THE SAGA

of

GLENN CLARK

and the

CAMPS FARTHEST OUT

by Glenn Harding

A Chronicle of Fifty Golden Years 1930 — 1980

Foreword

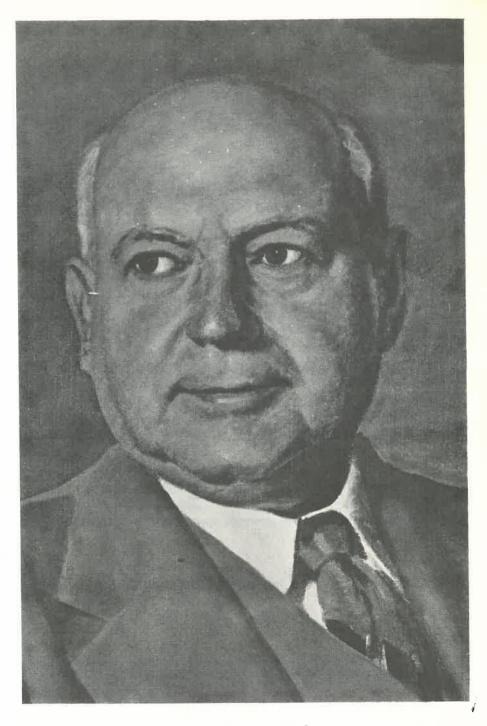
There has been great joy for many of us in seeing CFO reach its 50th year of existence - its Jubilee Year! It has been an ARM OF THE LORD, bringing great blessing to so many of us. Moreover, we believe these 50 years are only a prelude to greater missions yet to come.

Our greater mission, we believe, is an essential part of CFO's destiny that has been in the plan of God from our beginning. Hence, just as the Israelites used their Jubilee year to go back to their roots to make a fresh beginning, we of CFO need to do the same - to search out our roots and renew our vision of CFO and our destiny.

As one of the few living persons left who witnessed and took part in these beginnings, I feel a growing pressure to share with today's CFO'ers all that I can of those early formative years - of the roots and fruits of CFO - before I, too, move on to the next great adventure.

This Saga therefore is a loving memorial to Glenn Clark through whom the vision of CFO was given and who - through the first twenty-five years of its life - gave such creative leadership, loving care, nurture and wisdom leading to the growth, expansion and fruitage of the Camps Farthest Out.

-Glenn Harding



GLENN CLARK
IN LATER YEARS

The Saga of Glenn Clark and the Camps Farthest Out

The Nurture of Genius

Glenn Clark was a spiritual genius. To me that fact is necessary to the recognition and understanding of all that followed in the unfolding of his life and the "roots and fruits" of the Camps Farthest Out whose fiftieth birthday we are celebrating in this Jubilee Year of 1980.

If GENIUS is to find fulfullment, however, what conditions make it possible? Glenn Clark grew up in a *loving family*. Hence he was only "at home" in that milieu, and he soon learned, even as a boy, how important that was to him in all that he did. Later, also, he began to understand the "family of God" as a corollary essential to the "kingdom of God". From the first CFO, we heard a great deal about this loving human Iowa family from which he came. As a result, we too were swept into the milieu of this "family of God" to which we all *belonged!* This is a strong tap root of the CFO's.

In Glenn's family he had a younger brother, Page, whom he adored, and with whom he shared, day after day, the wondrous world of imagination as they played together, perhaps not realizing the divine quality of that world when directed upward. So, again at the earliest camps, we too reveled in the creative flow of divine imagination under Glenn's leadership as we looked at our world with new eyes and saw this divine power bringing the hidden, inner life of the spirit into manifestation right here on earth before our very eyes! It led us to the fulfillment of our God-given dreams - our soul's sincere desires - as we learned to strip away all self and falseness from those dreams to find the ones that truly belong to us as children of God - the beautiful gifts from our heavenly Father. The irresistable power of dreams born in us through God's spirit and kept true to Him is a very great tap root in CFO.

Then suddenly - right at the beginning of his adolescent years, age 12, Glenn lost that beloved brother through death. Abruptly, he was compelled and challenged to turn from human comradeship to an unseen spiritual comradeship that is eternal. After months of severe struggle with grief, he found it! For almost a year he lived in a heaven on earth. (Later, he told us campers, he discovered that almost every student who responded to his spiritual message had lost someone near and dear to him or her in early life.) And then - one day - just as suddenly, he lost this heavenly consciousness and guide. For a period of many years, he evidently wandered, unable to make that vital connection again that could bring the chaotic world around him into heavenly order once more. But he knew it was there!

Glenn's Search and Break-through

So he pondered, asked knocked, and sought until again the door finally opened, revealing the reality of the spiritual kingdom he had touched for a time in those boyish years. But my! what he had learned! And what that

was to mean to us campers who also sought! He was a grown man with wife and three children during this hard search - a college teacher and athletic coach - and yet, by his own description and a few others who knew him then he was far from a success. He stuttered and stammered. His classes were not popular. His attempts at writing (which he loved) were rejected by publishers. One might say he was somewhat of a mess. He - a genius? What was wrong? The same things, I am convinced, that were wrong with those of us who came to those first CFO's and on up to this day. We too were lost, unsuccessful or unhappy, needing to have our feet placed on the road to life. How could Glenn have done anything for us if he had not been through those years of struggle and failure? Whether a dullard or genius, if not centered in the way, the truth, and the life of our Lord, all of us are lost.

Glenn had a nervous breakdown. A year's leave was ordered. He got six months. As remedy, he sat on Mt. Soldad in California, meditating, not pressured, thinking through, sitting at the feet of the gospels and so of our Lord Jesus - and the answer came! His soul was singing, "I have found the way!" It was true! Everything changed. Back at the college his classes overflowed, were contagious; his coaching was outstanding; his praying productive; people with heavy needs came to him for help and through prayer found answers. All of life fell into divine order. His strength seemed endless, and his activity steadily grew.

First Fruits and New Stirrings of Spirit

It was at this time - through the informal student group that came to his home once a week for inspiration and direction - that the crucial question was asked him, "Prof, how do you pray?" Struck by the question which no one had ever put to him before, it touched his inner being and he was moved to write out his answer. Later he shared with us campers the secret revealed to him then, - that again and again, the answer resides in the question. So it was then. When he read the answer to that small student group, they immediately recognized it as revelation. Their word was "That's too good for us only. Why don't you send it to the Atlantic Monthly?" The fascinating events that followed have been told to us campers many times. It's importance here is that it became his first inspired book, THE SOUL'S SINCERE DESIRE, published by the Atlantic Monthly, and through it's wide national circulation, and flood of response from many seeking help, became the impetus and ground swell that brought the Camps Farthest Out into being.

Always, it seems, when spiritual "breakthroughs" occur, there are subterranean conditions existing which are demanding it. When did the above take place? In the aftermath of World War I, the so-called "gay twenties", when the world seemed swept up in the throes of materialism, when there was little belief in prayer, when even in the seminaries the existence of God was being questioned, when the faith of society was overwhelmingly turned to science. MAN WOULD DO IT! Yet, at the same time, unnoticed or unrealized by most, there were deep hungers in many, unsatisfied by surface prosperity, yet too weak or untried to stand

up and witness to deeper realities, until a few voices began to be heard. Glenn Clark's was one of these voices. Stanley Jones was another who began his Ashrams in the late 20's. The Oxford Group, under Frank Buchman, Sam Shoemaker and others, began even earlier in the 20's and got even greater attention. Doubtless there were others, but not many in a vital spiritual way. These were signs that the spirit of God was stirring and ready to move, when the gigantic bubble of false prosperity and materialism burst in '29. The next year CFO was born, as the Great Depression swept over our land and the world.

Once again we must backtrack if we are to understand truly the operation and flow of spiritual powers in God's answers to our needs. We spoke of Glenn Clark's "nervous breakdown" preceding his spiritual "breakthrough"; but we said nothing of the *hungers* possessing him in those years of searching and struggle. One - rarely mentioned in recent years but of deep significance - occurred when he searched vainly for spiritual help among his associates when he, as a young professor, and his young family were in deep need. Out of that experience came a deep desire within him to become the type of man described in Isaiah 32:2-"And a man shall be as a hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place; as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land". Such a man could bring the relief and refuge he had sought and that many about him were also seeking. The goal of that phrase - to be "as the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land" became one of his "soul's sincere desires".

