

12-18-1958

December 18, 1958

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/arbn_55-59

Recommended Citation

Arkansas Baptist State Convention, "December 18, 1958" (1958). *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1955-1959*. 24.
https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/arbn_55-59/24

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine at Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita. It has been accepted for inclusion in Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1955-1959 by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita. For more information, please contact mortensona@obu.edu.

ARKANSAS
Baptist

In This Issue

The Meaning of Christmas, Page 5
Southern Seminary Hearing, Page 8



DECEMBER 18, 1958

Christmas Prompts Kind Thoughts for Others

THE CHRISTMAS Season is a welcomed event in the life of our world. It is like an oasis in the desert. It is like rest to a weary soul. And, how we do need a period in which this tired world can lay aside much of its bitterness, strife and hatred, and experience anew something of Christian love toward others. We cannot think deeply about Christmas without feeling more kindly toward others. Our attitude toward others is vividly demonstrated — not so much in what we say — as in what we do.

One of the fine things about the Lottie Moon Christmas offering is the opportunity to express our love for others in a very practical way. This offering has been the means through the years of making the person and spirit of Christ known to teeming multitudes.

Likewise, the Cooperative Program when appraised in its true perspective, becomes a vehicle for conveying the grace of God to the lives of others. No

one can get excited by giving to a program, but when we visualize the needs of human beings being met in the name of Christ — the Cooperative Program becomes an opportunity of Christian service that thrills and blesses.

You will be glad to know as of December 1 we have received a total of \$1,332,682.56 in undesignated contributions for world missions through the Cooperative Program. Thus we only lack \$167,317.44 of having received our total budget of one and one-half million dollars for the year of 1958.

The above amount would be a big order to receive in one month. In fact, we have never had a month when our cooperative receipts ran that high — but it could be done. It shall be done if all of us find it in our hearts to share more largely with others at this Christmas season.

There are one hundred Baptist churches in Arkansas which have not given anything through the Coopera-

tive Program for world missions during the year 1958. Wouldn't it be a wonderful thing if everyone of these churches would respond before the close of the year with an offering in keeping with their ability?

Many of our churches will have been so blessed of the Lord this year that they shall come to the close of the year with some surplus funds. If these churches would share largely with the world through the Cooperative Program out of these funds we could reach our total budget. All offerings to be included in the year 1958 must reach our office by Jan. 5. You can have an enlarged part in making Christ real to many people by suggesting that your church share more generously with others at Christmas through the Cooperative Program.

We in the Baptist Building sincerely hope and pray for all of you the best at Christmas and throughout the New Year.—S. A. Whitlow, Executive Secretary. ■

Forward Program Conferences Set

FOUR DISTRICT Forward Programs of Church Finance conferences will be conducted in January. These will be two-hour conferences from 7 p. m. to 9 p. m.

The Northeast District conference will be held in the Central Church, Jonesboro, Jan. 12. The associations in this district are: Current River, Gainesville, Greene County, Mt. Zion, Mississippi County, Trinity, and Black River.

The North Central District conference will be held in the 1st Church, Mountain Home, Jan. 13. This district is composed of the following associations: White River, Big Creek, Rocky Bayou, Stone-Van Buren-Searcy, Little Red River, and Independence.

The Northwest District conference will be held in the 1st Church, Springdale, Jan. 15. This territory includes five associations, namely: Benton County, Carroll County, Boone County, Newton County, and Washington-Madison.

The West Central District conference will be conducted in the 1st Church, Ft. Smith, Jan. 16. The following associations make up this district: Clear Creek, Concord, Buckner, Ouachita, and Dardanelle-Russellville.

Check these dates and plan to attend the conference in your district.

FEBRUARY CONFERENCES

There will also be four Forward Program of Church Finance Conferences in February. The dates for these are:

East Central District, Monday, Feb. 16; Southeast District, Tuesday, Feb. 17; Southwest District, Friday, Feb. 20; and the Central District, Monday, Feb. 23.

Check these dates and make plans to attend the meeting in your territory.

CHURCH BUDGETS

Many churches are now making up their budgets for 1959. If the budget committees will remember two things, it will help world missions.

1. Recommend to the church that it go on a percentage basis in giving through the Cooperative Program.

2. Remember the slogan, "2 Plus," and recommend that the church give at least two per cent more through the Cooperative Program next year than this year.

A great number of our churches are increasing their world mission gifts twenty-five per cent, and surely every church can increase at least two per cent. Try it.—Ralph Douglas, Associate Secretary. ■

Next Issue Jan. 1

FOLLOWING a custom of long-standing, no paper will be issued for the week of Christmas. Our next issue will be that of January 1.

The editor and staff of the Arkansas Baptist wish each and all of their readers a blessed Christmas season and a happy New Year.

Alabama Baptists Set \$3,515,000 Budget

BIRMINGHAM —(BP)— Alabama Baptist State Convention elected B. Locke Davis, Parker Memorial Church, Anniston, Ala., president.

It adopted a budget goal for 1959 of \$3,515,000. Of that amount, \$1,134,200 is to be forwarded to agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention.

More than 5,000 messengers and visitors were present at the closing session of the convention, addressed by Billy Graham. ■

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

107 BAPTIST BUILDING
LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

Official Publication of the
Arkansas Baptist State Convention

ERWIN L. McDONALD, Editor and Manager

MRS. E. F. STOKES, Circulation Mgr.

Publication Committee: Dale Cowling, Little Rock, Chairman; John Holston, Batesville; Homer Bradley, Eudora; Byron King, Tuckerman; Dillard Miller, Mena.

Published weekly except on July 4 and December 25.

Entered Post Office, Little Rock, Arkansas, as second class mail matter. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided in Section 1132, October 1, 1913.

Individual subscriptions, \$2.25 per year. Church Budget, 14 cents per month or \$1.68 per year per church family. Club plan (10 or more paid annually in advance) \$1.75 per year. Subscriptions to foreign address, \$3.75 per year. Advertising rates on request.

The cost of cuts cannot be borne by the paper except those it has made for its individual use.

Articles carrying the author's by-line do not necessarily reflect the editorial policy of the paper.

Paragraph abbreviations used in crediting news items: RNS, Religious News Service; BP, Baptist Press; CB, church bulletin; DP, Daily press.

December 18, 1958

Volume 57, No. 50

Texas Convention Leader to Address March Meeting of Arkansas Brotherhood



Dr. E. Hermond Westmoreland

Leaders Discuss Ways To Aid Baptists in Spain

REPRESENTATIVES OF the Baptist World Alliance, the Baptist Joint Public Affairs Committee, and the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board met in Richmond, Va., Dec. 4 to discuss ways to help the Baptists of Spain secure religious liberty.

The conference was occasioned by the recent closing of three Baptist churches by order of the Spanish Government and continued reports from Spain that Baptists and other evangelicals are facing greater difficulties than at any time since the Spanish civil war ended in 1939.

The Baptist officials reviewed recent acts of religious oppression, among them an unprecedented closing of evangelical churches and chapels. At least six, including three Baptist churches, have been closed by the Spanish Government during the year and at least three others have been ordered to stop their services or be closed officially.

Steps were taken to use diplomatic and ecclesiastical channels in an effort to bring relief to Spanish evangelicals whose only offense has been assembly for private worship.

There are more than 25,000 Protestants in Spain, with about 200 meeting places. Baptists have 42 congregations with a total of about 2,600 members. At least six of these groups are denied the use of the meeting places which they have sought to use. In every case services continue to be held in homes, but the churches are not able to grow as they would if they had the privilege of assembly in suitable chapels. ■

DR. E. H. WESTMORELAND, South Main Church, Houston, Tex., ex-president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, will speak at the Arkansas Baptist State Brotherhood Convention, in Baptist Tabernacle, Little Rock, on March 6 and 7.

Dr. Westmoreland, a native of Logan County, Ark., is well known to many Arkansas Baptists, both preachers and laymen. He is a graduate of Ouachita College and of Southern Seminary.

His initial pastorate following his seminary days was at 1st Church, Monticello. From Monticello he moved to Leland, Miss., as pastor of the 1st Church. From Leland he went to be pastor of the great South Main Church, where he has served for nearly 20 years.

Coming to Arkansas also to help in the Brotherhood Convention are George Wheeler, Carbondale, Ill., Brotherhood Secretary of the Illinois Baptist Convention, and Lucien Coleman, associate secretary of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Convention, Memphis, Tenn. Mr. Coleman will be well remembered by many Arkansans for his work as associate to Dr. B. L. Bridges, then executive secretary of Baptist work in Arkansas.

