

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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NUMBER 14

HE IS NOT HERE;
FOR HE IS RISEN,
EVEN AS HE SAID.

—MATTHEW 28:6



—H. Armstrong Roberts.

★ TRENDS AND EVENTS ★

A condensed summary of trends and events taken from publications and original sources each week by Porter Routh, Secretary of the Department of Survey, Statistics and Information of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Facts of Interest

Of the 3,070 counties in the United States, 978 now bar liquor, 887 wine, and 480 beer, according to the Anti-Saloon League. Of the 20,469 local option elections held since 1933, dry forces have been victorious in 12,519. Of the 2,078 elections held in 1946, drys won 1,276.

A record year is predicted for records. It is estimated that 400,000,000 phonograph records will be made. A boom in children's records is increasing demand.

Twelve per cent of the U. S. girls are married between 15 and 19. In England, only 2 per cent are married that young—in Norway only 1 per cent, according to a recent survey.

Toy manufacturers look for a \$300,-000,000 market in 1947.

The United Negro College Fund is seeking to raise \$1,300,000 for Negro private colleges. Total endowment for all Negro private colleges is only \$41,000,000.

Children on public assistance rolls climbed to 887,000 in 1946, old-age assistance cases increased to 2,196,000, and aid to blind increased to 60,000, according to the Federal Security Agency.

The United States Brewers Foundation plans to double its advertising program in 1947. The first series ads to run in *Colliers*, *Life*, *Look*, *U. S. News*, and *Woman's Home Companion* will be built around "Home Life in America." Greatest emphasis will be placed on the 2700 counties where there is no city of more than 25,000. A survey made by the brewers, indicates that prohibition sentiment is most evident in these counties.

In the World of Religion

American evangelical churches plan to send 500 missionaries to Japan within the next three years, according to the Foreign Missions Conference.

United States Methodists report 1,021,210 received in their 16 months "Crusade Evangelism." Of these 540,265 were reported on confession of faith, and 480,945 were reported by "transfer." There were also 806 new churches organized, a 458,896 increase in church-school enrolment, and 648,552 enrolled in vacation Bible schools. Gifts for all purposes reached a new high of \$151,196,586. The Methodists report 7,013,085 active member, including 24,205 ministers, and 1,417,061 inactive members.

During the war years, the American Bible Society donated 129,234 complete Bibles, 1,665 Testaments, and 286,456 parts of Scripture to the Navy and its affiliated services.

Rev. John F. Noll told the Catholic Conference on Family Life that there were 7,000,000 members of Protestant churches in the 50 largest cities in the U. S. and 20,000,000 Catholics. He pointed out that the crime rate and divorce rate was also higher in the big cities.

U. S. Roman Catholics have sent \$90,-000,000 worth of supplies to 61 foreign countries, according to the Bishops War Relief Committee.

Baptist Highlights

There are now 5,126 ministerial students in all Southern Baptist schools. Campaigns for \$50,000,000 for the schools are now in progress.

Dr. M. N. McCall, director of Cuban activities for the Home Mission Board for 42 years, died last week at Jacksonville, Fla.

The Dauphin Way Baptist Church of Mobile, Ala., recently reported 5600 visits in one week. The church is the first in Alabama to pass the 5,000 mark in membership.

World Relief offering received by Southern Baptists in 1946 was \$3,743,300.73.

There were 124 additions in a revival at the First Baptist Church, Nashville, with Luther Holcomb, Dallas, as the evangelist. Eighty-three came for baptism.

Official figures released this week show a total of 6,079,305 Southern Baptists, a 213,751 gain over 1945. Final returns show 253,361 baptisms for 1946, a loss of 3,338 from the 1945 figure.

A new Baptist bookstore will be opened within the next few months at Tulsa, Okla.

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The Lord's Answer

A man once said to a servant of the Lord: "I am such a helpless, miserable sinner; there is no hope for me. I have prayed, and resolved and tried, and vowed until I am sick of my unavailing efforts."

"Do you believe that Christ died for our sins, and rose again?" was the reply.