Few, if any of us, I believe, are aware of the depth of love Glenn held for his students. Much of this is revealed in his beautiful volume, FOOTSTEPS, VOICES, AND SILENCES, as he speaks of the inner world of his many years in the college halls of Macalester. Yet even this does not reveal the depth of love for "his boys", his athletes who went to war and did not come back. The loss of those precious boys colored and increased deeply his hatred of war and his burning yearning for peace. Only God knows the depth of his compassion and the extent to which it permeated all that came to birth in CFO. Certainly it is a very deep root.

Seven Years of Testing

Seven years or more had passed since he had "found his answer" before the first camp was born. What had they meant? Were they all "flowery beds of ease?" It is true that he had his first national exposure in those years, was called upon to speak at many national student gatherings and other important meetings. (It was at one such student meeting that I first met this unusual man in 1924). But it was not easy for him. Many were skeptical of his witness (though not I) and back home in St. Paul the reaction of his associates was even worse. They were seven years of testing of the toughest kind. It is important that we know this, for these were years of preparation - the same kind of training he wanted us campers to have as "athletes of the spirit." He was laughed at by some in the college. The idea of praying for answers to the financial needs of the college was swept aside by the Board as impractical. He was

embarrassed one time by being sick in bed when someone was at his door

asking prayer for healing.

Yet in one way or another, he was finding answers to specific needs through many avenues: experimenting with other prayer groups, making friends out of former enemies, giving up the morning newspaper to have more time to tune in to the Lord before his classes began. faithfully "casting out anger and fear," winning through to spiritual and practical victory in every significant area. It proved out in his home, in his teaching, in his athletic teams both in victories and defeats and amazingly expanding his teams' schedules when the expense money for travel was reduced drastically! There were some dramatic answers to prayer, which we campers loved to hear of again and again - such as the healing of the broken body of the freshman girl who was in a dreadful car accident and given up to die; and the wondrous way a "new Gymnasium" came to the college through the inspired idea of another student, Lillian Dickson, since then a renowned missionary. And - not least - the invitation to teach a bible class in Minneapolis to which leading citizens came in growing numbers, becoming a potent spiritual force. It was from members of this class - with whom Glenn first shared the dream of the Camps - that the financial underwriting and the prayer support for the first Camp Farthest Out came. It was held at Lake Koronis for three weeks. Several class members attended full time and many others came out for the weekends. They were prepared to meet any contingency, so practical was Glenn Clark in all of his financial dealings.

Birth of the CFO and Its Emerging Pattern

It was no untried "amateur" that became the channel for God's dream of the Camps Farthest Out. but a tested veteran who had proved in his own experience for seven years or more the validity of prayer and the overcoming superiority of the power of God and his kingdom on earth. Yet - at the same time - the Camp was a completely new adventure, and demanded faith for its fulfillment. Glenn Clark had no religious credentials. He was not ordained by anyone. He could not speak for the Church. Many questioned whether he could speak at all! He had written a book which spoke of the reality and availability of spiritual power in our daily lives, proven through prayer. But not prayer as you and I perhaps had practiced it. It was not conventional. It studied the golf stroke, the "daily dozen" of Walter Camp, in spiritual terms. But it had touched the hearts of thousands of readers, had given them new hope and faith, and opened up a "gusher" of spiritual hunger calling for "More, more! I want to go farther!" Glenn was answering that call; saying "Lord, what can we do and how?"

The Lord began to show him. He used patterns with which Glenn was familiar: the training camp for his football team; the getting away from the interference of the usual living routines as on an island, - like the "Island Farthest Out" he described later in his book, THE THOUGHT FARTHEST OUT, establishing the basic goals of life as Jesus revealed them; and living together in camp so that all could learn to move in unison,

harmony and purpose to produce a "winning team"; plus practice. practice, practice - expression, expression, expression - until we truly became "athletes of the spirit" to the highest degree possible, as St. Paul puts it in I Cor. 9:24-29. One of Glenn Clark's favorite statements was "I've known young men to practice day after day for four years to do something that took ten seconds to do-run 100 yards!" How much have we practiced prayers? Actually, it was Jesus' own method with his disciples, simply adapted to our modern conditions. For Jesus said "Follow me" or "Come and see!" which meant "Come on, we'll go together, live together. do it all together. You'll see every day how I meet the problems that come up, the needs I answer, how the Father guides me, how I heal the sick. preach to the poor, love everybody, and you can do likewise - with me, and the power I give you". The disciples did this for three years (not three weeks) and then forever. There is no greater teaching method than this: and the Camps were just a modification of it. And so Glenn dreamed, in these terms, and with his divine imagination, until he began to see the Camp whole and even see some of the people who could help make it whole. But who would do it? There was only one answer: He - Glenn Clark - would have to do it! There was no one else who could give reality to this dream God had given to him. So he stepped FAR OUT!

To this point, our Saga has given the very practical, down-to-earth events, preparation and testing leading up to the birth of the Camps Farthest Out, the physical embodiment of God's dream for us, his people. But was this all? Was there no deeper spiritual foundation?

The Undergirding Vision of Water of Life

Glenn Clark was not only a very practical man in spiritual matters, he was a man of VISION. The sensitivity of his spiritual genius opened up to him heavenly realms for which most of us are not ready. Since this is the Jubilee celebration of the Camps' birth for which the "Water of Life" theme has been chosen, perhaps this is the place to deal with this element of Vision Farthest Out in Glenn Clark's being. Glenn's allegorical novel WATER OF LIFE was published in 1931, one year after the camps were born. The significant fact is that it was written before the first Camp, meaning that the spiritual realities portrayed in it are surely among the great roots out of which the destiny of CFO is to come.

In the early camps, Glenn told us how the pattern of this book emerged. As a teacher of literature at Macalester College, one course he gave was on five great literary classics of our world: viz, The Greek ODYSSEY, The BHAGAVAD GITA from India, the German FAUSTUS, the Italian DIVINE COMEDY, and the Hebrew Book of JOB. As always, in his teaching, he sought to interpret the spiritual meaning of these great classics. He went even farther! With his gift of divine imagination, he often would tell us (with tongue in cheek) how by applying spiritual principles he would rewrite Shakespeare, turning MACBETH from a tragedy to spiritual victory and blessing. So I am sure his imagination was at work over these five classics also. One time, while brooding about them, he was shoveling coal into his furnace at home when it suddenly dawned on him how the stories of all five of these classics fit together in what became his novel

WATER OF LIFE. The revelation so shattered him that his shovel missed the furnace door and coal flew all over the basement. Not a bad allegory in itself! I urge all of you to read it. Most of those who have done so have loved it and treasured it, often exclaiming, "It is fifty years ahead of its time!" Does this mean we are ready for it now? In some ways

Briefly, in the story, an American scientist catches a vision of a scientific breakthrough which could produce water from the atmosphere and bring it to the desert areas of the earth in such a way as to feed the hungry of the world without limit. His son, Dale, a deeply spiritual lad, works with him in the laboratory; but his dream is more one of bringing the "water of life" to the hungry souls of the world! The father dies, laboring frantically within reach of his breakthrough; but as he dies, he grasps the arm of his son, signaling that the answer will come through the son. The son - realizing that the answer is at hand and that the father had seen it - now can only seek the answer spiritually. This leads him into a pattern of contacts with the leading characters in these five great classics; viz; Arjuna, Odyseus, Faustus, Dante, and Job. When those five, plus Dale, the American hero of the pattern, are brought together in spiritual union and all dross brought in by others was eliminated, the answer and breakthrough comes and water flows down the western divide.

This skeletonized sketch is given only to make intelligible the pattern in the book whereby all cultures, races, languages and religionsin short, all mankind can and will flow into one great harmonious whole

and oneness.

perhaps "Yes!"

Note these five aspects which we can relate easily to our day.

First, there is the world outreach, combining many cultures. At the same time it embraces the insights and truths of all the great living religions, while drawing them beautifully and harmoniously together in the light of Christ's presence.

Next, it speaks to many of the major unsolved problems of our day. You will not find a more beautiful passage for *ecologists* than the discourse of the Indian mystic, Arjuna, on loving and caring for the

land.

Again, you will nowhere find a more profound setting forth of the roots of communication, language, and education than the dramatic teaching methods of the old Greek scholar, Dr. Greenwood.

Here, also, are combined the logic and methods of science with the creative power of the intuitive, somewhat as an interplay of the masculine and feminine elements of our natures, demanding both for balance and achievement. Women "libbers" should study that stance both for support and balanced control.