Both of these men are specialists in their work, capable leaders, and excellent speakers.

A great Brotherhood Convention is in the making! Mark your calendar now for Friday afternoon and evening, March 6, and for Saturday morning, March 7. Begin now to point your men towards the Arkansas Baptist Brotherhood Convention.—Nelson Tull, Secretary, Brotherhood Department.

American Bible Society Aids in 1959 Emphasis

NEW YORK —(BP)— The American Bible Society here has printed one million copies of the Gospel of John for the Southern Baptist Convention's "New Life for You" emphasis during 1959.

Printing was done at the request of the department of evangelism of the Convention's Home Mission Board. Leonard Sanderson, Dallas, is secretary of evangelism.

The pocket-size, paper-back Gospel of John is the same format as distributed by the American Bible Society generally. However, the special edition has a different front cover emphasizing the "New Life for You" theme. The back cover contains an invitation to visit a Southern Baptist Church. ■



THE SPIRIT of Christmas is reflected in the happy faces of children singing of the birth of the Babe of Bethlehem. This issue of the Arkansas Baptist carries several articles on the Christian meaning and observance of the day.

Baptist Leaders Chosen By Temperance League

DR. DUKE K. McCall was reelected for the fourth term as President of the National Temperance League at its biennial meeting in Cleveland, Nov. 12. Dr. McCall, president of Southern Seminary, Louisville, was first chosen president in 1952. The National Temperance League has 42 interchurch state affiliates throughout America.

Another Louisville resident, Rev. Walter C. House, executive director of the Temperance League of Kentucky, was chosen as chairman of the administrative committee and 1st vice-chairman of the Executive committee. He will also serve as chairman of the Legislative committee which promotes temperance legislation in Congress.

Resolutions urging Congress to ban speedily all forms of liquor advertising in interstate commerce, and to ban the serving of alcoholic beverages on airlines were adopted by the N. T. L. Board of Directors. ■

Anderton Promoted

NASHVILLE, Tenn. —(BSSB)— T. Lee Anderton, chief draftsman since 1953 in the Baptist Sunday School



MR. ANDERTON

Board's Church Architecture Department, has been promoted to the position of architectural supervisor. In his new position Anderton will supervise the study, planning and designing of church buildings and other related Baptist buildings. ■



The Song of the Angels

ONE OF THE strange phenomena connected with the miraculous birth of Jesus, the man-God born of a virgin, was the singing of a heavenly host:

*Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among men
with whom he is pleased! (Luke 2:14)*

What is the message of this song for the 20th Century world, for Little Rock, for Arkansas?

It is significant that the appearance of the angels was not to the royal court of Caesar Augustus, whose decree had caused Mary to be in Bethlehem when her matchless son was born. Nor was it to the learned societies of the day. Strangely, the heavenly chorus did not appear to the religious leaders. Rather, the appearance was to "shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night." Greatness and preference as the world would judge were of no import at all, for this was a performance no power on earth could command.

But of even greater significance was the fact that the message of the song of the angels, though it was heard by a lowly group as far as position or standing was concerned, was for all men. In the flesh, Jesus was a Jew, but as the Son of God he came to earth that all men might have the gift of eternal life through the acceptance of himself as Lord and Savior. And in him "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus" (Gal. 3:28).

"Peace among men is the climax of life's great hope, but it is not the beginning. The beginning is the adoration of God himself. Our betterment cannot come from human schemes; it must come from God."—The Interpreter's Bible

And that, we believe, is the message of the angels to the world at Christmas 1958.—ELM

Personally Speaking . . .

What for Christmas?

"WHAT DO you want for Christmas?" "What's Olde Santa going to bring you?"

These are questions we have heard all our lives at this time of the year, and we are still hearing them.

Well, what do you want for Christmas?

Some things that used to be common and acceptable as Christmas presents are no longer to be had or desired, except as antiques. We are thinking of the cups with the moustache guards that Mamma used to give Papa. Also, there was the coal oil lamp with its beautifully flowered shade that Papa and the kiddies used to give Mamma — a present no less acceptable because it was something the whole family could use and enjoy.

Time and space fail us to mention such things as andirons ("dogirons"), coffee grinders, single or double-bit axes, crosscut saws, sausage-grinders and dozens of other things which may or may not still be on the market but which, because of our present way of life, are not considered essential to the efficient operation of a modern home.

"But," some will be asking, "what did these things ever have to do with what people wanted for Christmas?"

Well, kind friends, before we all got to living like kings and queens, flitting around in cars or lolling on couches or sprawling in easy chairs to watch television, the most of us had to work for a living. And we had to live on a lot less than what we call necessities today.

It used to be that people had to be far more practical in their Christmas shopping than now. Aside from a few toys, like dolls, popguns, and monkeys-on-strings, what we bought for Christmas presents had to have a year-round utility.

What do you want for Christmas?

A happy Christmas is not assured merely by what can be tied in tinsel and ribbon. It is to be found only in the hearts of men and women and boys and girls who, through the greatest gift of all, the Lord Jesus Christ, have been transformed into people of goodwill, eternally in love with God and with the people of all ranks and nations.

Where the love of Christ abides there will be happiness at Christmas and throughout the future, whether the possessor be young or old, wealthy or poor, healthy or ill, and regardless of the station in life or color of skin. Christ has given us His peace. And he has overcome the world.

Regardless of what you may give or receive at Christmas, may you have Christ, the gift of our loving Heavenly Father to a lost world. ELM

On the Meaning of Christmas

Letters to the Editor

THE PEOPLE SPEAK

CHRISTMAS MEANS many things to many people.

To George Wither, Christmas was a time of joy. In the **Christmas Carol** he wrote:

*So now is come our joy full'st feast;
Let every man be jolly;
Each room with ivy leaves is drest,
And every post with holly.*

To Longfellow, Christmas was a time to pray for peace. In **Christmas Bells** he wrote:

*I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old, familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet
The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good will to men.*

To Charles Wesley, Christmas was a symbol of religious significance. In the **Christmas Hymn**, he wrote:

*Hark the herald angels sing,
Glory to the new born king;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!*

These are times when man is forced to rethink for himself the true meaning of Christmas. This is true because, for many, the circumstances of these days make Christmas seem a long way off. For instance, recently the mass population has been forced to face the reality of infinite space, with the implications of living in a universe rather than on an earth. The very real threat of self-destruction has been placed in the realm of frightening possibility. As never before in the world's history, man is faced with crisis.

This crisis is so intense that one begins to question his small part in such unlimited scope of things. What does one day mean in the length of days? What is the significance of one person's effort for good, in a world that threatens to destroy both good and evil? Why attempt to understand one person, when countless persons can be made not to exist? These are questions that some men ponder in these days.

What does Christmas say to these things? There are two emphases of Christmas: one is superficial and man-centered; the other is deeply and significantly religious.

Christmas, to many, is symbolized by the gaiety and party spirit of a period of the year when friendship is proved to be a pseudo relationship, no more real than the dried-out Christmas tree. To these persons there is an untiring effort to jump into the "spirit of things"; to engage in excesses and pleasures that tend to make man forget the fact that he must wake up to the reality of his responsibilities. The din of commerce serves to make a "dark glass" that makes it almost impossible to see through to the deeper meanings of the season. It almost seems that the more intense the crises of man, the

louder will be his efforts to drown out eternal values.

But there is a note, though almost obscured in the din, that sounds loud and clear. This is the note which tells the real meaning of Christmas. God was in Christ in the world reconciling the world unto Himself. Christ is Immanuel — God with us! This is the true meaning of Christmas.

Most people talk about "getting the Christmas spirit." That is, make yourself get into all the furious activity and gaiety of the season. But one does not "get into the spirit" of the real meaning of this season. On the contrary, the real significance gets hold on man. Thus it is that man, disturbed by world and personal conflict, finds reassurance at Christmas. This reassurance comes in the realization that God has come into the affairs of man; that man finds the answer to his questions concerning his existence in Christ.

