

# Our Roots Our Heritage

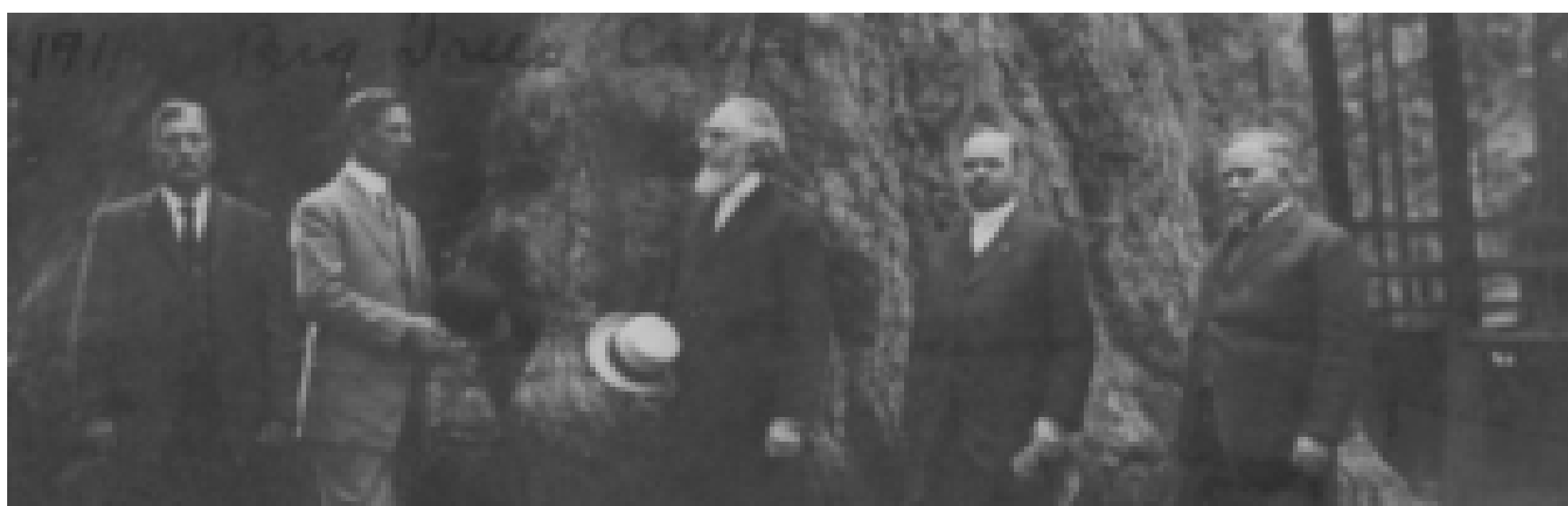
October 29, 1988

By Sr. Joy Foss Kandel





**Bro. Benjamin Barton, whose "Pilgrim's Echoes" is now popular and available.**



**This picture is interesting to me personally because of the brother in the white suit and black beard, talking to Bro. Russell. This was Bro. Jones. The Joneses lived across the alley from my maternal grandparents in Chicago, and Sr. Jones gave my grandmother, Sr. Bell, the Truth.**



## Bro. Ritchie and Sr. Ritchie

When Judge Rutherford took over, after Bro. Russell's death, Bro. Ritchie did not approve, and he left Bethel, where he and Sr. Ritchie had spent their years and their money.

In 1941, my husband and I lived in California for a year and met the Ritchies. My husband took their picture. We were good friends.

I remember Sr. Ritchie saying, "It takes far more character—it's much more difficult—to have to be on the receiving end than to be able to give."

Part of their dependence at this time was because of their age, but much of it was because they had spent their all lives the Lord's service and hadn't counted on ever having to leave the Bible House.



## The Transcontinental Tour of Pastor Russell

Friends from Scotland — 1911



*Baptism in the  
Chautauqua  
Lake*

Baptism in Chautauqua Lake

BIBLE STUDENT'S CONVENTION. 1910

GEO. H. MONROE, JAMESTOWN, N. Y.

Baptism in Chautauqua Lake — Bible Students' Convention 1910 — Geo. H. Monroe, Jamestown, N. Y.