Also, it is built around a scientific development or "breakthrough" comparable to the discovery of atomic power and yet wholly constructive. (The book was published 13 or 14 years before the first controlled atomic fission.) The release of atomic energy was hastened by the pressures of war. It still threatens the total destruction of

our lives and our entire world civilization; whereas the vision in Water of Life used the power of science to feed the hungry of the world first with physical abundance, and second (or simultaneously) used spiritual reality to feed the hungry soul with God; and so changed war to peace, and strife to harmony.

Given this vision, the task becomes one of bringing it into earthly reality. In one of the most dramatic and powerful symbols in the book, Dale and Arjuna sit together at the Great Divide in our country (as I once sat with Glenn Clark) - Dale looking down on the plains below, sees warring mankind; Arjuna, looking up, sees the heavenly vision of helping, loving, harmonious counterparts above. Together they call out to those struggling on the plain below, "Sons of God, look above!" - and the

miracle happens - harmony inhabits earth - in their vision.

The rest of the book is given to the working out of this vision. It describes the *purgation* demanded in the human soul, the *alternate movement of the soul* from earth to heaven and back again, the *progress of the soul* to higher and higher realms of spiritual reality, and finally, when the earthly manifestation of the dream and vision seems doomed to failure, because of fear, false accusations and hatred by those who had invested in the project for personal gain, Dale wipes out the *last vestige of self*, eliminating all impure control in the project. At that moment, word comes by teletype that "water is flowing down the western slope of the Great Divide" - the "water of life".

This VISION was in the heart of Glenn Clark before the Camps were born. Whether he related it specifically to the Camps, I cannot say; but I see several actions he took in the Camps - and beyond - that might have come from this undergirding, universal vision. We believe that "every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord!" This faith is central in this VISION. To me, this is a significant root in our CFO heritage. Yet it may be that this great prophecy shall come to pass in a manner that we would not recognize! - just as the most learned Hebrews in Jesus' day failed to recognize him as their Messiah. Is our vision too small to recognize the full and perfect truth in our day?" We are doubtless all familiar with the statement of truth in Proverbs 29:18, "Where there is no vision, the people perish!", but we fail to realize often that if the vision is too limited, it simply means a slower death. This is why, at this Jubilee celebration, we must not limit or truncate our CFO vision if we are truly to go farthest out with our Lord and under His guidance in the years ahead. Glenn Clark, I believe, had this unlimited vision of the heavenly realms as portraved in WATER OF LIFE, even as he prepared to launch the first Camp as an instrument prepared of God for bringing the heavenly into manifestation in our everyday lives. Remember what was stated earlier: there was no one else to do it!

Glenn Clark as Leader

Seventy of us gathered from many parts of the country at Lake Koronis in Minnesota in August of 1930 at the first Camp Farthest Out. Glenn Clark was the only true leader. He spoke twice every day, and sometimes for special reasons more often. The morning talk, - later

called Spiritual Orchestration, - set the theme for the day. The evening Galilean Hour talk, - after a half hour of singing on the open porch by the lake. - gave the day all back to God. Glenn Clark led the prayer times first called prayer laboratories. He had personally chosen all other special helpers, and, with them and a few others, formed what we now call a Council Ring. With these he met in prayer early every morning before the first talk to confirm the pattern for the day. Gradually he chose some others - with his keen sensitivity of spirit to guide him - to lead morning meditations before breakfast, or recreation periods, or special events like the day's trip by means of rowboats to the island in the lake we dubbed the "island farthest out", or a whole day for planning and staging stunts in mini-dramas to break the usual daily pattern and free up our spirits with release and laughter. (Remember, we were there for three weeks!) (The leaders for physical balance and rhythmic movement, art appreciation and singing had been chosen in advance by Glenn.) Glenn also led the first creative writing sessions. As yet, there were no other creatives established. In addition, he counselled many of those present individually - perhaps all. The group included families and singles - men, women and children. Ages ranged from our two month old son, Harold, to Miss Hood in her late seventies or eighties. And so the program evolved - sometimes from day to day.

I sketch this out so you may see how completely Glenn Clark - in communion with the Lord - directed the flow of events and happenings. Yet, from the first, he was also drawing us in. There were no discordant voices, no disputes or arguments. It sounds a bit ridiculous, doesn't it? But there were reasons. We had come out of need, or hope, not knowing what to expect, but with great faith in this strange man who had invited us. We were ready to follow his leadership. We knew it was to be a training camp - a place of action. We were not there just to sit down and listen to lectures - but for a new adventure! and adventure it was! Glenn was not only a teacher, but a coach - and there is a vast difference between the two. We were not there to pass examinations but to learn by doing. And there were no rigidities. The inspirations from the inner being were encouraged and free to be expressed with spontaneity and joy. As a coach, Glenn knew how deadly criticism and self-consciousness can be to an athlete in restricting his true ability and performance. He knew the same law applied in all expression. So he made sure that in all our sharing, we were to find and see only the good in ourselves or othersnever a negative - and the effect was like magic in its releasing power and freedom from fear. Already we have mentioned that Glenn had no religious credentials as such. He was a layman. With very few exceptions, we were all laymen together. This meant that we didn't have to be "churchy". We cast aside like an outworn garment all those inhibitions and restraints, and so were free to be our true and whole selves. We could try anything we wanted to, provided only that it was an expression of Christ's spirit of love and harmony. What then did we see emerging? First of all we saw our personal problems begin to dissolve, some suddenly and dramatically, but many times in a slower growth,

truly like an athlete in training. We found ourselves living in a different atmosphere of love and appreciation, trust and expectancy of blessing, with old shackles dropping off day after day, even old habits! In this growing freedom, new talents and unsuspected abilities were emerging in joy and laughter - truly a foretaste of heaven. This experience embraced and permeated every aspect of our beings in a wholeness we had not known before - in body, mind, spirit, emotions, nature and the world about us. We learned to see the hand of God at work - not only within us, but as signs in the sky and earth, the storms and rainbows and more gradually in the events of our world. Somehow we were a living part of what was happening across the horizons - taking us into new dimensions far beyond the little closed-in selves we had brought to the camp. With it all, there was a deep knowing that God is all in all, and that as we live in Him, we live in harmony and oneness - yes in PAHRWEE -"perfectly adjusted and harmonious relationship with everything and everyone" - that under God, we are truly a Universe.

It is perhaps not possible to state exactly how all this happened. The reality is that it did happen. All of us at times stumbled and fell, learning in the process how to get up again - into balance and life's true rhythms. Sometimes we had to be helped up. At the camp itself, where we were surrounded by helpers, this was generally easy. A few times, even the

Lord himself appeared.

Perhaps I have allowed myself to be carried away by a somewhat rhapsodic account of what was happening in these "training" camps even though it is all true. You realize also that we have moved beyond that first camp alone. Really, my aim is to help us realize the *significance* of what was taking place. We were beginning to see that we were not there just for answers to our own little problems, although that was probably an essential first step in this unfolding. Rather, we were there to be prepared as *instruments* for *greater* purposes of the Lord!

We must pause here to recognize the danger to which most of us seem prone; that once we have found a taste of heavenly joy and release from the problems assailing us, it is so easy to settle down and be comfortable until another crisis hits us. Many of us campers have been as guilty as any one else in this type of self-centeredness. The tremendous response to the SOUL'S SINCERE DESIRE was because it helped each of us as individuals to find our own way to the Lord and the answer to our needs through prayer. Later when his book FISHERS OF MEN came out (which Glenn felt had just as high quality of message) the sale was very limited. At first he could not understand it; but as he sought the reason from the Lord, he realized its appeal was centered in others, not in one's own welfare. Not many were ready for that. In the same way, the appeal to attend the Camps is almost always to find help for some personal need, or someone very near and dear, and it is very easy to go no farther (The fact that some of our camps have ceased to grow may be such a warning.) Not so with Glenn Clark: The answer is right there in our name: to go FARTHEST OUT, but it must be an IMPERATIVE, not an option; a COMMAND - if we love Christ. There is the CRUX: if we love Christ! The greater purposes are Christ's purposes, and He and his Heavenly Father loved the WHOLE WORLD and everyone of us in it.