The real meaning of Christmas is the same today as two thousand years ago. Man is in need of God's intervening grace because of man's deliberate rejection of Divine love. Christmas means that man is a sinner; that he is finite; that he is limited. Christmas means that God is Love, that He is infinite; that He is eternal. Christmas also means that man is the image of God. Thus, Christmas is a season of repentance and faith, of humility and confession, of dedication. Herein lies the real meaning of Christmas.—Dr. Don Corley, Chaplain, Baptist Hospital. ■

New Year's Eve Service For Crusade Suggested

THIS YEAR New Year's Eve comes on Wednesday evening, the regular prayer meeting night. What an opportunity for our churches to have the greatest Watch-Night prayer services they have ever experienced! It should be a time when our Baptist people around the world, on bended knees, offer intercessory prayer for lost people and the '59 Crusade.

In the Revival Plan Book, page 9, is a suggested program for the New Year's Eve prayer service. It is an excellent plan.

Soul Winning Commitment Day

Sunday, January 4, is Soul Winning Commitment Day. People should be given an opportunity to commit themselves to soul winning. On page 10 of the Revival Plan Book are some suggestions about the service and method of Commitment.

Televangelism

Thirteen TV films in "This is the Answer" series is scheduled for showing over KATV (Channel 7) beginning January 4, 2 p. m. The films will deal with specific problems that hinder a

For the Future

Dear Editor:

I THINK THAT the Foundation is one of our best organizations. I will admit that the people have been rather slow in placing their trust in it. We are slow to recognize the value of foundations. I realize that most of us do not and will not ever have too much money and property to assign to our Foundation.

But it is my wish that while we are making money and accumulating estates that we will place some of it in a permanent fund for the future generations. I have the utmost confidence in Dr. Bridges and the Foundation board and I am sure that they will administer it in a way pleasing to all.—C. R. Counts, Ozark

Duplicating

Dear Editor:

THE OTHER day I visited in one of the mission-churches of our church and I found three women sitting on the floor running off bulletins: one pushed the paper through with her hand, another picked it up as it came through, and the third put them between blotters. The machine they were using must be the first to come out. So if any one has a used duplicator (of a later origin) and would like to make this church a gift, please have them mail it direct: Rev. Harry Dodd, Friendship Baptist Church, Box 4, Medina, Ohio.

If any of the churches have any slightly soiled or used baptismal or choir robes we could use them in our church. We plan to start a Junior and Intermediate Choir soon.—Ottis Denney, Akron, O.

vital faith in Christ. They are in preparation for the Evangelistic Crusades. Read page 7 in the Revival Plan Book and note how your church can use this program in winning people to Christ.

Evangelistic Materials

Last week we mailed to pastors and missionaries an envelope filled with evangelistic material. We urge pastors to read and use each to good advantage in his church program. Put the posters up, plan the census, order your supply of gospels and advertising materials, follow the schedule in the Revival Plan Book. If any pastor failed to get any, let us know and a supply will be mailed pronto!

Christmas Greetings — from all of the employees of the Evangelism and Missions Department!—C. W. Caldwell, Superintendent ■

HERBERT GIVENS and Mitchell Webb were ordained as deacons of 1st Church, Pea Ridge, Nov. 30.

Transition

Stranger than fiction;
Strong, as is love;
Frank, too, as nature;
Meek, like a dove;
Bright as a primrose,
Sweet, and at peace;
Off to your haven,
Soul in release.

Out of your sorrows,
Out of your fears,
Out of uncertainty,
Toiling and tears,
Into God's glory,
Shielded by grace,
Never to wander
More from His face.

Beauty is nothing;
Riches, a goat;
Pleasure, a wreckage,
Honor, a mote;
These, to oblivion,
Pass from the view;
Heaven approaches,
All things are new.

Stranger than fiction,
How can it be,
God, in His mercy,
Waiting for thee?
Awaiting a sinner,
Evil, defiled;
Saved by redemption,
Owned as a child!

—W. B. O'Neal,
Jacksonville.

Revival Reports

TRINITY BAPTIST Church, Texarkana: evangelistic revival with Roy Gandy, pastor Lakeview Baptist Church, preaching; Leo Hughes, Trinity pastor, song leader and Johnny McGuire, pianist. Four by letter, six for baptism and a large number for rededications.

* * *

● THIRD CHURCH, Malvern, has begun a mission at Poyen. H. H. Ashcraft is acting superintendent of the Sunday School. Bob Bacon, Ouachita student, is doing the preaching. The congregation is meeting in the home of Willard White. (CB)

* * *

● LEONARD STREET Church, Hot Springs, has moved into new quarters on Central Ave. (CB)

* * *

● JAMES C. GERRISH was licensed to the ministry by 3rd Church, Malvern, Nov. 30.

● WAYNE GREENWOOD, freshman in Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge, was awarded an attendance pin for 14 years of perfect attendance in Sunday School.



MR. GREENWOOD

This award was presented by his pastor, Floyd Gentry, 1st Baptist Church, Willow Springs, Mo. This was given on their annual Honor Day.

● KAREEM ASAL, freshman of Southern Baptist College, from Nazareth, Israel, spoke to the Young People's Department of the 1st Church, Ester, Mo., Nov. 23. He also spoke to the Woman's Missionary Union of the 1st Church, Searcy, Dec. 3.

● REV. AND MRS. W. Alvin Hatton, Southern Baptist missionaries to Brazil, are returning to the States for furlough. Their address is 2704 Hickory, Abilene, Tex. Mrs. Hatton is the former Catherine Jordan, a native of Dermott.



MRS. T. Bradley Bolin pins a five-year service pin on Mr. Bolin, manager of the Baptist Book Store, in recognition of his service with the Baptist book stores. The award, from the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, was made at a recent meeting of the staff of the Baptist Book Store in Little Rock, where Mr. Bolin is completing his second year as manager. Before his employment with the Baptist book store, Mr. Bolin served for fourteen years in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma, as educational director. He served as floor supervisor of the Baptist Book Store in Oklahoma City from Nov. 9, 1953, until coming here, Jan. 1, 1957. Mrs. Bolin is the former Miss Ethel Reecer of Lawton, Okla. The Bolins are active members of 2nd Church, Little Rock, where Mr. Bolin is a deacon.

New Magazine Scheduled By Sunday School Board

NASHVILLE, Tenn. —(BSSB)— A new magazine, **Church Administration**, will be published by the Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Administration Department beginning in October.

The 40-page monthly will be edited by Howard B. Foshee, secretary of Church Administration Department.

The magazine will be directed to church staff members, deacons, church council members, church officers (clerks, treasurers, ushers, trustees) and church committee members (nominating, Lord's Supper, personnel, properties). ■

Student Night Plans Sent to Pastors

NASHVILLE, Tenn. —(BSSB)— Dec. 28 is the date for the Student Night at Christmas observance.

Churches across the Convention will be honoring their college students. "Ties That Bind," the 1958 theme, allows student expression on such topics as his Baptist Student Union, his faith, and his church.

Approximately 29,000 packets of materials have been mailed to Southern Baptist pastors and churches. ■

Concord Notes

HAROLD SMITH, 1st Church, Ft. Smith, was the "M" night speaker on Dec. 1, in the Van Avenue Church, Bastrop, La., and, on Dec. 2, in Faulkner County Association, 2nd Church, Conway.

DR. WARREN HULTGREN, pastor of 1st Church, Tulsa, Okla., was the "M" night speaker in 1st Church, Ft. Smith, Dec. 1. One thousand and eighty-seven attended, with the Barling Church winning the attendance banner, and Burnsville, a rural church, winning the efficiency banner.

THREE CHURCHES in Concord recently called pastors. The Glendale Church went from half to full time and called Ray Kesner, a recent graduate of Ouachita College. Burnsville has gone to half-time work and has called Don Durden, Ft. Smith, and Mixon has called Jimmy Hoffman, formerly pastor of the Kibler Church, Clear Creek Association.

THE BARLING CHURCH, David Land pastor, had Glenn Smith, pastor of the Bethel Church, Muskogee, Okla., recently in a revival meeting. There were 5 additions by baptism, 3 by letter, 10 rededications and 4 pledged to tithe. The Barling Church has voted to build a new auditorium.

MURL WALKER, pastor of the Kelley Heights Church, Ft. Smith, has conducted a revival in the Nicoma Park Church in Oklahoma City. There were 5 by baptism and 6 by letter. Boen Hallum is the pastor, and Harald Regan, minister of music, directed the singing.

1ST, PARIS, has ordained James Kinney, principal of the Paris high school, as deacon. Missionary Moore led in the interrogation. Tommie Hinson, pastor, served as moderator and Dale McCoy, of 1st Church, Brinkley, preached the sermon.