"Of course I do."

"If He were on earth in bodily and visible form, what would you do?"

"I would go to Him at once."

"What would you say to Him?"

"I would tell Him that I am a lost sinner."

"What would you ask Him?"

"I would ask Him to forgive and save me."

"What would He answer?"

The man was silent.

"What would He answer?"

At last the light came into his eyes, and a smile of peace stole over his face as he whispered, "He would answer, 'I will.'"

And the man went away believing, rejoicing with joy unspeakable and full of glory. Since then he has been working faithfully for the Christ who saved him for nothing.—The Sunday School Times.

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Evangelist H. E. Kirkpatrick, Hot Springs, preached in evangelistic services at Park Temple Church, Houston, Tex., one of the 115 Baptist churches cooperating in a great united evangelistic campaign under the leadership of Dr. C. E. Matthews, of the Home Mission Board. Evangelist Kirkpatrick reports that there were more than 300 reconsecrations, 90 additions, and more than 100 conversions in the Park Temple Church. M. A. Treadwell, formerly of Arkansas, has been the pastor for nearly eight years.

UNDAUNTED PERSISTENCE

A Devotion by B. H. Duncan

"And they continued stedfastly."

There is no power on earth that can halt a group of Christian people whose hearts are united in prayer for some object which God has promised. A Pentecostal outpouring of divine power is inevitable when any church prays as this church prayed. The secret of power in any Christian life or any Christian group is prayer, and failure may be traced to the failure to pray.

It is significant that this group of believers, continued stedfastly in a thoroughly balanced and comprehensive program of Christian activities and spiritual exercises. They did not tire of the spiritual exercise in a little while and go about other interests and engagements. They kept on day after day.

I wonder if we would know how to pray for ten days in succession? Would we run out of anything to pray for? How long can we keep up a conversation with God?

We never tire of the presence and fellowship of one whom we love dearly and whom we esteem above everyone else. And we never run out of something to say. Well, if we are close enough to God, if we delight in His presence, if we can really talk His language, we will never tire of communing with Him, we will be able to converse with Him day after day with never a lag in the conversation or a dull moment in His presence.

Surely we should get better acquainted with God. And when we know Him better we shall not be running out on Him when the going is difficult or when the world calls us to its service.

"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: And the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayer" Acts 2:41, 42.

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Eric L. Collins, active member of Immanuel Church, Warren, and assistant teacher of the Men's Bible Class of the church, died following a heart attack February 25. Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Keith F. Babb, of the Warren Church, assisted by Pastor Theo T. James, First Church, McGehee.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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Across the Editor's Desk

Broken Promises

All five major public promises made by the leaders for repeal of prohibition, including that of general tax reduction, have failed to materialize or have been "junked as scraps of paper" by the alcoholic beverage industry in the thirteen intervening years, Mrs. D. Leigh Colvin, president of the National WCTU, declared in a statement recently quoted in leading metropolitan dailies throughout the country.

"The apparent major argument of repealists to a population that then believed itself 'tax ridden,'" Mrs. Colvin said, "was that liquor taxes would serve to lower other taxes. But taxes, aside from those wholly to meet war costs, have skyrocketed from millions to billions.

"Other pledges including the ones that 'the saloon would not be allowed to return,' that 'temperance would be promoted,' that 'Dry areas would be protected,' and that 'crime would be reduced,' have proven to be 'campaign promises,' to be broken as their makers knew they would be.

"It is interesting to recall that the Association Against the Prohibition Amendment which spearheaded the drive for repeal was supported largely by the DuPont families, John J. Rascob, and other millionaires, who keynoted 'tax reduction by repeal' but also possibly foresaw great profits from investments in alcoholic beverage stock."

A summary of existing conditions as contrasting with "repeal promises," was given by Mrs. Colvin as follows:

"1. **TAX REDUCTION:** Taxes have increased from millions to billions, aside from those for war costs and the tremendous sums involved in new luxury taxes, sales taxes and 'hidden taxes.' The American people paid, for example, only \$746,206,000 in income and profits taxes for the year ended June 30, 1933, the last year of prohibition. In the year ended June 30, 1940, the last prewar year, income and profits taxes even then totaled \$2,125,325,000.