Organic Growth of New C.F.O.'s

For several years after the first CFO, Glenn Clark continued to be the only speaking leader, although at Koronis he began to invite a few friends whom he knew well in the Twin Cities to make an occasional talk. when he knew it would be in harmony. As Koronis continued to draw attendance from a wide area, the dynamic of the program plus the power of Glenn Clark's name began to stir interest and desire to hold camps in other places. The first journey away from Koronis was to Pacific Palisades in California in '32, but I really hesitate to call it a true CFO as it consisted almost entirely of his own relatives living in Southern California. It was in effect a family gathering with a full CFO program and flavor and was not repeated the next year. Two years later, after the 4th camp at Koronis in '33, the call for a camp was different. Glenn was invited by Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Holt of Chicago who had attended Koronis, to come to their summer place at Georgetown, Maine to talk for several days to friends in the summer community there - many of whom were members and teachers at Union Theological Seminary of New York City and other outstanding eastern institutions. This was truly significant. They asked Glenn to come and hold a full-fledged CFO at Harpswell, Maine the following year. From its very beginning this has proved to be a strong camp - so strong that they moved to Star Island of the Isles of Shoals for more room the next year and remained there until the war drove them off to Lake Winnipesaukee, N.H. in 1942 where they still meet.

In the Commemorative book - ROOTS AND FRUITS OF CFO you will find a diagram like a tree of life, revealing the fascinating growth of the many California Camps from their beginning. A similar tree could be drawn of the growth of the Camps in the Northeast. It is important that we realize this is an organic growth. Neither Glenn Clark nor anyone else from a "headquarters" was trying to "promote" new camps. People who had found new life in a CFO experience went home with enthusiasm, formed a prayer group or took others to camp with them until they reached the conviction they must have a camp in their own area. Years ago I began to trace this growth pattern and was startled to find that the total picture revealed an organic nature. Every few years with occasional lapses the number of Camps tended to double, - just like dividing cells in a living organism. I lost track after they reached fifteen. Yet, it was clear to me that our CFO's are living organisms, not organizations.

As the camps increased in number several things began to happen. It demanded much more of Glenn's time and more help to travel from one camp to another. He asked me to go with him, and I was finally able to arrange my other work so that I could spend four months of the year at these summer camps with him, making a skeleton leadership team which Alice Kraft, the eastern Rhythms leader, sometimes joined.

Besides us, other campers, with deep longing to continue on in camp life for more strengthening, would sometimes arrange to drive on together - like a caravan - to the next camp where they helped in many ways - certainly adding to the Camp's spiritual power! It was exciting; it was fun; it was meaningful.

Public Attention & Campers of Special Prominence

Without seeking it, CFO began to get some public attention in the media. Life Magazine in the 30's ran a feature on the Star Island Camp using colored shots: first of the World Prayer Broadcast showing the four central figures with linked hands and arms upraised like a radio tower to dramatize it, and next a rhythms class with Alice Kraft leading us in the "water lily", and also a singing snake-dance of campers winding through the lobby of the hotel. The write-up was pretty good. It got considerable attention.

With increasing numbers of Camps and attendance across the country. Glenn Clark found his contacts and prominence growing. People of considerable importance in various areas contacted him or were brought to his attention. Otto Mallery, a former member of President Hoover's cabinet, a man of wealth and President of the National Recreation Association, attended the camps and sought Glenn's counsel and prayer. Roger Babson, the noted economist and Moderator of the Congregational Church at that time, was another - along with Dr. Arthur Holt, Babson's antithesis and opponent in viewpoint in the same hierarchy. Yet at the camp they resolved their differences in mutual respect. Thomas Watson, the head of IBM, held conference with Glenn and expressed deep interest in his views. Thomas Edison's widow received him and said that her husband's methods resembled Glenn's spiritual methods in many ways. Arthur Compton, Nobel Prize winner in physics for his discovery of cosmic rays while at the University of Chicago and later Director of the Task Force which produced the first controlled nuclear fission, was guest at a small dinner meeting at the University where Glenn spoke. They had quite a private discussion afterward because of their mutual interest in world peace and faith in spiritual power. Al Williams, outstanding business executive who rose steadily from a Denver bank presidency to head of the Western Union, not only attended an early camp with his family but advised closely and in deep friendship with Glenn. Dr. Eugene Briggs, President of Phillips University, and for several years head of the Lions Club International, along with his wife and daughter, were devoted CFO'ers, and had great faith in the power of prayer. Dr. Laurence Gould, second in command to Admiral Byrd on his expedition to the South Pole and later President of Carleton College came twice to the Koronis CFO to witness to the power of his guidance in prayer which twice saved the lives of his advance party to Antarctica. Dr. Daniel Fleming and his wife Elizabeth, former missionaries to China and later Professor of Missions at Union Theological Seminary along with their gifted family, were mainstays of the Star Island CFO for many years. Though neither of the two following were ever at a camp, to my knowledge, we campers all knew of Glenn's

intimate relationship with Ralph Budd, Glenn's boyhood teacher and later dean of railroad executives and President of the Burlington System - and with DeWitt Wallace, founder and owner of the Reader's Digest, whom Glenn had helped get started in the early tough days. Walter Hoving, premier merchandizer and now Chairman of Tiffany & Co., and his wife, Pauline, also were devoted CFO'ers and always on hand and ready to entertain Glenn when speaking in New York City. In recent years Walter has been one of the main backers of Dave Wilkerson and his Teen Challenge program transforming hundreds of drug addicts. Nor must we fail to mention Mrs. John Hammond (Emily Vanderbilt), who entertained a dozen of us CFO'ers at luncheon in her mansion in New York City. Not only were she and several of her close friends dedicated CFO'ers, but she was active in the Moral Rearmament group led by Frank Buchman and a strong supporter of that work. She was very eager to bring about a working relationship between CFO and MRA. Glenn Clark went out of his way to cooperate, several of us making a special trip to the MRA headquarters in Maine, but there was no response from Buchman. Jeffry Short, Vice-President of the Quaker Oats Company and his wife, a talented pianist, were with us at the first CFO at Koronis.

I could go on and on, naming many others of significant stature. I have named these few because of their prominence in our country and to indicate the wide variety of Glenn's meaningful contacts outside of the spiritual realm, per se, touching areas of business and industry, science and education, economics and invention, transportation and communication, merchandizing, publications, missions and social welfare, plus sheer wealth on many fronts. I witness to you that none of these contacts swerved Glenn Clark from his true course under God. Rather, he helped many of them to find God more truly.

Growth in Leadership; - Prayer Power, Prophecy, Hitler Contact, The Third Front, Farther Outreach

Gradually the pattern of the Camps became pretty well established with all that meant of full involvement in creative art and writing, small prayer groups for all which demanded leadership from many of the campers themselves, the World Prayer Broadcasts, plus a heightened sensitivity by many of the campers to others with a similar message so we began to find more "fellow travelers". Louise Clark discovered Starr Daily's book LOVE CAN OPEN PRISON DOORS. She said, "Glenn, we must invite him to Camp!" Starr's first camp was Glendora, California and then he came to Koronis the same year with the marks of prison still on him, but we knew he belonged and he was amazed at what he found in CFO. Later that year he spoke at Star Island CFO and from then on spoke in many other camps. In '42, Frank Laubach appeared just returned from his mission field in Mindinao because of the war. By 1943, he too was welcomed by Glenn Clark and the camps as a speaking leader. In the next few years, Rufus Moseley, Louise Eggleston,

Agnes Sanford, Ruth Robison, Roland Brown and Dr. John Gaynor Banks, founder of the Order of St. Luke, were all added to this group of speaking leaders as the number of camps continued to increase. In all these instances, they had Glenn Clark's invitation or approval first - so careful was he as to the spirit and quality of message required to strengthen the camps, The Council Rings were ready to accept his judgment. It might sound like dictatorship, yet it wasn't. It truly was agreement in spirit.