THE CLARK CHAPEL Church in Buckner Association has ordained Richard Kress, Ft. Smith, to the ministry. J. T. McGill, missionary, served as moderator; Harold Plunkett, pastor, Hartford, preached the sermon; and Warren Leonard, Ft. Smith, led in the interrogation. Kress is the pastor of the Clark Chapel Church.

DON DURDEN, Ft. Smith, has been ordained to the ministry by Grand Avenue Church. Jim Pleitz, pastor of the church, led in the interrogation and acted as moderator. C. C. Roberts, formerly missionary in the association, preached the sermon, and Jay W. C. Moore, missionary, presented the Bible and gave the charge.

THE RYE Hill Church, William McIver, pastor, has ordained Jack Childers, Burl Boyd and Jack Childress as



THE NEW educational building, Grand Avenue Church, Ft. Smith, was dedicated Sunday, Dec. 7, by Dr. S. A. Whitlow, executive secretary of Arkansas Baptists. The new building, of fireproof masonry, is centrally heated and air conditioned. It has 13,100 feet of floor space and was constructed at a cost of \$146,000, equipped. The building will house 8 Sunday School departments, with 40 classrooms, a music rehearsal room, a music library, 2 choir robing rooms. An additional enrollment of 600 in Sunday School can be housed in this new building. Grand Avenue Baptist Church was organized in 1934 with 19 members and now has a church membership of 1,715. At present there are 1,491 enrolled in Sunday School and 605 members in the Training Union. During the month of November the average attendance in Sunday School was 877 and 391 in Training Union. The church now owns property valued at over \$500,000. James Pleitz is in his fourth year as pastor of the church. James Chatham is minister of education and Jerry Howell is minister of music.

deacons. M. E. Wiles served as moderator. Pastor McIver preached the sermon. L. L. Gilliam charged the men and the church and Harlan Abel, pastor of the Towson Avenue Church, led in the interrogation.

IN THE spring revival Rye Hill Church will have Delbert Garrett, Sheridan, as the evangelist; Jenny Lind, Evangelist Don Jopling, Ft. Worth; 1st, Ft. Smith, will have Dr. Harlan Harris, First Church, Plainview, Tex.; 1st, Hackett, Jimmy Whitlock, from Diaz; Grand Avenue will have Bill Hickem, Bentonville; Trinity, Paul Wilhelm, Lamar; Booneville, 1st, Richard Perkins, Little Rock; East Side, Ft. Smith, Bill Lewis, Detroit, Mich.; and Towson Avenue will have Billy Walker. ■

● TWO MORE churches have added the Arkansas Baptist under the budget plan. They are: Dayton Church, Buckner Association, Eldon Pennington, pastor, and 1st Church, Monette, Mt. Zion Association, B. W. Christopher, pastor.

* * *

● A. M. HERRINGTON, a former pastor in Arkansas including 1st Church, Camden, is now serving as editor and publisher of the Lindale News, Lindale, Tex. He is pastoring the County Line Church, an aggressive rural church, south of Tyler.

Rudloff Joins Staff Of Culbertson and Co.

A. C. RUDLOFF, former business manager of Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge, who has pastored churches in Arkansas and Missouri for many years, has joined the staff of A. B. Culbertson and Company, as director for Arkansas.

Mr. Rudloff will also serve as field director for the Church Loan Association of Southern Baptists, which employs the Culbertson firm as its fiscal agent.

In his new duties, he will assist churches in Arkansas in financing construction costs of new buildings. ■

DR. TOM L. GAMBRELL has accepted the position of minister of education with South Side Church, Pine Bluff. He comes from 1st Church, Brownsville, Tex. He is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University and Southwestern Seminary where he received a doctor of religious education degree. He served in Florida, Alabama, Louisiana and Texas as before coming to the Pine Bluff church.



DR. GAMBRELL

Accreditation of Southern Seminary Threatened by American Association

A NEWS RELEASE out of New York, carried in the daily papers Dec. 9, reported that the American Association of Theological Schools, of which Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, is a member, is threatening to drop the Louisville institution's accreditation.

A committee of four from the AATS who recently paid an official visit to the seminary campus is reported to have criticized the manner in which 13 members of the seminary's faculty were dismissed last spring.

The committee, composed of Dr. Luther A. Weigle, dean emeritus of Yale Divinity School; Dr. Merrimon Cunigim, dean of Perkins School of Theology, Dallas, Tex.; Dr. Charles R. Feilding, dean of Trinity College, Toronto, Ontario; and Professor Carl C. Rasmussen, of Lutheran Theological Seminary, Gettysburg, Pa., also recommended that Dr. Duke K. McCall, president of the Louisville seminary, give up the position he has held as a vice president of the AATS, since his institution is under investigation by the accrediting association.

The decision on possible removal of Southern Seminary's accreditation is being deferred a year.

Proposals by the Commission on Accrediting of AATS include:

A primary factory in considering the status of the Seminary, a year from now "will be a full inquiry as to whether they (the Seminary trustees) have taken adequate steps to repair the damage to the Seminary and to the dismissed professors."

The Commission on Accrediting of AATS will "require an inspection of the Southern Baptist Seminary immediately prior to the annual meeting of the Commission on Accrediting in December, 1959."

The eight members of the Seminary board of trustees in the Louisville area issued a statement on Dec. 8 which said in part:

The AATS committee "did not call

into question the high academic standards of our Seminary. It is a fully accredited institution."

"We have continuously recognized the basic Christian character and ability of the 13 former professors. Likewise, all the other professors and the president are men of the highest Christian character.

"The report of the Committee, we believe, unfortunately failed to recognize the basic problem which existed. The trustees were confronted with a power bloc of 13 professors making demands which the trustees could not grant. This group, however, insisted on compliance with its demands and tendered an ultimatum that the trustees must either comply or they would resign.

"Facing this ultimatum, the trustees had no alternative but to dismiss these men.

"This group kept threatening to resign but no resignations were ever forthcoming, and they refused to amend their demands. This attitude obviously could not be permitted to continue, and it was only after months of persuasion for reconciliation or retraction

of threats that our dismissal action was taken.

"The trustees proceeded with careful deliberation over a period of three months. At no time was our action hasty or ill-considered.

"During the year which is now available, we invite the Committee to make a careful investigation of all the facts and circumstances with the calm assurance they will come to the conclusion that our decision was proper and correct . . ."

Comments Editor C. R. Daley of Kentucky Baptists' Western Recorder:

" . . . Consider the scene recently when a committee from an accrediting association investigated the episode (of Southern Seminary's internal affairs, ELM). The committee was composed of distinguished men who were doubtlessly unimpeachable but they sat as non-Baptist referees while Baptists slugged it out. Before them appeared present and former faculty members accusing each other of wrong views. Some trustees insisted all had been done in order, others flew hundreds of miles to refute their fellow trustees. It's a pitiful sight when Baptists try to make fellow Baptists look bad in the eyes of non-Baptists. It is, as it were, Judah at war with Israel with Edomites judging the battle. . ."

Baptist Crosscurrents Whose Birthday Is It?

" . . . Be not conformed to this world . . ." Romans 12:2

HOW WOULD you react if a birthday celebration were to be held in your honor and all the invited guests came and exchanged gifts with each other and none were given to you?

Would you feel highly honored if an "X" were substituted for your name on the invitations? Would you feel a deep thrill if you realized that bells that once tolled announcing your birth had become silent and the only bells that were now heard on your birthday were the "tingling" ones coming from cash registers? Or, that hymns that once rang clearly from the hearts of your friends had become reduced to "diddies" about a "red-nosed reindeer?"

Could the hurrying about in preparation for the occasion ever take the place of a simple reminder from your friends that they love and care for you? Could tissue paper, ribbon, and glittering tinsel ever make you happy when what you wanted for your birthday was simple dedication?

Just how would you feel if you saw another take over your birthday, even if he is a "jolly 'ole fellow" dressed in a red suit? Would you not rather see those who love you give to tell others of you than watch them plunge into debt in mass commercialism? And, would it hurt very much, if you being violently opposed to intemperance, saw stuff that even dogs won't drink, being advertised, wrapped in tinsel, and drunk during a holiday that bore your name?