"2. **ABOLITION OF THE SALOON:** All major repealists sloganed: 'The saloon shall never return.' Alfred E. Smith in his 1928 campaign condemned the saloon as though it and not liquor itself was evil. Franklin D. Roosevelt said he opposed the return of the saloon 'either in its old form or in some modern guise' and the Association Against the Prohibition Amendment reiterated time and again that 'the saloon will never be permitted to come back.'

"But the saloon, re-named 'tavern' did return in a form more vicious than ever in that it seeks patronage of women to an extent un-

dreamed of by old-time saloon keepers. Meantime, all the viciousness of the Pre-Prohibition saloon, including political corruption, vice 'tie-ins,' and habitual violation of restrictive regulations returned also.

"There are now 407,000 retail outlets for alcoholic beverages in the United States, and most of them are saloons.

"3. **TEMPERANCE:** All repealists gave lip-service to temperance and so-called 'moderation' but the nation's liquor bill reached \$7,770,000,000 in 1945, according to the Department of Commerce, and estimates indicate it passed \$8,000,000,000 in 1946. There are at least 3,000,000 habitual drinkers in the United States, of whom 750,000 are chronic alcoholics, and census bureau reports show that one of every nine persons entering the nation's insane asylums is committed for alcoholism.

"4. **PROTECTION OF DRY STATES:** Wets pledged federal protection of dry states and territories in the repeal campaign. A provision outlawing importation of liquor into dry states was included in the 21st amendment which repealed constitutional prohibition. But instead of protecting dry states, the federal government encourages the bootleggers through issuing tax receipts to liquor dealers in dry territory.

"5. **REDUCTION OF CRIME:** Repeal increased liquor-caused crime. Arrests for drunkenness have doubled one for every 49 persons, based on Federal Bureau of Investigation records. Meantime, the country is in the midst of a terrific crime wave in which liquor is a major factor with the plea 'I was drunk' becoming increasingly common as the explanation for a criminal act.

"The crime record completely refutes the claim of repealists that gangsterism came as a result of prohibition. The gangster was here long before prohibition and remains after repeal, in even greater numbers."

Mrs. Colvin added that none of the "benefits" of repeal, promised by the wets, have materialized and that liquor-caused human and economic waste has been to a major degree responsible for higher taxes, apart from war costs.

If our churches would meet today's opportunities fully, then they must major on enlisting vast multitudes in a Bible teaching and Bible study program. We must begin first with the 3,000,000 church members not now enrolled in Sunday School. We must build, organize, and train to reach the unreached millions who know not Christ and His will for their lives. To this purpose we would dedicate ourselves afresh this year.—A. V. Washburn, The Sunday School Builder.

"He Is Risen"

I am the resurrection and the life.

I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

I will not leave you comfortless.

Death is swallowed up in victory. O Death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Four "Kicks"

By J. E. DILLARD

This is about the way my deacon expressed it: "I get a kick out of tithing, in fact, I get four kicks out of it." I think he meant "thrills," but let him tell it in his own way. Said he:

"I get a kick out of it when I get my salary check and put aside a tenth for the Lord's work. I feel that I am in partnership with Him and that He is interested in my business as I am in His.

"Then I get a second kick when I put this tithe into my church envelope and take it to church. I feel that I have fellowship with my brethren and am helping my church do good.

"And I get a third kick when I put my envelope on the collection plate praying that God will bless it to the advancement of His kingdom. My offering becomes a part of my worship.

"Then I get another kick out of it when I read my state paper or hear the good reports of our boards and agencies. I feel that I have had at least a little part in these accomplishments. Yes sir, tithing gives me a kick. I only wish I had started sooner and could do more."

And here is about what his pastor said: "You have yet another and still greater kick coming. When you walk down the streets of the New Jerusalem and clasp glad hands with souls you have helped and when you hear the Master say 'Well done' that will be the greatest kick of all."