Again we must retrace our steps almost to the beginning in order to clearly discern the roots of our heritage, beyond those already indicated. From the first camp, Glenn had emphasized our training aspects - as "athletes of the spirit" - even though we all knew we were there first to find answers for our own needs - and we were finding them! Still - as we came into deeper and deeper unity in each camp - we became aware that the Lord's power was being multiplied and reaching far beyond our individual needs. Remember, we were in the depths of the depression. One hundred miles east of Koronis, in the Twin Cities, unemployment and hardship were mounting steadily. Glenn called us to pray. Immediately after the camp, he with several other Twin City residents from his Bible Class and the camp called on the Mayor of Minneapolis to share elements of a plan that had come to them through prayer, and to suggest a man of prayer to head it up. It later developed that at that same time another man deeply concerned about conditions was driving across the state when basically the same plan struck him and inspired him to take hold and do it - almost like Paul on the road to Damascus. So it was taken out of CFO hands except for prayer but became one of the most successful undertakings anywhere in our country through barter and other devices to relieve the burden of the unemployed, despite their lack of money. The full story is in THE LAND WE VISION. This was characteristic of the deep compassion motivating Glenn in almost every regard, individual and beyond. We began our World Prayer Broadcasts, for again we must remember not only our own national depression, but the world depression beyond us. It was the day of the dictator: Stalin, Mussolini, Hitler and others - each with his own ideologies. At different times we prayed for all of them. Through Glenn's genius of sensitivity. some astounding prophecies came to him, all of which were fulfilled in amazing accuracy: such things as Mussolini's humiliation. Stalin stopping the Germans beyond the Urals and then entering the war on the side of the Allies - and within definite time frames! This is not claiming that our prayers brought these things to pass, but only that we were present spiritually, behind the scenes, and could at least have a part in fulfilling the Lord's will if we were loving and obedient and abiding.

Challenge of Literature as World Moves Toward War

Along with all that was happening in the Camps was the stream of literature flowing from Glenn's gifted pen. There is no way of knowing which had the greater influence - the Camps or the literature. We do know that it prepared the hearts of many for a Camp experience, as THE

SOUL'S SINCERE DESIRE had done, and that it brought many to the Camps. They moved together and helped each other. This stream also carried the note and challenge to *action* - still in the terms of prayer and spirit - yet none the less calling us constantly to go FARTHEST OUT. For instance, in 1934, still deep in the depression, Glenn brought out the booklet THE LAND WE VISION, suggesting how radical, conservative and middle-ground viewpoints might be brought into cooperating relationship, when our nation was filled with division and considerable conflict by these divergent views. His suggestions were again in spiritual terms. How much good THE LAND WE VISION did, I don't know, but I know that it helped me!

Shortly after - in '35 - the SILVER SANDALS booklet came out aligning us with Kagawa's Kingdom of God Movement. Not only was Glenn Clark in touch with many prominent people as named earlier, he was intensely active in reaching out to other spiritual leaders in this country and beyond whom he regarded highly. Kagawa was one of these. and his secretary, Helen Topping, had attended one or more CFOs. In 1935, Glenn's second great book, in terms of response, was published, - I WILL LIFT UP MINE EYES - a masterpiece. I have always felt that this one came out of what Glenn had learned through the Camps. Consequently, I didn't expect to learn much from it. How mistaken I was! We used it as a text book for our trainees all the years I was at Koinonia. It had an immediate wide response. Glenn later told me that when the SOUL'S SINCERE DESIRE came out, he closed his eyes and saw snow falling, falling, falling. He learned that this symbolized "the truth of God falling into the hearts of men and abiding permanently" - which was wonderfully true. When I WILL LIFT UP MINE EYES came out, he hoped to see the same thing; but instead he saw "torches - each one lighting the next - and on and on across the horizon". A friend of mine who was acquainted with many missionaries, purchased hundreds of copies and sent them to missionaries all over the world and in almost all cases they were gratefully received! Great torches! Some of them I met personally when they later attended CFO's. In '36, his booklet POWER IN ATHLETICS came out. This carried no world message, but it surely caught a lot of young men, and revealed also how Glenn, in practically everything he did, whether the movies which he loved, the weather which he might not, a chance encounter, or athletics, was seeking spiritual answers for the problems they presented.

So we went along - almost to the end of the 30's, with war clouds thickening in Europe and our depression still with us, - until one day late in August on Star Island our CFO was praying for our world with no apparent answer. At dinner it was announced that in two hours we would have our Stunt Night. "Be prepared!" and we were divided into groups. That night - right in the midst of a stunt portraying Hitler, God's presence moved as powerfully as I've ever known, and stopped Hitler in his plan to invade Poland. The full story of this is given in Glenn's booklet DOES GOD HEAR PRAYER pp. 7 through 11, published in '41. This time I do not say our prayer may not have brought this to pass through God. I know

it did! I was there! This was perhaps the most dramatic and indisputable instance of the impact of deep, true loving prayer on world events in CFO annals. It was not the last. For this reason, I must later enlarge on other incidents that are prayer related, because I am convinced that this is one of the GREAT PURPOSES to be served by our entire CFO in the next 50 years as a part of our Destiny. If the world is to be saved from destruction, we have a vital role to play! Meanwhile, there is much ground to cover.

That fall, on October 3rd of '39, Louise Clark, Glenn's wife of thirty years, stepped over to the heavenly realm. It is truly a beautiful story, related in the booklet GOLD, FRANKINCENSE & MYRRH. This set up the LOUISE MEMORIAL that year. In that plan, goals were set of outreach calling for great endeavor. If you think Glenn Clark had been fully occupied since the Camps started, you will find him doubly so in the years ahead. He explained it somewhat by saying that when he was tempted to grieve, he found he was thinking of himself; but when he could think of her joy and partnership with him in his highest goals from heaven, he could give all he had for them with zest and strength. He fully demonstrated that truth. To illustrate, let me list some of the small booklets he put out in these next years: in '39 and '40 THE MINUTE MAN. LITERATURE OF THE SOUL. GOD'S MINUTE MEN. LET US FIGHT HITLER WITH POWER (from Clear Horizons), THE SLINGSHOT OF DAVID (reporting on the action taking place under the Louise Memorial). In '41 to '43: DOES GOD HEAR PRAYER. FACING THE WORLD WITH PRAYER GROUPS. THE CFO GROUPS (located in cities across the country between Camps), THE FOUNDATION FARTHEST OUT (picking up on a permanent basis what the Louise Memorial had started), THE THIRD FRONT, THE SECOND ADVANCE OF THE THIRD FRONT, NEW FRONTIERS. Do these titles sound like "rocking chair" peace? And remember whom they are calling! CFO'ers! They were the Minute Men. Let's look at what was actually happening during those years.

Dr. Kagawa, one of the world's greatest Christians at that time, was in our country in 1936 and came to our CFO at Lake Geneva. Wisconsin as a speaking leader with Glenn. The vision he gave us of the need for Christ in Japan and in the world was tremendous. The following year. with Glenn's backing, Harvey Hill, a transformed alcoholic through his CFO contact, planned a Crusade for Christ for the Twin Cities which covered a week with outstanding nationally known speakers. Tickets were sold for this. The only one to sell out the huge auditorium was George Washington Carver, who gave his amazing lecture on the Peanut. It was a mountain top spiritual experience. All the time he had before returning to Tuskegee was spent with Glenn and a small number of CFO'ers. Before be left he told Glenn that the flowers in his hand told him that the spiritual movement of which he (Glenn) was a part would some day transform our nation. This quiet, hidden prophecy has never left me. It was after this Glenn wrote his brief sketch of Dr. Carver, called THE MAN WHO TALKS WITH THE FLOWERS.

Glenn was already at work through correspondence with many spiritual leaders, including such men as Schweitzer. Gandhi, Kagawa, Carver and others. Glenn was leaving no door untested. At the same time, he was backing, financially as well as other ways, the printing of a book entitled THE WAY OUT FOR AMERICA by Baerman and Pickett, two economists who came to Koronis to seek our prayer for a plan that gave every hope of unblocking some stalemates that were prolonging our depression. It never won acceptance by the powers that be, but it was a worthy effort.

Two other efforts that did succeed at this time - with our world at war - were (1) the meeting of the Twelve Men of Prayer in Washington in collaboration with Stanley Jones and Sam Shoemaker, and (2) the Third Front, which meant journeys to 25 major cities in the nation, holding Schools of Prayer. The Third Front was a spiritual front of love and prayer on an infinitely higher level than the first and second *military* fronts of the war. Starr Daily and I joined Glenn in this mission at his invitation, and later wrote a book together called THE THIRD FRONT reporting on our mission which we believe was deeply successful. Actually from the day we started, Hitler failed and our allies were victors, although we did not pray for victory. Again let me say that none of these undertakings would have been possible or meaningful if it were not for the ranks of the CFO'ers, now in every part of the country, who responded to these challenges. They truly were Minute Men and Women of the Spirit. But how great was the never-ceasing leadership given them by Glenn Clark, and how seldom did he miss the mark of sensitivity and obedience to the Lord and His will! Two books - besides all the booklets mentioned - came out during these years also: viz, TWO OR THREE GATHERED TOGETHER on prayer groups and HOW TO FIND HEALTH THRU PRAYER on healing. Glenn's real name for the latter was THE SEVEN BATHS OF JORDAN (which I much prefer.) One of the great reasons our CFO'ers were being so responsive to these challenges was the combined impact of Frank Laubach and Starr Daily in the Camps. They added dimensions Glenn could not: viz. Frank's compassion and contact with the "silent billion" of illiterates and Starr's vital contacts with the criminal underworld.

