

The Clergy Corner

Rev. R. J. MacCumber
First Baptist Church of Andover
STAND FAST

All of us I am sure have favorite expressions we like to use when speaking to others. One expression I have picked up from a close relative in the past was the words — "Big Deal" — not always did I use it in fun.

The Apostle Paul in writing of his letters to the different churches was somewhat of an over-seer. He used one expression more than others in many of his letters. His favorite expression we discover was also two words. These two words were "Stand Fast". — Let us look then to see what Paul was referring to when quoting these two words, and his expression to them.

First of all it is found in First Corinthians the sixteenth chapter the thirteenth verse where he says, "Watch Ye, Stand Fast, in the faith, quit ye like men, be strong." The great church leader named Chrysostom referred to the apostles need to urge people of these churches on, for this great leader refers to them as being "drowsy unstable, effeminate and slow."

How fast folks change; it was but a short time before this that we read of the Apostle Peter and John standing before the hierarchy of the Jewish temple standing boldly and defending their faith in Christ and his power even in the face of impending punishment.

The second reference, where these words are spoken are in Paul's letter to the church at Galatia, in his fifth chapter and the first verse we read, "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made you free; be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage" — free from ceremonial law, the law which had to do with sin. Christ through his fine gift of salvation, freed men from the power of sin over their mortal bodies and minds.

How often however it is we find ourselves because it seems harder to trust and believe; we wish to hang back or even go back to the place where we fall pray to temptation and look at the Children of Israel; Moses led them out of slavery and misery of Egypt, and yet when faced with hardship, which by the way wasn't any harder than what they had already been through. They wished to return to bondage in Egypt.

The third reference is found in Paul's letter to the church at Philippi of Caesarea the first chapter and twenty-second verse where we read — "Stand fast in one spirit with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel," — meaning practical council in confident living, consistent living in the ways of God. Many times we have wondered about the meaning of the first portion of the sixth chapter in the book of acts as according to the reason why there was the problem concerned in these verses.

In reading it just the other day in the "living Bible" I discovered these writers and critics who have compiled this version tell us that there was a practice which wasn't just right; It seems the widows of Jewish believers were being treated more respectfully than were the widows of the Greek be-

hevers. So men selected amongst the brethren to straighten this little problem out so there wouldn't be any discrimination concerning the sharing equally among all the brethren and sisters of that community.

Lastly but one I feel just as important if not more so, is one found in the same letter as above but later in the letter, Chapter four and verse one where we read "Stand fast in the Lord my dearly beloved" — the meaning here is that we are to stand fast in the ranks, to present a strong front against temptation, a habitual communion with the Lord, and unpenetrable line of defense against the forces of evil; remember the game we used to play as youngsters, Red Rover, Red Rover let come over, then we held hands with the neighbor youngster hold-

ing as we could, and as best we could, kept him or her from breaking through our line. This is like that which Paul is saying, hold fast against all odds, Satan will try to break through our line of defense, but Christ gives us strength to hold him out if our trust is placed in Him.

Let us obey Paul's requests let us Stand Fast in the Lord Standing fast in faith and in the Spirit — free from bondage of sin, let us not let it gain a foothold over us, but may we ever stand firm for our Lord Jesus Christ!

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, on January 23, 1978 Iroquois Telephone Corporation filed with the Public Service Commission certain tariff changes that are designed to produce an additional \$173,145 in increased annual Local Service Revenue. The proposed effective date is February 1, 1978.

In addition, a 5% reduction in Intrastate Toll rates will also take effect on February 1, 1978.

The Local Service increase and Intrastate Toll reduction are a result of the Commission decision in Case No. 27100 and No. 27089 involving the New York Telephone Company. The independent telephone companies of New York State were given the opportunity, in this order, to offset the amount of the overall reduction in Intrastate Toll Settlements

The amount of the increase for Iroquois Telephone Corporation represents a 5.38% in all Local Service Rates, EXCLUDING EXTENSIONS. EXTENSION SERVICE IS EXEMPT FROM THIS INCREASE. The amount of each individual's increase will depend on the current volume of Intrastate Toll calls now made.

Also effective February 1, 1978 a discounted toll plan for residence and Centrex Dormitory customers is introduced. This plan is called DIAL-A-VISIT. DIAL-A-VISIT is an optional service. It permits customers to receive a discount of up to 50% on DDD Sent-Paid intrastate toll calls placed during certain hours. A \$6.00 minimum charge will apply each month.

The following examples will show how DIAL-A-VISIT discounts apply:

Total Charges for Qualified Toll Calls	50% Discount	Total Billable Charges
A. \$ 5.50	\$2.80	\$6.00 minimum
B. 18.00	9.00	9.00
C. 12.00	6.00	6.00
D. 11.00	5.50	6.00 minimum

Intrastate DDD Sent-Paid toll calls placed within the following time periods are included in the plan:

Monday through Friday	5:00 P.M. to 8:00* A.M. the following day
Saturday, Sunday and on the five toll holidays	8:00 A.M. to 8:00* A.M. the following day

*Up to but not including Toll calls placed at any other time (8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. weekdays) are billed standard toll rates.

All intrastate DDD calls made during the DIAL-A-VISIT hours are included in the plan.

Where a customer has more than one line billed on the same bill, usage on all lines is included in the one plan.

No service connection charges apply to DIAL-A-VISIT.

A one month minimum charge applies.

Copies of the proposed local service rates are available for public inspection at the Business offices listed below, our Division Headquarters at 14 Classic Street, Sherburne, New York, or at the offices of the Public Service Commission, Albany, New York.

Any questions about this new proposal may be directed at your nearest business office.

- IROQUOIS TELEPHONE CORPORATION**
- 6329 Route 21 Alfred Station, N. Y. 607-587-8141
 - South St. Cato, N. Y. 315-626-2111
 - 6 Dryden-Freeville Rd. Dryden, N. Y. 607-344-8241
 - 10 Main St. Dundee, N. Y. 607-243-8151
 - Lockport-Ward Rd. Saratoga, N. Y. 716-731-4301

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Advertisement

Sealed Bids are requested by the Andover Central School District for: 53 passenger School Bus 1978.

Bids will be received until March 6, 1978 at 12:00 noon in the Business Office, Andover Central School, Andover, New York 14806 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read. Specifications may be obtained at the same office.

The Board of Education reserves the right to reject all bids.
Board of Education
Andover Central School District
No. 1 of the Town of Andover, Independence, Wellsville, Greenwood, & Ward
By Charville R. Jordan
Purchasing Agent

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BUYING - Furniture, Antiques, Whole Household preferred. Paying Top Dollar Contact Tom Smith after 6 P. M. phone 478-8380.

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Legal Notice

Collector's Notice for the Collection of County and Town Taxes.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned collector of Andover has received the tax list and warrant for the collection of County and Town Taxes in the Town of Andover and that we will receive voluntary payments during the regular Banking Hours at the Citizens National Bank and Trust Co. in Andover. We have been instructed by the Andover Town Board to collect all taxes free of fees from January 1, 1978 to February 1, 1978. The next twenty eight days to add 1% and after March 1, 1978 — 1 1/2% will be added to all taxes due.

Such proposed changes are available for inspection during business hours at the Town Clerk Office in Andover, N. Y.

Dated January 3, 1978.
ANDOVER CITIZEN NATIONAL BANK AND TRUST CO.
GLADYS FOX
Tax Collector