"Old-Fashioned Church"

By PEARL LAKE MCKOWN

They went to worship on Sunday morn,
To a church very old, and muchly worn,
Teams were tied to a hitching rack
That stood along the road, far back.
The kind preacher was there to greet
The people before they found a seat;
No usher was needed in that goodly day,
Country folk came to worship their way.
Their hymns rang out in loud voice,
The service caused them to rejoice.
No ill-will lived in that house of love,
They came to serve their God above.

NOTES OF ADVANCE

Pastor E. Butler Abington, Trinity Church, Lake Charles, La., writes: "Your great state secretary, Dr. B. L. Bridges, concluded an eight-day revival meeting with us March 16. We very genuinely appreciated his good preaching, sound advice, and Christian fellowship. Arkansas has been greatly blessed by the wise leadership of this man of God. Trinity Church is moving forward in a good way; we had 801 in Sunday School and 241 in Training Union last Sunday. We solicit the prayers of our friends in Arkansas."

Pastor J. Earl Bryant, Grand Avenue Church, Fort Smith, did the preaching in a revival in Calvary Church, Muskogee, Okla., where Arkansan Ford F. Gauntt is pastor. There were 22 professions of faith and 13 additions for baptism. Pastor Gauntt reports: "Bro. Bryant did some of the best preaching we have heard. He is a great pastor-evangelist."

First Church, Fayetteville, enrolled 150 in a Sunday School study course the week of March 16. Mrs. A. L. Leake, wife of Pastor Leake of Emmanuel Church, Rogers, acted as general superintendent of the school and taught the adult class. Teachers for the other courses were Mrs. Troy Brooks, Springdale, intermediates; Mrs. Parker Rushing, junior; Mrs. Harvey Graham, primary; and Mrs. Vance Edmonson, beginners. Pastor O. L. Gibson says it was "one of the most successful study courses in the history of the church."

First Church, Judsonia, L. M. Keeling, pastor, began a revival March 23 with Pastor James E. Carroll, Second Church, El Dorado, preaching and Rev. W. J. Morris, Pine Bluff, directing the singing.

Hilton Geren was ordained to the deaconship of Rye Hill Church, Fort Smith, at recent services. Rev. George H. Hink was moderator, Charles Bell did the questioning, and Rev. Milo Bryant brought the message.

The Pennsylvania Baptist Convention has invited Negro Baptist churches all over the state "to full membership and fellowship" in the Convention's various associations. Baptist associations have been asked to invite their Negro co-religionists to share committee responsibilities.

The newly organized Central College Historical and Archaeological Society has as its purpose the creation of a desire to preserve things of historical value and to enlarge the students' knowledge and appreciation of Arkansas. The Society is co-sponsored by Dr. Roy Beaman, head of the Bible Department and Prof. L. P. Pearson, head of the History Department. Students with "B" average or above, who are willing to participate in one of the monthly meetings, may become members. Officers are Alberta Jones, Little Rock, president; Toni Welch, Baltimore, Md., vice-president; Naomi Roper Hancock, North Little

"The Way of Life and Security" is the title of my new book. Order one of Bro. Thompson's books. Send 10 three-cent stamps for a sample copy. A. C. Thompson, 2403 Battery St., Little Rock, Ark.

Rock, secretary; and Ruth Wilson, Atkins, historian.

Dr. Walter Pope Binns, president of William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., will be speaker at the Easter Sunrise Service at Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Glendale, Calif., on Easter Sunday morning. Lawrence Tibbett will be guest soloist. The program will be broadcast over a coast-to-coast radio hook-up. This is the most largely attended of any of the Easter sunrise services. Attendance last Easter was 57,000.