In order to undertake the Third Front mission, Glenn had finally retired from the faculty of Macalester College - at the sacrifice of a life pension due him if he had continued another year.

World Outreach: The Twelve, Koinonia, Belt of Prayer, Around the Globe, The First Overseas CFO's

The Twelve Men of Prayer, however, meeting in Washington each New Year's time from '42 on, issued a call through the pamphlet DARING RELIGION, for a great expansion of missions - emphasizing the technical skills that could feed the hungry, rebuild the wastes of war and re-establish the vital life processes of nations that had been broken

down in war. When this appeal also failed, the Twelve sent a delegation to President Truman asking that our nation do the job, not only for the European nations, but for the destitute, undeveloped illiterate nations as well. Frank Laubach was the leader in these efforts, but Glenn was backing him up in every way possible. As you may know, this later became President Truman's Point IV, offering technical aid to any nation needing and requesting it. The response of the nations of the world was overwhelmingly positive, and yet it took a battle of months in Congress before any funds were appropriated just to get the program started! When the program was finally announced, it was Starr Daily at the Rhodes Grove, Pa. CFO in August '49 who, with tremendous inspiration, told the campers that this was a great opportunity for us to provide a center where we could prepare these technicians to go as Christian ambassadors to these nations and so help to win the world for Christ. The response of the campers was equally tremendous, pouring out thousands of dollars right there to get our part moving. The enthusiasm at Rhodes Grove CFO leaped over to the new camp at Star Island, and then to Winnipesaukee CFO in New Hampshire. At that point, Glenn Clark called a meeting which organized and chose the first Board of Directors of Koinonia Foundation which authorized Walter Fiscus and committee to find a location and purchase the property for such a training center for technical "Ambassadors for Christ". All but one or two of the Board members were dedicated CFO'ers. This was really the first thrust, in a tangible way, of CFO'ers beyond the shores of our continent to the rest of the world in a serving way. The story of Koinonia, to which I gave the next 18 years of my life as Executive Director, cannot be told here. It is important to know that during those years more than 350 of those Christian "ambassadors" went out to more than fifty countries in all parts of the world - some for only a few years and others for many - and that over 99% were successful and many of them brilliant! This was a thrust of the CFO. largely supported by our campers. Koinonia is still recognized as one of the family of CFO organizations. Walter Fiscus was our first President, Frank Laubach, the second, Glenn Clark, the third, and Louise Eggleston the fourth on into the 1960's.

Koinonia may have opened the door to this new world interest and outreach - for from then on, many CFO groups began to go overseas on tours led by CFO'ers and made up mostly of CFO'ers. Probably Louise Eggleston led more of these than anyone else.

Most significant for the camps was when Glenn Clark, with Roland and Marcia Brown, launched out Jan. 4, 1954 to establish a CFO Belt of Prayer around our globe! We get this thrilling story in Glenn's book ON WINGS OF PRAYER. It led to the establishment of our first permanent overseas CFO's in England, and Ceylon (now Sri Lanka). CFO's were also held on that same trip in Holland, India, the Philippines and Japan. From then on it became Roland's and Marcia's mission to sow the seeds of the Kingdom and build and nurture CFO across the horizons on globe-

girdling trip after trip after trip, eleven all told. What a harvest of blessing it has been, and how bountiful as we behold it at this jubilee time. Many of our overseas Koinonians gave valuable aid to Glenn and the Browns on these seedling tours. In fact, in all of these ventures noted above, the CFO linked reinforced their work. I feel it all stems from that deep root of world regard in Glenn's vision of the Camps from the beginning, and is at least a partial fulfillment of the reality that "God so loved the world that He gave his only begotton Son" -- for us. Now his Spirit is giving us in outreach also.

CFO Comes of Age, Glenn's Passing, The Bond of Faith

In the early '50's, it became the concern of some - notably Mel Reynolds - as to what would happen to the Camps when Glenn passed on. Mel, with Glenn, worked steadily on this problem - legally and in every way he knew - to provide an effective transition from Glenn's hands to the rest of us. As indicated in this Saga, Glenn had been central in every way to the life of the CFO. Remember it was Glenn who had caught the vision of CFO from the Lord, had planted, nurtured and brought it into being 25 years earlier - and until now had continued to tend it and seen it multiply and bring forth fruit - "thirty, sixty and one hundred fold". So a perfect release of CFO by him - in love - was essential. It was beautifully done, so that in 1955 Glenn officially turned over the Camps to an organization that could legally accept the Camps and provide for their continuance, with the same spirit in which they were conceived. The BOND OF FAITH was to be our charter - thus preserving our roots as a spiritual organism, still growing and serving the Lord. The CFO had come of age. We have seen this proven now through the past 25 years - and we KNOW with all our beings in this Jubilee year and celebration - that we can fulfill our destiny as a blessed portion of the "family of God".

Glenn was surely aware of the hand of God upon him, for in '54 and '55, he resigned from Koinonia and every other position of responsibility he was holding. His last booklet was on THE HOLY SPIRIT and until the last - as Marcia's beautiful account tells us in her closing chapter in A MAN'S REACH - he was "in the Lord" - including his final prayer journey to Russia. When his spirit was released on Sunday morning, August 26, 1956, I was at the Winnipesaukee CFO, scheduled to speak that morning for some strange reason I could not understand. When we had word of Glenn's passing, I understood. I was privileged to lead the Camp in thanking God for Glenn and lift him in eternal love to our Father.

CFO Impact on World and Events; Prayer & It's Power, the Mystery of God at Work, Glenn's Genius, CFO Responsibility

From time to time, some have asked, "Has CFO had any tangible impact on World Events?" I believe strongly that it has. Yet it is not easy to answer in a down-to-earth manner. It would be impossible in my

judgment to have floods of love released in countless communities across our land as the tens of thousands of campers have done when they returned home after camp without producing amazing changes. In some instances it can be traced pretty directly - as in the case of Edith Dahlby of the first CFO who led in the PTA attack on slot-machines in Kansas City - (where Al, her husband, was a Baptist pastor). She feared not to speak often and with power - undergirded with love and prayer. The underworld harrassed her with constant phoning and threats on her life. Yet before it was over, the people of the city had been aroused to a level where in a later election they overthrew the notorious, corrupt political machine of that city. In most instances results cannot be pin-pointed so accurately. However, when you add the impact of people like Frank Laubach and the Twelve Men of Prayer, plus CFO Centers such as the House on Cedar Street (later on 19th St.) where guests from overseas in the city of Washington could find residence in a friendly, spiritual environment, and then the influence of Koinonia both in its Baltimore training center and through its many "ambassadors" sent to other countries, there is bound to be a great deal of tangible change - much of which I could itemize. The call of the Committee of the Twelve on President Truman with the request that he offer technical aid by our government to other nations needing and requesting it cannot be given full credit for the Point IV program he later announced, as many other people helped much more, but certainly that appeal under Frank Laubach's leadership was a factor.

In the realm of prayer and prayer-consciousness, however, more definite evidence can be seen for changes due to prayer power flowing through CFO action. One of the most astounding evidences occurred in the summer of 1940, in the early days of the war, six months or more after the prayer that reached Hitler so powerfully. Glenn Clark, with his friend Wilbur Schilling, who owned and managed the Schilling Travel Tours, had planned for over a year a two-month tour - as a travelling CFO - through Europe and the Holy Land. (A description headed The Camps Farthest Out in Europe is given on the last page of The Minute Man booklet. The fuller story is given on pp. 286-8 in the new edition of A MAN'S REACH.)