Even if you overlooked the fact that you had been forced to be born in a manger, would it not just break your heart to see that you and all you stood for still is kept in the manger of the hearts of men? "Think on these things." (Phil. 4:8)—*Travis Styles, Grove Park Church, Burlington, in CHARITY AND CHILDREN, Thomasville, N. C., Dec. 19, 1957.*

Defense Education Act Considered

LOUISVILLE —(BP)— The National Defense Education Act passed this year was subject of discussion at the fall meeting of the Southern Association of Baptist Colleges and Schools here.

The act of Congress provides loans, fellowships, and other aid for college students, both at graduate and undergraduate levels.

Baptist educators are chiefly concerned about any implications the new act may have on the Baptist tradition of separation of church and state, since the financial assistance is from the government. ■

November Giving Sets New Record

NASHVILLE —(BP)— State Baptist conventions set an all-time monthly high in Cooperative Program funds they forwarded during November to the office of Southern Baptist Convention treasurer. The amount was \$1,585,907.

Previous high was in January, 1958, when states forwarded \$1,475,664.

The November Cooperative Program receipts were part of a total \$1,713,493 received from state groups in November and boosted the total for the year to date to \$23,435,003.

Of that amount \$14,339,771 has come in Cooperative Program gifts and \$9,095,232 in designations.

The Southern Baptist Convention's 1958 Cooperative Program budget, from which the basic operating and capital needs of all its agencies are met, was \$13,035,000. This was reached during November. From the date of meeting the budget, all Cooperative Program receipts have been divided between the Foreign and Home Mission Boards.

The Foreign Mission Board's 75 per cent share of Advance funds — as Cooperative Program receipts above the budget are known — was \$987,578 through Nov. 30. The Home Mission Board's 25 per cent share was \$326,192.

Cooperative Program receipts for 1958 to date are \$1,394,294 greater than for the first 11 months of 1957, a 10.77 per cent increase.

During November, Arkansas forwarded a total of \$45,538 including \$43,750 through the Cooperative Program and \$1,788 in designated offerings. Gifts reported by the Southern Baptist treasurer's office in the November statement were contributed to churches in the states during October. ■

The Spirit of Christmas

I AM the Christmas Spirit!

I enter the home of poverty, causing pale-faced children to open their eyes wide in pleased wonder.

I cause the miser's clutched hand to relax, and thus paint a bright spot on his soul.

I cause the aged to renew their youth and to laugh in the old, glad way.

I keep romance alive in the heart of childhood, and brighten sleep with dreams woven of magic.

I cause eager feet to climb dark stairways with filled baskets, leaving behind hearts amazed at the goodness of the world.

I cause the prodigal to pause a moment on his wild, wasteful way, and send to anxious love some little token that releases glad tears — tears which wash away the hard lines of sorrow.

I enter the dark prison cells, reminding scarred manhood of what might have been, and pointing forward to

Executive Committee Employs Assistants

NASHVILLE —(BP)— Albert McClellan and John H. Williams, both of Nashville, have been elected to fill two new administrative positions on the staff of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee.

McClellan, the Executive Committee's present director of publications, will become its program planning secretary on Jan. 1. On the same date, Williams will become its financial planning secretary.

The positions to which they were elected resulted from action taken by the Convention in Houston in May.

Williams is manager of the contracts and insurance department for the Baptist Sunday School Board. He has been in the board's employ for 24 years.

McClellan, in his new capacity, will be program planning assistant and principal professional assistant to Executive Secretary Porter Routh. He will review and appraise proposals of the Convention's agencies to determine their relation to the total Convention program and to the total denominational program, which includes local and state Baptist work.

McClellan's election will leave the post of director of publications open.

Williams will serve as principal financial planning assistant to the executive secretary. He will review and appraise the financial policies and practices of Convention agencies, to the extent with which the Executive Committee is concerned with them.

Williams will also be chief accountant of the Executive Committee office, staff and supervise its accounting personnel.

McClellan joined the staff of the Executive Committee as director of publications and associate executive secretary in 1949, following a period as editor of the Baptist Messenger, Oklahoma weekly newspaper. He was pastor of First Baptist Church, Waurika, Okla., before becoming editor. ■

PAUL GRAHAM, who has served the Fair Church, Duncan, Okla., is the new pastor of the 575 member Spradling Church. The 30 year old pastor is a recent graduate of Oklahoma Baptist

good days yet to come.

I come softly into the still white home of pain and lips that are too weak to speak just tremble in silent, eloquent gratitude.

In a thousand ways I cause the weary world to look up into the face of God, and for a little moment forget the things that are small and wretched.

I am the Christmas Spirit!—E. C. Baird ■

State Leaders Study Home Missions Plan

ATLANTA —(BP)— Executive secretaries from 21 state Baptist groups and the staff of the Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board met here to discuss their future program of home missions. Arkansas was represented by Dr. S. A. Whitlow.

Purpose of the meeting was to consider ways in which they could implement the recommendation of the Southern Baptist "Survey Committee" that the states and the Home Mission Board increase their cooperative effort and develop a uniform Conventionwide pattern of mission work.

The Home Mission Board's recently-announced reorganization goes into effect Jan. 1. ■

J. E. Brown Dies

WORD HAS been received of the death of J. E. Brown, who served a number of Arkansas pastorates. He was pastor at Russellville when SBC President Brooks Hays accepted Christ and joined the church.

Mr. Brown died in Memphis, where he had made his home since retiring from mission work in southeast Missouri.

He was pastor in Ashdown when the father of John D. Freeman, former editor of *Baptist and Reflector*, was killed in an accident, and, in the words of Mr. Freeman, "endeared himself to us by his pastoral care during the tragic experience."

Survivors include his widow and two sons, J. E. Jr., Carlsbad, N. M., and Paul Brown, Atlanta. ■

Midwestern Seminary Construction Begun

KANSAS CITY, Mo. —(BP)— Midwestern Theological Seminary here has awarded a contract for \$801,000 for construction of four buildings.

President Millard J. Berquist said the four buildings are to be ready for use next September. Buildings for which contracts were let included an administration building, a library, a chapel, and one housing six classrooms and faculty offices. ■

University. During his four years in the Oklahoma School Mr. Graham served as president of the University's Ministerial Alliance composed of 150 members. Graham, a native of Sallisaw, Okla., is married to the former Geraldine Brewer, Sallisaw. The couple



MR. GRAHAM

has two children, John Paul, 3, and Janette Faye, 6 months. The new pastor succeeds Thurmond Scott, who resigned last September because of ill health.

CHURCH PEWS



At
A
Price

Any Church Can Afford

Write or Call

**WAGONER BROTHERS
MANUFACTURING CO.**

Phone 246

BOONEVILLE, ARKANSAS

Baptists Work to Aid Negroes Through Church

THE WORK of the Department of Race Relations is in the field of the church and church-related institutions.

Since the majority of our Negro citizens who belong to any church are Baptists the opportunity to real Christian service is tremendous. If Christ and His Spirit in the hearts of men is the answer to the problem of race relations, and I believe it is, then we must not fail to make a real contribution here. This cannot be done by simply pronouncing pious platitudes. One person giving his services, offering to share his Christian experiences, showing a Christian attitude to those of other races is worth more than all sermons preached and books written on

social ethics and or inter-racial relations.

The need among our Negro Baptist friends is great. With the exception of perhaps from 5 to 10 per cent of their churches they need help in training their leadership. They need better buildings, equipment, literature, organizations, youth camps and assemblies. They need a better system of church finance. In their present condition it is all but impossible for them to be effective in winning to Christ and developing into strong Christian character.

Many of our people are making a real contribution in this field. Pastors, educational directors, associational missionaries, laymen, women, young people, and denominational workers are giving their services in assisting in clinics, Vacation Bible School, institutes, etc. A number of our pastors and educational directors are giving one night each week, for nine months of the year, in teaching an extension class for Negro Baptist pastors and lay workers. Over 200 are enrolled in these classes annually. Others are serving in behalf of the college, the tubercular hospital and youth camps.

Now what is happening where these services have been given in a true Christian spirit? First of all those offering their services have received a rich spiritual blessing. Second, they have been graciously received and the fruits of their labor has been self evident. They have had the Christian joy of watching those with whom they work grow "in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man." Third, a better spirit of mutual understanding and good-will has resulted that is blessing the whole community life. Fourth, the Negro Baptist churches, that are touched by this program, are showing marked progress.