*Remains of our tent in Zion City - Ill. - 1912*

Remains of our tent in Zion City, IL  
1912



*Baptism at Asheville N C  
1913*

Baptism at  
Asheville, NC  
1913







**Above is the picture of the building where the Chicago Ecclesia sponsored the Photo-Drama of Creation. The nucleus of the workers lived there. Among them were my uncle and aunt, Bro. Dan and Sr. Nodie Morehouse, and my father, Bro. Irving Foss. Uncle Dan was about 28 years old, Nodie about 19, and my Dad about 15.**

**Nodie was the “mother” of the group. She had been a married woman for three years, always active in the Lord’s service as colporteur or whatever.**

**When my father came back from a store and mentioned how pretty the clerk was there, Aunt Nodie told him, “You shouldn’t be looking at worldly girls. I have a sister. I’ll introduce you to her.” So my Dad and Mother “met.” (They had been in the same large ecclesia ever since my Mother was nine, when her family came into the Truth. But she only remembers my Dad as the child who shocked her by following the watch night service in his house by marching through with a loud alarm clock to welcome the New Year.)**

**My mother, Hulda Bell, did not live in the round house, but served as an usherette during the showings of the Photo-Drama. She always remembered having to scrape the gum from the bottom of the seats in that theatre.**

**My parents “went together” from the time they were 15 and 16 until they were 19 and 20. My paternal grandfather wasn’t thrilled. He told my dad, “At least wait until you’re 20 to marry.” So my parents were married on Dad’s 20th birthday. These are literally my roots.**



**Here are Everett Mark Woodley and Polly Jolly Woodley working behind the scenes of the Photo-Drama. In Bro. Woodley's late years, he used his middle name, Mark. I remember his parents and sister as being in the Truth, too. Polly's brother was the famous Raymond Jolly, and her parents and at least one other brother were also in the Truth. As a child, I remember Polly transporting us somewhere, and one of her passengers said, "You can just take me to the streetcar." But Polly said, "My car doesn't stop before it takes my passengers all the way home."**





**Above is a picture of Harold and Flora Whitcomb. Flora did not get to the meetings after the great excitement of the Photo-Drama days, although her father and sister were also in the Truth. But Harold was a much-loved deacon in the Chicago ecclesia until the '40's when he finished his course.**



**Sr. Marie Peterson Copeland, my father's cousin, and the one from whom I inherited most of these older pictures. Marie spent all her life actively serving the Lord in one way or another. The Chicago brethren of my era well remember the outstanding hospitality of Jens and Marie Copeland. Later, they moved to Florida, and finally to the Dawn, where they served until first Br. Jens, then Marie, finished their course.**

**On the left shows Marie Copeland with Bro. Schiller. Bro. and Sr. Schiller's only daughter drowned when a young girl, and Bro. Schiller never recovered completely from that shock/sorrow. He always loved young people very much. He served the Polish young people as Sunday School teacher and inspired many, many of them to give their hearts to the Lord. Those Polish young people came from different Polish classes which had "split," and they combined by coming to meet with the English class. Others then came, too.**

**These Polish "young people" became the nucleus of the Chicago ecclesia from 1940-1985. Their rigid, stricter background was a reason for the split of 1940; the non-Polish brethren had been more relaxed, possibly more refined. In later years, the abundance of activity in Chicago has drawn other brethren, so the Polish element is not as strong as it was in those years.**





The above picture symbolizes the transition to me. While Bro. Russell was alive, apparently Br. Rutherford behaved in a proper fashion. But after Bro Russell was gone, Bro. Rutherford was on the platform with my uncle Dan Morehouse and said to him, "We must not lose these people. We will have to change our message to keep them." And he did.



I recognize Sr. Ella Manzke Norman in the large hat in the front row, and Jens Copeland is to her left. The brother to the left of Jens is in many of the old pictures, but I didn't know him otherwise. I think his name was Anderson, and he was a cousin of the Woodleys. To his left is Walter Manzke, who attended the Chicago ecclesia until its first split, in 1940. I'm not sure where Walter went then. Ella and her family went to the Dearborn Street ecclesia until it dwindled away, and now attend the Cicero [Lombard] Ecclesia.



**Cedar Point, Ohio — 1922**



**I recognize Everett Woodley on the left, and the brother on the right may be Roy Anderson.**



The above picture is humorous to us today, because it depicts a wonderful annual event, the Decoration Day picnic on the Marwood farm in Bensenville. The Chicago brethren would get on the train and ride 'way out to the country' for this great occasion. Now, George and Florence Tabac live in the suburb of Bensenville, and many of our ecclesia live much farther west and north. Until the day he died, my Dad bore a scar on his head from the Marwood barn falling on him when as a boy he visited his pal, son of Sr. Marwood.







Breadline, Cedar Point, O. 1922

The Cedar Point convention was mentioned often in our family as the year our family COULDN'T attend; my baby sister (Sr. Shirley Bruce of the BSRC) was born that year.



Cedar Point Convention. O. 1922