So sure was Glenn of his guidance in planning this tour that he was confident the war would be over very quickly without upsetting their travel plans. Instead of lessening, the war got worse. This threw Glenn into a quandary and much prayer. He came to Chicago in May and met with our CFO group monthly meeting. When he got up to speak, he began to discuss this situation. Here is the gist of what he said: He told of the preparations for this European-Holy Land trip, and how in imagination he had been going over all the land they were to visit with Jesus as the unseen leader - out there ahead in time, but just as real, even more real than the war. He said he *knew* there could be no war where Jesus was present even if only in our *imagination* and consciousness. Hence, he predicted strongly that from the date of their planned sailing for Europe on June 15th to the date for landing in port, June 22nd, there

would be negotiations between France and Germany for French capitulation: and that the terms of the agreement would be reached and made effective on the 23rd; and that there would be NO WAR on French soil until September 1st, - after the date the CFO tour would have ended! (The actual physical trip had by that time been cancelled.) Our entire group was astounded, and I doubt that we were convinced! Yet, whether we believed or not, that prediction was fulfilled in every detail, including dates. The ramifications of this are tremendous, but certainly it somehow affected and synchronized with events to an amazing degree.

There are many other instances where outer events seem to have been affected by our CFO prayers and broadcasts. Here we enter a realm where most of us know very little as to how God works - a realm where misinterpretation of events can go wild! Unless one has been involved directly in God's action and power (as when I, with the Star Island CFO, was caught up in the Hitler event), doubts can assail any of us, as they did Jesus' disciple Thomas. He had to be given material proof! So it is with us. We know not who else or how many others may be praying with us for the same end at the same time, whether one or millions. We know only when we have become spiritually involved and can see outwardly what happens. Sometimes we sense or understand our relationship. Sometimes not. No one can say - "I or we did it". Always, if anything happens, it is of God. Yet our faith, our love, our concern can and does involve us in God's action. This is basic in CFO. If we didn't believe it in some degree we wouldn't be CFO'ers. But the how the why, the grasp of how God's laws operate is always beyond our finite knowledge.

This is an area, however, where the genius of Glenn Clark was so evident. Again and again when things happened in the prayer realm that none of us understood, he would come up with startling insights or guidance as to how to work with God to manifest His power. He called this the laboratory method. In the first "prayer laboratory" ever held in CFO and so designated, we prayed by "numbers". Why? Each of us campers, at Glenn's request, had written out his/her prayer request on a slip of paper, signed it, and handed it to Glenn. As we began he explained that he had numbered each slip. As he drew each slip at random from his pocket, he would call out the number - nothing else. All of us then would pray silently for that prayer request - not knowing at all whose or what it was. We prayed until he pulled the next slip. We soon found that our inner response was different for each number, some vivid, others unresponsive. But when finished there was a veritable flood of response and witness, some with visions, release, and deep peace. Again and again when checked by the number the response was found to be to the person's own prayer request. Several received messages for another. I do not recall Glenn's ever using that method again. But it revealed to all of us that prayer is not mental! None of us knew for what or whom we were praying. It is not captured with words. We might say we know not what it is, but still affirm that it is DIVINE, bringing clarity, guidance, and answers sought, and the peace and blessing of God. Why had Glenn done this? I never asked him. I believe God told him and he obeyed - explorer

that he was.

Another example: The problem and questions was -"Why did people frequently get sick if they arrived at camp several days late?" Puzzled at first, Glenn soon found the answer. The Camp had gained spiritual momentum - *invisible* but *real* - in those first days. Latecomers were like someone trying to get on a fast moving train. They got bumped! and were "knocked out" until they could catch up inwardly with the movement of the spirit present.

Again: How was it that often - after prayer for some figure like Stalin, Mussolini, or any ordinary person - Glenn would get an inner picture of what was happening or soon would happen in that person's world? IT CAME ONLY WHEN WE HAD BEEN PRAYING IN GOD'S LOVE FOR THAT PERSON. Then the doors seemed to open, and reveal the inner and outer forces at work in that person's life! conversely, if anyone were sending out destructive thoughts toward any specific person, they were prone to return like a boomerang and strike someone near and dear to the destructive thinker!

Or further: Why did some situations seem to yield readily to prayer while others seemed to be blocked like a steel wall or fortress? The answer: One had to find an OPENING, a chink in the armor, an Achilles heel. Glenn liked to use the analogy of a wrestler and called himself a "wrestler for God". In imagination, he would prowl about the situation or person trying to find a "hold" that would evade or "sidestep" the resistance, and so gain entrance into the sacred center where God dwells in every person or situation - a type of spiritual or divine Jujitsu!

Perhaps the greatest of these insights was Glenn's understanding of the power of AGREEMENT in prayer, which Jesus emphasized so strongly when He said: "If two of you AGREE, asking anything IN MY NAME, it shall be done for you!" Glenn had the capacity of leading us campers or CFO'ers into agreement in Jesus' name, and knowing when it had become a living reality. This was the secret of our Prayer Broadcasts for the World - for in such agreement GREAT POWER was released. NOTHING was too great for it. MOUNTAINS of resistance and evil could be "cast into the sea" as Jesus put it.

The only real way my mind has been able to grasp this stupendous truth has been through the recent discovery of the laser beam. In Glenn's time, he had to use the analogy of the radio. Today, the laser seems the perfect example of the power of agreement! Basically, that is all it is - the agreement of common, ordinary but selected light beam-vibrations in such perfect and complete harmony, focus and union that it can be sent to the moon with power, it can pierce steel plates, it can repair delicate tissues in the eye, and "do a hundred things we have not dreamed of" - all symbolic of the power of God realized through agreement. Thorton Wilder said it in a simpler way, viz, "An ounce of concentration is worth a ton of diffusion!" Glenn not only understood this, but was able to bring it about and direct it. Sometimes he called it ORCHESTRATION which might reach an even higher level, because it unites differences in harmony. To a great extent this understanding and ability to sense and

deal with these invisible realities explains most and possibly all of the remarkable answers to prayer we CFO'ers have known. So as we approach these prayer events I shall strive to put down only the inner and outer realities of which I know - by involvement and presence. The interpretation of faith must be up to each of you. Two of these events were concerned with Japan.

The first was just prior to Pearl Harbor, when the Japanese Christian churches, knowing that WAR was imminent had sent a delegation to our country, to establish fellowship with the Christians of our nation. When they were in Chicago, our CFO'ers were meeting with them in prayer early each morning at their hotel. Dr. Kagawa was a member of the delegation. On the last day before Bishop Abe', their Chairman, had to leave for Japan to report to the first official convention of the UNITED Christian Church of Japan, our little CFO group discovered that our Japanese brothers in Christ had not one official statement of fellowship from any church group or representative in our country! Led by the Holy Spirit, our CFO'ers were able to get 4,000 individual statements and signatures attesting our love and fellowship to Bishop Abe' by the time he was to open the convocation in Japan! In effect this action saved the day for the new United Japanese Christian Church and delegation; but even more, it saved us from the disgrace of our own USA church in failing to respond to their overture of fellowship in Christ. I know also, from inner witness, that this established an invisible spiritual link with Dr. Kagawa and the Japanese Christians all through the war when all other channels of communication were closed.

The second instance could be described as "clearing the way for Japan to surrender" Glenn Clark tells the full story in A MAN'S REACH. The essence of it was simply that if we first surrendered ourselves completely to Christ, then anyone else would be SAFE in surrender to us or any such person. Otherwise, NO ONE IS SAFE in surrendering to another! Our Government's demand to Japan was "unconditional surrender!" Was our government worthy of making such a demand? It was almost blasphemous! But if we have surrendered FIRST to the Highest for our nation, the doors can fly open, and ALL are safe! Glenn made this a powerful symbolic drama in three successive CFO's predicting that when completed at the Koronis Camp, the WAR WOULD END! Again his prediction was perfectly fulfilled. There were many other attendant blessings as well! Does it seem presumptuous to suggest that our symbolic but real spiritual surrender had anything to do with the outcome! I believe we were led of God to do as we did! When one finds correlations like this occurring again and again, it is almost insanity not to accept the implication that God was at work in us. In this case, I believe we of the CFO were used by the Lord to help CLEAR THE WAY FOR JAPAN TO SURRENDER SAFELY!

Following the war, Frank Laubach, with the backing of the Laymen's Movement for a Christian World, marshalled the prayer forces of our nation (which included the backing and involvement of thousands of our CFO'ers) to undergird the Paris Peace Conference,

called after several earlier attempts had been made without success to establish the agreements among the nations essential to PEACE. This time, with Frank Laubach and a deeply spiritual European Baron praying together in the balcony, as thousands of us prayed daily at home. PEACE WAS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE! It is a remarkable story, and there is no question in my mind, that the UNITED PRAYER FORCE DID IT!