What these are doing we hope many others will come to do. However, we should remember that this work cannot be successfully done in a "crumbs from the table," backdoor handout attitude. It can be done most successfully in the spirit of Christian love and for the glory of Christ.—Clyde Hart, Director, Dept. of Race Relations. ■

Graham's Crusade in Chicago

CHICAGO — Tentative dates for a long-discussed Billy Graham crusade in Chicago have been set for June, July and August of 1961.

gift ^{extra} specials

from your Baptist
Book Store

**BROADMAN
COMMENTS, 1959**
plus a beautiful
leather Bible,
an \$11.00 value for
only **895**

5 "c When Jesus
eyes, and saw a gre
unto him, he sa
Whence shall we



This year, two gifted scholars have combined their efforts to write *Broadman Comments*. E. F. Haight writes the "Lesson in the Word" which includes complete Bible passage, lesson outline and lesson discussion of the International Uniform Sunday School Lessons. Duke K. McCall applies the lesson to everyday life in the "Lesson in Life."

Bought separately, **\$2.75**

Bible No. 1714C is a beautiful leather Bible. Bound in limp-style genuine leather, it has concordance, center-column references, biblical atlas, family record pages, and presentation page. Size 5 3/4 x 7 3/4 inches; only 1 inch thick.

Both **BROADMAN COMMENTS, 1959** and Bible No. 1714C for only **\$8.95**.

POINTS FOR EMPHASIS, 1959

by Clifton J. Allen

The perfect pocket-size, economy commentary. Makes the ideal gift for Sunday school teachers and class members.

95c

YOUR

BAPTIST BOOK STORE

Let Us Rebind Your Bibles



303 West
Capitol
Little Rock

Christmas Recalls Happy Moments

AT THIS Christmas Season memory carries me back to one of the happiest moments of my boyhood. It was Christmas night. On Christmas Eve I had received a violin as my Christmas present. It was a cheap violin in a cardboard carrying case—but, it was my violin.

Much of Christmas day was spent in adjusting the finger board chart, reading instructions, and practicing under the patient tutorage of my sister. Christmas night father called on me for my first musical performance, a violin solo for the family.

The song which I could more nearly play than any other was, "Joy to the World." With little regard for proper timing I drew the bow across the strings and awkwardly moved my fingers up and down the finger board. I have often wondered whether my mother actually recognized the results as having some semblance to the tune or whether my sister had told her beforehand what I was planning to play. It doesn't matter too much. Mothers have a way of saying the right thing, however poor the effort.

"Courts, that's fine," my mother said. "We're so glad we gave you the violin. That music makes Christmas real for all of us."

The gift of the violin brought much joy to my heart. The commendation of my mother brought even greater happiness. The thought that my efforts had made Christmas more real to others was an added blessing.—Courts Redford.



DR. COURTS REDFORD

Greetings!

MORE THAN four centuries ago an Italian writer penned our sincere greetings of this holy season—

"I salute you: There is nothing I can give you which you have not; but there is much, that, while I cannot give you, you can take.

"No heaven can come to us unless our hearts find rest in its today.

Take Heaven . . .

No peace lies in the future which is not hidden in the present.

"Take Peace . . .

The gloom of the world is but a shadow; behind it, yet within our reach, is joy. Take Joy . . .

"And so at this Christmas time, I greet you, with the prayer that for you, now and forever, the day breaks and the shadows flee away."

STATE WMU STAFF

- Nancy Cooper
- Winona Saturday
- Mrs. R. E. Hagood
- Mrs. W. C. Edwards
- Ruth Skiles
- Mrs. Roy Hilton

WMS FOCUS WEEK

WMS Focus Week with a purpose! January 11-16 are the dates, and three are the purposes:

1. To inform others of the opportunities offered women to study and participate in missionary activities through Woman's Missionary Union.
2. To enlist every woman in promoting Christian missions and to bring them into the growing experience of missionary endeavor.
3. To strengthen the work of Woman's Missionary Society in the church and to increase its effectiveness in the lives of its members.

Baptist Hour Sermon Topics

January, 1959

THEME: Victory

- January 4—The Victory of Faith Over Doubt
- 11—The Victory of Grace Over Greed
- 18—The Victory of Devotion Over Despair
- 25—The Victory of Courage Over Cowardice

City	Station	Time
Arkadelphia	KVRC	3:00 p.m.
Benton	KBBA	1:30 p.m.
Conway	KCON	7:00 a.m.
DeQueen	KDQN	12:30 p.m.
El Dorado	KELD	2:30 p.m.
Forrest City	KXJK	9:30 a.m.
Hope	KXAR	5:00 p.m.
Jonesboro	KNEA	9:30 a.m.
Mena	KENA	1:30 p.m.
Monticello	KHBM	3:30 p.m.
Paragould	KDRS	8:30 p.m.
Siloam Springs	KUOA	7:30 a.m.
Van Buren		10:00 a.m.
Wynne	KWYN Sat.,	6:30 p.m.
Fort Smith	KNAC-TV	12:00 N

Add your own "how-to" ideas to those in the January issue of *Royal Service* and the "Forecaster" for a glorious observance with telling results.—Nancy Cooper, State WMU Secretary. ■

Georgetown Co-Eds To Get New Dorm

GEORGETOWN, Ky. —(BP)— The board of trustees of Georgetown College has voted to construct a dormitory for girls.

Not since 1895, when the present Rucker Hall was built, has a new dormitory for girls been provided. The new dormitory will house 108 girls. ■



CLARKE



MOORE

Arkansas Pastors Selected for Crusade

LEWIS E. CLARKE, Maple Avenue Church, Smackover, and Alvis J. Moore, Norphlet Church, Norphlet, have been selected from Arkansas for the Western European Evangelistic Crusade.

Dr. Warren Walker, who heads the Church Evangelism Association of Corpus Christi, will direct the Crusade. On Feb. 2, 65 Southern Baptist preachers from 35 states and 15 laymen led by Howard E. Butt, Jr., will leave Houston for a 30 day preaching mission. Under the direction of Dr. Ben Peake, London, England revivals have been scheduled in London, Scotland, Wales, France, Germany, Channel Islands, and Russia. The revival meetings will be held in individual churches and during the day preaching will be done in schools, factories, and civic organizations.

The group will make a trip to the Bible Lands. Purpose of the tour is to help strengthen the dying churches of Europe. Thirty years ago there were three million people in church in the area the group will serve! Today there are only one million. Each minister will pay his own way. Christian business men of both Arkansas towns are aiding in raising money for the trip. ■

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

From Your State Sunday School Department Workers



EDGAR WILLIAMSON
Little Rock

to

All Pastors, Educational Directors, and individual church Sunday school workers.

* * *

to

All associational moderators, missionaries, superintendents, officers, and leaders.

* * *

to

All leaders and workers in the different departments at Baptist Headquarters Building.

* * *

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11

* * *



ERNEST ADAMS
Little Rock



BILL HICKEM
Bentonville



RICHARD VESTAL
Manila



JAMES CHATHAM
Ft. Smith

We Are Grateful

Edgar Williamson, Secretary; Ernest Adams, Associate Secretary; Mrs. Grace Hamilton and Mrs. Nancy Summar, office secretaries; and your district superintendents: Bill Hickem, Northwest District; Richard Vestal, Northeast District; James Chatham, West Central District; Dale McCoy, East Central District; Harold Bennett, Southwest District; Leslie Riherd, North Central District; Dexter Blevins, Central District; and Hugh Cantrell, Southeast District.



DALE MCCOY
Brinkley

Together "Let's Swing Up The Line in '59"

"That They Might Have Life."



HAROLD BENNETT
Texarkana



LESLIE RIHERD
Batesville



DEXTER BLEVINS
Malvern



HUGH CANTRELL
Stephens



TWO BAPTIST Student Directors recently observed anniversary dates. James Smalley, left, began his fourth year as director at Arkansas State Teachers College last month, and Neil Jackson begins his fourth year as director this month at Arkansas Tech.

Many Can Make Gifts With Little 'Cost'

HAVE YOU done your best giving for the year? Have you done all that you should do? Some of us can give large amounts without the net cost to us being very much.

We are allowed to give as much as 30 per cent of our income and deduct such giving from the income before submitting our tax return. Doubtless, if you are a good steward, you are giving 10 per cent to your church. Maybe you can make a gift to the Baptist Foundation for another 10 per cent or more.