There were 41 additions and professions and a number of definite rededications in a revival at First Church, Paris, in which H. Paul Briggs, Oklahoma City, was evangelist. Pastor Harold C. Seefeldt says: "It was one of the best meetings this church has had. Evangelist Briggs is unusual in his talents. He brings a strong, forceful, dynamic, powerful Gospel message. His messages are plain and pointed, yet presented in a spirit of love with a strong appeal to one's reason. He has a splendid voice as a singer and is outstanding as a pianist. His chorus time was well received as he played and led the congregation in gospel choruses. His youth choir averaged between 75 and 100 each night. We expect to continue to reap from this revival and commend Bro. Briggs to the brethren. He has the last half of May open. His home address is 2100 N. W. 22nd St., Oklahoma City, Okla."

The Executive Board of Union Parish Association of Louisiana has adopted resolutions expressing regret of losing Rev. J. P. Burgess, who has recently come to Arkansas as pastor of Junction City Church. He was moderator of the association last year. "He has been loyal to the doctrines, plans, and program of Louisiana Baptists in his pastorate at Marion and other pastorates in Louisiana and has done a good work for our Lord," the resolutions say.

Wynne Church is showing marked progress under the leadership of Pastor W. R. Woodell. Ambitious plans are made for the future. Easter Sunday will be Building Fund Day. Plans are underway for the construction of a new educational building. The architect will submit plans and drawings for the new building and for changes and improvements to be made in the present educational building and auditorium necessary to make the whole building a unit. The church sent Pastor Woodell to the recent pastors' conference in Louisville, Ky., and is planning to send both Rev. and Mrs. Woodell to the Southern Baptist Convention in May.

Central Seminary, Kansas City, Kans., had Rev. Roland G. Metzger, American Baptist missionary to the Belgian Congo, for a series of lectures in March. The lectures dealt with every phase of missionary endeavor as carried on in the Congo, the problems and difficulties faced by the missionary during his first year on the field, and the things that he needs to know before going to his field.

Dr. L. B. Cobb, pastor, First Church, Kingsport, Tenn., preached in evangelistic services in Highland Park Church, Texarkana, Tex., L. E. Holt, pastor.

Convention Messengers

Should Be Certified

Messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in St. Louis, May 7-11, should be properly certified in advance according to Article III of the Convention constitution.

The constitutional provision governing the appointment and certification of messengers is as follows:

"ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP: The Convention shall consist of messengers who are members of missionary Baptist churches cooperating with the Convention as follows:

"1. One messenger for each church contributing to work of the Convention during the fiscal year preceding the annual meeting.

"2. One additional messenger for every 250 members; or for each \$25.00 paid to the work of the Convention during the fiscal year preceding the annual meeting.

"3. The messengers shall be appointed and certified by the churches, to the Convention, but no church may appoint more than ten (10)."

Messenger cards for proper certification and enrolment have been printed. They are available from the Baptist Convention office in each state. One card is needed for each messenger.

Requests for cards should be sent direct to the executive secretary in the state, Dr. B. L. Bridges, 200 Radio Center, Little Rock.

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23 Summer Conferences

Planned at Ridgecrest

A total of 23 conferences have been scheduled for the Ridgecrest assembly center of the Southern Baptist Convention during the 1947 season which opens June 5 and extends through Aug. 29, it was announced by Robert Guy, manager.

The schedule follows: June 5-11, North Carolina Training Union assembly; June 12-18, Southwide Baptist Student Retreat; June 19-25, Young Women's Auxiliary camp; June 26-July 2 (first week) Southwide Sunday School conference, with additional conferences on Church Architecture, Visual Education and Church Library service, with the second week of the conferences scheduled July 3-9.

July 10-19 (first week) and July 17-23 (second week) and July 24-30 (third week), Southwide Baptist Training Union Leadership assembly; July 31-Aug. 6, Home Mission conference; Aug. 7-13, Woman's Missionary Union Conference and Business Women's circles; Aug. 14-20, Foreign Mission Board conference, Baptist Brotherhood conference, Young Men's Mission conference, and Editorial Conference.

Aug. 21-29, Ridgecrest Bible conference, Relief and Annuity Board conference, Southwide Church Music conference, Christian Education conference, Association of Southern Baptist Teachers of Bible and Religious Education; Southern Baptist Historical Society Meeting; School for Church Librarians.