All of the foregoing occurred while Glenn was still with us in this earthly realm. (You will find much more detail on these and other events in Book 8 of A MAN'S REACH). Now it is important to know that his passing has not broken this impact of prayer among us of CFO on world events.

In '67, when Egypt and Israel were at war - in a Prayer Broadcast at Koronis led by Vivian Osburn - we prayed for their peace settlement. In a Chicago Daily News account about ten days later of how the peace was achieved it quoted Joseph Sisco, the chief negotiator and intermediator for our State Department, on what happened. His story coincided in time and every other aspect with the time and content of our broadcast! A few years later I was leading a Prayer Broadcast with CFO'ers meeting in San Jose, California when the meeting of the U.N. Committee on Ecological Problems and Responsibilities was beginning its session in Stockholm. The first reports had revealed great hostility toward the U.S. and other parties also. One of our CFO'ers asked if we could not pray for that conference. It was a prayer of power. The next day the Seattle paper headlined a report on the meeting - MIRACLE HAPPENS AT STOCKHOLM! It proceeded to tell of an amazing change in atmosphere that had come to the meeting, and that great progress was already on the way. As you may know, the Conference became an outstanding success, Esther and I were enroute to the Cascade Wilderness CFO in Washington State. On June 17 we had our Prayer Broadcast there. Because the Chairman of the Camp had served our government in Washington D.C. as an attorney for years and knew of much of the corruption present, we prayed at his request for the cleansing of our government in Washington. THAT IS THE DAY THE WATERGATE BREAK-IN OCCURRED! If these facts do not arouse us, they should! What they are saying is "Look! The Lord has put tremendous power in your hands, your hearts and your souls for the saving of your world. He has even taught you how to handle it through the sensitivity of Glenn Clark, Frank Laubach and others. Use it! but always, only, in Christ's love. It is a priceless gift which somehow has become a part of your CFO destiny. Accept it with humility and gratitude and multiply it without limit "to the glory of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen."

Tremendous growth of CFO overseas — FFO & CFO International

We have come to the point now where perhaps our Saga of Glenn and the Camps should end. Much has happened to CFO since Glenn has moved on - much that is good - and some that may not be - yet even the mistakes we know will turn to blessing as we love God and learn what we are meant to. My greatest thrill in these years is the wonderful development and growth of our International CFO under the support and guidance of the Foundation Farthest Out and the multiplying of CFO's all over the world. How glorious these recent years have been! At the same time, our U.S. and Canadian Camps remain our CFO foundation. Unless we Americans remain strong, the whole tree of our CFO life could be threatened. How then do we remain strong, or regain strength if we have weakened? There is no better way, I believe, than to go again to our roots, which is the whole point of this Saga and our Jubilee, and reclaim the heritage that lies in them.

Our CFO Heritage; Our Roots, the Vine of Christ in CFO, Our Destiny

Let me try to summarize what has been suggested in this account from our past and beginning, and through them see more clearly our Destiny. For that is what holds our future. As we do this - let us hold in our minds and hearts Jesus' own words to his disciples, "I am the Vine!" The vine relies on its roots and holds them together. So as we look at our roots, we are also seeing Him, the Vine.

What are these roots of the CFO vine? Every vine is not alike, and yet every vine of divine life is of Christ. So we find the uniqueness of the CFO in the universality of Christ. What a glorious reality!

Our roots surely begin with a very deep and absolute faith in the reality of God's love and care for us, his children, even to the last detail of our individual lives, and in Jesus Christ, his Son, who came NOT TO CONDEMN US BUT TO GIVE US MORE ABUNDANT LIFE!

It was a faith like this that we saw and felt in Glenn Clark that drew us to CFO in the first place. The corollary of course is an equal faith in God's word. Not until Glenn fully accepted the truth in Jesus' words and found that they stood every test did he break through to the absolute faith which transformed his life. So we find that our faith is often very weak as we begin our search; but the Camps, being rooted in such a faith, causes our faith to grow stronger very rapidly.

The next root perhaps is our being *completely accepted into the loving "family of God"*, just as we are. We *belong*-though we may not have become a fully loving member as yet ourselves! Here again, this "home" atmosphere *frees* us to be ourselves as we sense the *trust* of the family about us, and the presence and unconditional love of our heavenly Father.

Another deep root is to recognize our WHOLENESS in God: that body, heart, mind and soul are ONE. Not only is our first commandment to love God with ALL of these facets of our BEING (which is the whole)-but to GIVE ourselves WHOLLY-not partly-to Him. This is often one of the most difficult truths to grasp and practice, but CFO DOES it!

With this whole giving we learn to "live in the kingdom of heaven" - our next root - for unless ABBA - Father is at the heart of His family, it would

not be heaven. So we must learn what heaven is like, what to expect and what to count on, and to look always for the good - the heaven - in ourselves and others. If we fall down, we'll be helped up; if we make mistakes and are sorry we'll be forgiven. If we're put to the test, the Father is there to help us win through. If we are disciplined by Him, it is to prepare us for a *greater* test, leading to *greater purposes*.

This is where the root of *creative*, *divine imagination* takes overwhere God creates through us and sometimes we create with or in Him. This is where we see harmonies replacing discord, love transforming hate - where we learn to fall into balance and the rhythms of the universe of God's creation. Glenn's talks in the camps were *filled* with the insights of rhythm, balance and creation. As a matter of fact, the CAMP PROGRAM is almost perfectly designed to prepare us for these and GREATER things, truly to become "athletes of the Spirit" ready to enter God's Olympics"! The root of *discipline* is vital!

The next root - or combination of all of these roots - is to GROW! Through creative expression which reveals what ABBA wants us to be - we discover our own true soul's sincere desires, our own unque role in His kingdom, including our hungers, longings and yearnings to do His will and serve our brothers.

For all this to happen, perhaps the *central* root is that we must be in constant touch with the Father, as Jesus was, to *communicate* with Him and He with us. This is *the root of PRA YER* which not only anchors us but opens the door to the storehouse of God's gifts.

So we reach the place that Jesus' disciples did when he said in essence - "I'm not going to call you servants anymore, but friends - and tell you everything I know as soon as you are able to grasp it. You haven't made this choice, but I have chosen YOU to DO MY WORK IN THE WORLD!" This is when we truly go FARTHEST OUT. Not only do we have the WORLD view and outreach to the last person on our little planet, but in His spirit we reach out to the universe, to infinity, omniscience, omnipotence, in ONENESS with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, to our divine destiny, to perfect wholeness and fulfillment or as Brother Rufus would say it - to PERFECT EVERYTHING. Yet this is possible only in the spirit of perfect humility, for we know with all our being that we are NOTHING without Him.

So let us in the VINE of CFO be rooted and grounded in all of these ways, as our Lord continues, saying "YOU (meaning us CFO'ers now) are the branches". Then what's our job? To bear fruit! Our own unique fruit. If we cease to bear fruit, we'll be cut off by the vine-dresser! (The Lord forbid that this should happen!) In any event, we're in for a purging. Perhaps that is what our U.S. and Canadian CFO's need - to be strengthened by a purging at the loving hands of the Father who is the husbandman so that once again we may bear more and richer fruit!

What kind of fruit have we borne for these first 50 years of CFO? Some of the richest fruit known, I believe. It is manifest all through this little Saga, and it is reaching out to feed more and more of the hungry of the world, spiritually, and eventually physically, just as indicated in the

"water of life" as it has flowed down into the deserts of the world in men's souls. May our next 50 years see that glorious consummation to the glory of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit - Amen, Amen, Amen.

This is our destiny! St. John describes the "river of the water of life" - as flowing from the throne of God and the Lamb - in the middle of the street of the Holy City. Then John says - " on either side of the river grew the tree of life, bearing 12 fruits, a different kind for each month. And the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations." Dare I say it? If there is more than one tree, as suggested by its growing on both sides of the river (and no one knows if it be an endless number of trees) I wonder if one or more of those trees could be CFO, bearing fruit for whatever the need of the time demanded, and with our leaves also healing the NATIONS! At any rate, let's go into that Holy City at this Jubilee time as our Divine heritage - bearing with us our divine, creative imaginations! from Alpha to Omega. Then we shall not fail to fulfill our CFO destiny-through the next fifty years and beyond and have our share, God willing, in the saving of our world and all mankind. Amen.



THE "TWO GLENNS" AT AN EARLY CFO



THE 2ND GLENN TODAY

- 50 YEARS LATER