanowicz, Jerry Brown and John Liddy. Normally Chorus rehearses twice a week.



Practice hall for the Chorus is stocked with games for use before and after rehearsal. Playing a game of jacks are Michael Deis, Larry Deis and Pat Gaulfield.



As We Go to Press

• GM had more employes and higher payrolls in the third quarter and first nine months of 1955 than for any comparable periods in the company's history. An average of 621,958 men and women were working for GM throughout the world and payrolls totaled \$2,321,000,000 during the first nine months.




- GM received a Certificate of Commendation from Major General George C. Moran, adjutant general of Michigan, for its cooperation in the National Guard program, Operation Minuteman.
- On returning from his annual inspection trip to Europe, Harlow H. Curtice, GM president, said: "Automobile production in England and Germany is reaching record levels this year, 18 to 20 percent over 1954. GM production in Europe of passenger cars, trucks, accessories and household refrigerators likewise is breaking all records."
- While in Europe, Mr. Curtice announced an additional \$4,500,000 expansion program for General Motors of France. This brings to \$8,000,000 the amount to be expended in three years.



On the Cover

One of the country's outstanding children's singing groups is the Children's Chorus of the Inland Manufacturing Division. Part of the group is pictured on our cover this month. The entire concert Chorus consists of 100 voices, 50 boys and 50 girls. They range in age from eight to 16 years. Members rehearse twice a week during the year but step that up to four times a week just prior to the annual Christmas concert. The Chorus also is heard in a Spring Festival concert and appears on a musical series presented annually by the Dayton Chamber of Commerce. Membership in the Chorus is limited to children of families of Inland employes. For more about the Inland Chorus, see page 6.



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RESEARCH UNLIMITED

by Peter Marshall

Chaplain, United States Senate 1947-1948

During the lifetime of most of us, science and invention has made its greatest strides.

Since most of us were born, the automobile has been developed until there is now one car for about every five persons in America. Electric lighting and electricity for many home uses is commonplace. The radio and television which can bring into your living room or bedroom, music, drama, advertising and the latest news are now taken for granted.

The airplane no longer amazes, but whisks us across the continent from breakfast to supper. Electric eyes open doors at our approach and radar enables us to see in the dark. Penicillin and sulfa drugs have conquered many a germ and atomic energy has opened a vast new world. All since most of us were born.

We have made far more progress in the scientific world than we have made in the world of morals and ethics. Spiritually, we have not kept pace with our progress in the realm of science.

Why is it that we have so little interest in the spiritual discoveries—new discoveries of God, of God's working in His world, of God's dealing with His people?

Some people have thought that the more science we have, the more religion can be discarded. But that is not so. Rather, the fact is that the more science we have, the more we need character-building religion. We are now at the place where we see that progress simply must be made in the realm of morals and ethics and character, if civilization is to be saved.

Suppose there were a number of young men and women setting out to get their Master's degree or to write their PhD thesis on their findings, after months of careful experiment with such propositions as these: "Therefore take no thought, saying What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Where-withal shall we be clothed? . . . for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matthew 6:31-33)

Or this one . . .

"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." (Matthew 7:7)

Or . . .

"Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." (Mark 11:24)

This sort of research could advance much faster than physical science, which requires special labor-

atories, perfect conditions and expensive equipment. It's the sort of research that anyone can pursue.

But why are there so few spiritual discoveries to match the progress made by science? The answer lies in the lack of researchers.

Men have been willing to let mosquitoes bite them in the interest of science and human welfare. How many are willing to give themselves away to take risks in spiritual research?

No one yet has ever set out to test God's promises fairly, thoroughly and humbly, and had to report that God's promises don't work. On the contrary, given a fair opportunity, God always surprises and overwhelms those who truly seek, with His bounty and His power.

Both scientific and spiritual advances have come about as a result of great need goading men to try anything, until they find something that works. Spiritually, we are still in the area of dire necessity to keep our very souls alive, lest they die of malnutrition.

We cannot do much for the world, until, first of all, we have done something with ourselves. The longer an orchestra plays, the more it needs to be tuned up. The further an airplane flies, the more it requires ground service to put it into shape again. There is no evading that law in any realm.

But here we are. We have money, we are well-clothed, we are comfortably housed, we have automobiles, and all the latest gadgets in our homes. But we are spiritually undernourished.

We have neglected spiritual food. Without spiritual exercise, our souls are soft and flabby. The temptation is powerful to become so obsessed with the urgent, brutal facts of the immediate world that faith in Christ and His way of living becomes like a lovely impractical dream, a pious hope, a frail illusion.

But remember how that lovely dream started in the first place—in a world mastered by military empire, and filled with the thundering tramp of Caesar's legions, in a little occupied country, a dream shared by a handful of simple folk, ordinary men and women.

This little group, believing in a spiritual message, accepted the tension of living in two violently antagonistic worlds—Rome's and Christ's—and it was they who, in the end, survived.

The challenge today, pointed and heated by atomic bombs, is still what it always was—a challenge to spiritual research.

The above is a condensation of a sermon printed in Mr. Jones, Meet the Master, published by Fleming H. Revell Co., and reprinted here with their permission.

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