The Foundation is undertaking to raise \$25,000 for a church building loan fund. There are many small churches that cannot qualify for a loan from banks and other lending agencies, and yet, their credit is as good as gold. We already have some applications from such churches. What we need now is the money.

Your gift in this case would never be spent. It would be a revolving loan fund. Every time a church paid off its loan, the interest would be added to the principal, and the loan fund would grow year by year. Then other loans could be made year after year. Can you think of any way that your gift could be more blessed and helpful, and

perpetual, and eternal? Why don't you write us about it?—Ben L. Bridges, Executive Secretary, Baptist Foundation. ■

Dr. Cauthen to Appear At Training Union Assembly

DR. BAKER James Cauthen, executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, will be the inspirational speaker at the State Training Union Assembly at Siloam Springs, June 29-July 4. The assembly will begin on Monday night and close at noon Saturday. Dr. Cauthen will speak each night and at the noon hour on Saturday. He will conduct one of the



"Life Interest" conferences each morning, meeting with all mission volunteers.

Beginning the first of the year, reservations will be taken on a first come, first served basis. The assembly program will be on the order of Ridgecrest and Glorieta assemblies.—Ralph W. Davis, Secretary, Training Union Department. ■

Nichols Write from Java Progress in Indonesia Gives Reassurance

"TWO WEEKS ago Buford (Nichols, missionary in Semarang, Java) baptized eight people in the Sion Baptist Church, where he is pastor. This brings the total to 25 baptisms since our return from furlough 15 months ago.

"Sion is one of the two Baptist Churches in this city of 500,000.

"Statistics for the entire Indonesian Mission for last year show: seven churches, seven chapels, 793 church members, 323 baptisms, 1730 Sunday School average attendance, 496 Training Union average attendance, 2,269 Vacation Bible School enrollment.

"The first Southern Baptist missionaries to Indonesia arrived on Christmas Day, 1951. Now we have 50 appointed. The goal is 100 by 1964.

"The continued progress of God's work in our midst is reassuring. It evidences the power of God invested in the Gospel we are proclaiming." —Buford and Mary Frances Nichols. ■

Center Leasing Begun

LEASES ARE now being negotiated for space in the Relief and Annuity Board's new 15-floor Annuity Center under construction in downtown Dallas.

The center, to be completed in June, 1959, will lease space on 12 floors with the Relief and Annuity Board occupying two full floors and part of a third. Dr. R. Alton Reed, executive secretary of the Relief and Annuity Board, said the building, constructed primarily as an investment, is expected to bring an interest return of from four to five per cent. ■

THIN POCKET BIBLES

only

1/2 inch thick



King James Version

Amazingly thin and flexible Bibles printed in clear readable type on ultrathin India paper. They slip easily into coat pocket or bag. Size 6 7/8 x 4 5/8 in.

GENUINE LEATHER BINDING

French Morocco Leather, flexible overlapping covers, red under gold edges, boxed.

F2491X: With center references..... \$6.50

F3491X: Same as F2491X but with concordance, 9/16 inch thick..... \$7.50

Thumb Index \$1.00 extra

Order from your BAPTIST BOOK STORE

BUY WHOLESALE!

Over 100,000 items now available, including all name brands. New service organized for ministers, choir directors, educational directors, deacons, Sunday School teachers, church officers, and all readers of this paper. UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITY

CHURCHMAN'S DISCOUNT SERVICE
BOX 547
PADUCAH, KENTUCKY

The Surprise Christmas Present

By Grayce Krogh Boller

SALLY LOOKED at the holly on the door across the street. There was a gay red ribbon on it, but Sally did not feel gay. Behind her the room was a clutter of unpacked cartons, because Sally and her family had moved in just yesterday.

"Imagine moving two days before Christmas!" Sally fretted as she turned to unpack another carton for Mother. "We should be baking cookies now or wrapping packages. We'll never get the house straightened up for Christmas. Mother won't have time to shop or prepare dinner or anything!"

Sally smoothed out the paper as she unpacked dishes and set them on the table. At least she could help that

much. At least she could smile and sing a Christmas carol. Then Mother and Daddy wouldn't know how unhappy and lonesome she felt.

"Christmas isn't just presents and a special dinner," she reminded herself. "Christmas is our Lord's birthday, and it will make Jesus unhappy if I am unhappy. I will be just as helpful to Mother and Daddy as I can be. Then they will feel happier. Jesus will know I am giving Him that for a Christmas present, and He will be happy, too."

"Joy to the world!" Sally sang, unwrapping more plates.

She sang so loudly that she almost did not hear the soft bump at the door. But she did hear it.

"What's that?" she murmured, running to see.

There was no one outside, but Sally opened the door to make sure. There on the step sat a large, gaily wrapped Christmas present! The paper sparkled like stars on Christmas Eve. The ribbon was red and tied with a perky bow. There was an envelope beneath the bow. It had words printed on it. Sally blinked, picked it up and looked at it.

"This is for you," it said.

"What can it be?" Sally thought. "Who can it be from? We don't know anyone in this town."

The way to find out was to open it. Sally pulled a Christmas card out of the envelope. There was more printing on it. "Welcome to Wayville. I want to be friends. Be ready at seven tonight. I will come then to take all of you to church service." It was signed "Merry Christmas."

"Now who could have done that?" Sally wondered, shutting the door and sitting down to open the present.

Inside was a puzzle. Sally wished she had time to play with it right then; it looked so interesting. But there were more dishes to be unpacked first.

Just the same, Sally ran upstairs where Mother and Daddy were getting things settled. She showed them the note and the puzzle.

"Someone is being very nice and thoughtful," Mother smiled.

"We'll be ready tonight and find out who it is," Daddy nodded.

"But 'Merry Christmas!'" Sally shook her head. "Why didn't the person sign his right name?"

After that, the work went faster, and Sally sang her carols louder than ever. Surprises were such fun! All afternoon she kept wondering, "Who is Merry Christmas?" It was hard to eat supper for wondering.

"This is the most exciting Christmas Eve I can remember," Sally de-

HE: Mind if I turn off the hall light?

SHE: Not at all.

HE: The ceiling light?

SHE: Why, of course.

HE: The floor lamp?

SHE: Yes, Jimmy.

HE: Now that it's dark in here may I ask you a question?

SHE: Yes, dear.

HE: Do you think this luminous dial watch is worth six dollars? — Watchman-Examiner.

THE PILOT addressed the passengers over the airliners' intercommunication system to confess that he had lost his way. He explained the radar was not working, the radio beam could not be picked up and the compass was broken. "But," he added encouragingly, "you will be glad to know that we are making very good time." — A Fourth of a Nation.

AN INSURANCE man called on a New York dress manufacturer recently and started his pitch with a smiling: "Well, well, Mr. Rankin, you're looking fine. How's business?"

"Business!" cried the manufacturer, clutching his forehead. He led the salesman to a room revealing row after row of racks filled with dresses.

"Look!" he groaned. "Thousands of dresses hanging in the room and you ask, 'How's business?'"

"Well, sure, you have inventory," the visitor conceded, "but don't get discouraged. How does your partner see it?"

"My partner?" repeated the dress magnate. "He's hanging in the other room!" — E. E. Kenyon in American Weekly.

clared, as she got ready to greet Merry Christmas.

Just at seven o'clock another bump came at the door, and Sally ran quickly to open it. On the step stood a girl, dressed all in red. Even her cheeks were as red as holly berries and her eyes sparkled like stars on a winter's night.

"I'm Merry Christmas," she laughed. "That really, truly is my name. Daddy has the car at the curb waiting for you. And guess what? Tomorrow you and your mommy and daddy are to spend the day with us. Wait until you see the big turkey my mother has fixed for dinner!"

"Oh, my!" Sally hugged her new friend tightly. "You really brought Merry Christmas to us! What a wonderful thing to do."

"We like to help others," Merry smiled, "as a Christmas present for Jesus, you know."

"Oh, yes!" Sally nodded. "He likes presents like that!" ■

(Sunday School Board Syndicate, all rights reserved)

Something Happened In Bethlehem

By Thelma C. Carter

SOMETHING HAPPENED in the tiny village, where houses huddle like sheep upon the ridges of hills, something that made Bethlehem famous for all time to come. The Christ child was born there.

There were also angelic songs, a light in the sky over Bethlehem, the hurrying footfalls of anxious shepherds, and later the rustle of the garments of the Wise Men to make this quaint little town famous. Otherwise, it was known as the city of David, because David the shepherd boy was born there. Isn't it wonderful to think that one worthwhile happening can make a town or village important and famous?

