

—CHARLES ASHAEL ALLEN—
1896-1969

CHARLES ASHAEL ALLEN ...was a mischievous boy in school and got the blame for many things he didn't do. He helped his mother milk cows to keep his father in the mission field. While working in Bluewater, New Mexico he was called to the Southern States Mission. He started out with a hat, a suitcase, and one shirt besides what he wore. His Aunt Hattie Miller stopped him and told him to come in and she supplied him with many of the necessities for missionary life. As his mission was during the first world war he was often called a "slacker." He was mobbed once and had the unusual experience of being poisoned once by a woman who, much to her surprise, found him alive the next morning. She said she was testing the Lord concerning, "These signs shall follow them that believe, they could drink deadly poison and it should not hurt them." He was sick all the next day but kept on working.

He was blessed with many manifestations of the Spirit. On one occasion he saw many devils enter a building. He and his companion were sent to a small settlement to dedicate a member's grave. As it was Sunday, they announced they would hold a meeting at the schoolhouse at 8 o'clock (the regular time and meeting place of another church.) Everyone came out to see who would hold the meeting and the preacher of the other church was very angry. Ashael told him that the Lord said, "If you are not one, you are mine," and suggested that they hold their meeting together. After much haggling Ashael was assigned to preach first. After his sermon and dismissal he took a seat in the audience and exercised all faith that no evil spirits would be able to operate that evening. (His companion secretly hoped that they would as he wanted to see the show.) As the other minister conducted the service of song and prayer, Ashael sat and perspired until he was wringing wet. Suddenly, the spirits came! "I saw them enter in at the forty-five degree angle just below the ceiling on both sides; one of them struck me in the spine from one end to the other. At that instant the preacher began to shake and tremble and jumped up and down, a woman (who seemed to be one of the leaders) had a baby, a few months old, on her lap, she was sitting on the stand; she jumped up and the baby rolled onto the floor. The whole house was in an uproar. I looked at my companion and he had a very distressed look on his face. I nodded toward the door and he immediately got up and started for the door. The people commenced to shout, "You can't endure sound doctrine." They went out of the building to a clump of oaks and he asked his companion if he had enough, and the companion agreed that he had. They knelt in prayer and then returned to the schoolhouse and commanded that through the priesthood they held that the spirits depart. The house became so quiet that you could hear a pin drop, and they were grateful that

they had been masters of the situation.

After his marriage to Ida, they moved to Los Angeles where he worked for the police department until his retirement in 1943. Since then he and his wife have filled another mission in the Spanish-American Mission and are at present farming in Farmington, New Mexico.

Ida and her family were driven from Mexico by the Revolutionists. She worked at the O.S. Stapley Hardware Co. as secretary until her marriage to Ashael.

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