You would not think of Bethlehem as a beautiful city, as we think of the attractive cities of our country. The older houses that line the ancient, narrow streets of Bethlehem are built closely together in order to keep out the burning hot summer sun. The abundance of shrubs and flowers native to the United States are not so plentiful in the Holy Land.

So much of Bethlehem is ancient — the pine, oak, fig, and olive trees that cling to rocky hillsides, the gnarled trees that huddle near old buildings. Herds of sheep graze in the narrow valleys as they did when Jesus was born there.

"Bethlehem rests in a bouquet of hills," someone has described the little town. "Once you've seen it, you can't forget it."

How true is another fact and unforgettable. "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11).

(Sunday School Board Syndicate, all rights reserved)

The Significance of the Saviour's Birth

By RAY S. NELSON

Pastor, 1st Church, Heber Springs

For December 21

Luke 1:46-55; 2:4-7

IT WAS WHEN all the factors — social, economic, moral, and religious — had converged upon Him that Jesus, the Man of God's right hand, came forth. His birth — God's supreme revelation in history.

Down deep beneath the shining culture of the world, down beneath its luxury and magnificence, unrest was seething and poverty walked in rags. No doubt, man's extremity was and still is God's opportunity; and the very breakdown of all human resources may prepare the world at last to listen to Christ.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TIME

In all the tales of the centuries, you will not find any generation in which Christ could better have come. It was when the "fullness of time" was come that God sent forth His Son, when world conditions were exactly ripe. As it was with Martin Luther and the Reformation, as it was when Scotland heard the rugged voice of John Knox.

POLITICAL READINESS

Caesar had achieved the unification of the world. The days of closed frontiers were over, the Roman standard was everywhere, the world was one big neighborhood. Great roads — an imperial triumph. Along these roads missionaries of the gospel came marching and everywhere their message spread like wildfire. Language — wherever one went they found there one language that carried them through. Though each province still had its own tongue everywhere the people knew Greek.

ECONOMIC READINESS

History tells us two men of every three on the streets of Rome were slaves. The aftermath of war, the wild, colossal extravagance of Herod, the burden of taxation, the growing overpopulation making it impossible for the land to supply food for its inhabitants. Underneath the luxury and magnificence, worry and anxiety for tomorrow was written deep on the faces and hearts of men. It was then, seemingly at the darkest hour, that a voice of hope rang out and men's hearts leaped and listened.

MORAL READINESS

Theirs was a world sunk in moral hopelessness. As some author said, "The world was growing old and not even Caesar could make it young again." Everywhere the best of spirits

were in despair. Everywhere the world was on a downward plunge to disaster, oblivion and night.

RELIGIOUS READINESS

The old gods of Rome were dead or dying. Either the people were turning to new gods being shipped in, overcrowding Olympus where their gods were supposed to dwell (almost a laughing matter even to them), or they were turning to Caesar worship. When everything had been done that could be done, the hungry hearts of men were hungry still. When any new voice rang out across the land, as John the Baptist, immediately on every lip there arose the question, "Is this the Messiah now?" The air was tense with expectation. Compare them with our

Jesus Is Christ the Lord

For December 28

Mark 8:29-9:1

FOR TWO AND a half years Christ had taught His disciples, but His teaching would be in vain if they did not know Him for what He really was.

"Whom do men say that I am?" It was at Caesarea Philippi that He asked this question of His disciples. Significant is the fact that here was the center of the worship of the Greek god, Pan — a god of the fields, forests, animals, flocks, etc. Here also Herod had erected a beautiful marble temple in honor of Augustus. That the faith of the disciples was here tested reminds us that faith must rise above the circumstances of life and lay hold of eternal realities.

WHOM DO "MEN" SAY THAT I AM

"Whom do others say that I am?" They answered, "John the Baptist, Elias — one of the prophets!" There are two things or concepts that the people had of Jesus. First, that He was "outstanding, unusual." Secondly, the people believed "He had lived previously" — John the Baptist come to life again, Elias's second appearance — or one of the prophets!

The people's reason perhaps was that the scriptures gave promise of an "anointed" one to come. Their reasoning was that of old — the prophets, priests, and kings all were anointed ones. (Is He a king or priest, prophet?) As they of old were anointed with power surely this is a prophet risen. Notice the thinking of Nicodemus as he said, "We know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man

world today!

SIGNIFICANCE OF HIS BIRTH

Son of GOD — born of woman. God's Son incarnate! The heavens opened, the angels abounding with song and great joy announced to the world, "Unto you is born this day a Saviour which is Christ (His title) the Lord." In Him Salvation, the way out, a deliverer, new life — God's life revealed and given to "whosoever." Accept it — receive Him! God's rescue!

God works His will and ways through those His own. Mary previously prepared now recognizes with comprehension and thanksgiving God working through her His plans of world redemption!

It is true, to all of His own everywhere — in their service for Him, the recognition of this, as was with Mary — His plan — His way in our lives, that dispels anxiety and brings full joy and praise.

"And Mary brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn." ■

can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him."

WHOM SAY "YE" THAT I AM

Peter, who had once burst out with, "Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life." It was Peter, the natural spokesman of the disciple group, who answered, "Thou art the Christ." Not His name, which is Jesus, but His title or office (the anointed Messiah of O. T. prophecy). To Peter, here was God's anointed, His own Son: prophet, priest and king. A prophet — in as much as giving God's message to man; a priest — interceding, giving man's message to God, interceding in man's stead at the cross; a king — invested with full authority. All in one! This was Peter's concept of Jesus.

JESUS AND THE CROSS

He must now reveal to them the way of His victory, and for the first time He told them openly of His approaching death. He expounded to them the principle of the cross as the way of life which was to characterize His followers. How truthfully may we sing, "The way of the cross leads home."

They were not thinking of a cross (self-crucifixion) but a crown. His Messiahship meant victory but they must yet learn that victory was to come through suffering. They too must realize their great enemy to life was not someone else (not external) but "self," within. Directions: "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, shall find it." ■

Keeping Christmas

THERE IS a better thing than the observance of Christmas and this is keeping Christmas.

Are you willing to forget what you have done for other people, and to remember what other people have done for you?

To ignore what the world owes you, and to think what you owe the world?

To own that the only good reason for your existence is not what you are going to get out of life, but what you are going to give to life?

Are you willing to stoop down and consider the needs and desires of little children?

To remember the weakness and loneliness of people who are growing old?

To stop asking how much your friends like you, and ask yourself whether you love them enough?

To try to understand what those who live in the same house with you really want, without waiting for them to tell you?

To trim your lamp so it will give more light and less smoke, and to carry it in front so that your shadow will fall behind you?

To make a grave for your ugly thoughts and a garden for your kindly feelings, with the gate open?

Are you willing to believe that love is the strongest thing in the world—stronger than hate, stronger than evil, stronger than death—and that the blessed Life which began in Bethlehem nineteen hundred years ago is the image and brightness of Eternal Love?

Then you can keep Christmas.

And if you keep it for a day, why not always?

But you can never keep it alone.

—Henry van Dyke. ■

Brotherhood, RA State Leaders Hold Session

PARIS LANDING, Tenn. —(BP)— State Brotherhood secretaries and Royal Ambassador leaders met for their annual leadership planning meeting here Dec. 15-17.

The meeting, which was attended by approximately 40 state workers and the staff of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission in Memphis, was held at Paris Landing Inn, Paris Landing State Park. ■

Christmas Spirit

By Mabel Miller

*Most everyone at Christmas
Is kind and full of cheer;
How nice if Christmas spirit
Kept shining through the year.*

(Sunday School Board Syndicate, all rights reserved)

SEASON'S GREETINGS

And the angel said unto them, "Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

And now in 1958 may we, the Manager and Employees of your Baptist Book Store, wish you the peace and joy of the Christmas Season.

Manager and Employees

BAPTIST BOOK STORE

303 West Capitol

Thank You So Much

For Your Part in

The Thanksgiving Offering

for the

Bottoms Baptist Orphanage

LESS THAN ONE-HALF OF THE GOAL
REACHED BY DECEMBER 10TH

Praying For Victory

H. C. SEEFELDT, Assistant

MICHEAL CAROZZA, Assistant Superintendent

Return Postage Guaranteed
ARKANSAS BAPTIST
401 West Capitol
Little Rock, Ark.