Camp Ridgecrest for Boys will operate this summer from July 1 to August 12.

PASTORAL CHANGES

J. T. Elliff from First Church, Lake Village, to First Church, Fordyce.

Jimmy Harris, student in Ouachita College, to Central Church, Mineral Springs.

Larry O'Kelly, student in Ouachita College, to Anderson Union Church, Hope Association.

Harrison Pikes, student in Ouachita College, to Tennessee Church, Hope Association.

Through DEATH, Unto LIFE

By B. L. AYERS

Pastor, Prairie Grove

Digested By the Editor



The words of our text were uttered by the Lord Jesus Himself. The statement belongs to the day of Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. It was a great day, publicized far and near. In the enthusiasm of the hour certain Greeks had come to the city on Mount Zion to worship at the Feast; but above all, they had a desire to see Jesus. These visitors immediately contacted Philip, who in turn consulted with Andrew and the matter was put before our Lord.

The Son of God was deeply moved at this manifestation of interest from the Gentile world. He would have immediately embraced them, but for one thing; the "hour had come for His lifting up" and well He knew that not until He had been glorified by death and His resurrection could He really bless these strangers as well as all mankind. These were the circumstances which prompted our Saviour to speak the words of our text: "Except a grain of wheat fall into the earth and die, it abideth by itself alone; but if it die, it beareth much fruit."

Mystery of Life and Death

Our text brings us face to face with the very heart of the Gospel mystery; for the One whose knowledge is perfect and who knows "the end from the beginning" is discussing the two great themes which in all times have engaged the attention of mankind throughout the years: the matter of life and the matter of death.

Job, 3,000 years the other side of the Cross, meditating upon the vanity and brevity of human life, one day asked himself the question: "If a man die, shall he live again?" but Job found the answer, for he cried out: "For I know that my redeemer liveth."

The only true and abiding enrichment is in giving; the crown "which never fadeth" comes through loss; he who would shout the victory, must travel the road of suffering; and the only door to life eternal through death.

Paradox you say? Indeed it is; but all of life is a paradox. Superficially considered, death seems the unlikeliest road to life, yet the story of the flowers and growing things validate the conclusion that a fundamental law of the natural world is: reproduction comes through dissolution.

Incredible? Perhaps. Yet that rose you so much admire achieved its beauty and fragrance and blessed the world like a benediction only because a tiny seed was planted in the ground one day. The little seed rotted and seemed to die, but in that seed was the great mystery—life—; and out of the seeming death, came life and beauty and fragrance.

The truth of death unto life is seen even in the world of economics and human living. Consider these bodies of ours, these frail tabernacles which house the immortal soul of man. This realization alarms the unregenerate soul and gives him pause, but to the child of God it is only a natural process, one to which he became reconciled when he found his Saviour. Hence the Christian can say with the Apostle: "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dis-

solved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands eternal in the heavens" (II Corinthians 5:1).

Growing Younger Growing Old

Paradox? Of course. For as our eyes are being daily dimmed to scenes of earth, by faith, we see Immanuel's Land. Our ears may become less acute to sounds about us, but by faith we can hear the chorus of the skies. Thus, as the child of God becomes older, really he is growing younger and hastening on to that hour when he will not be subjected to the limitations of time and space, but shall find "morality swallowed up with life."

Marching on toward the hour when the bloody butchers of Jerusalem were to do their worst, Jesus declared: "I am come," said He, "that they might have life, and have it more abundantly."

Only through His death could our Saviour atone for the sins of those who believe. From the hour of His death to this good hour the story of Christianity is but the record of a bloody harvest, a harvest only possible because of a seed sown on Calvary's Cross.

Only in the light of the eternal morning shall the vastness of this harvest be fully known; for many shall come from the east and west and a great multitude whom no man can number, redeemed by His blood, out of every tribe and tongue shall yet together sing in a chorus of antiphonal praise: "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain."

We must learn that we must die if others are to live. As natural men we can never bless the world. As supernatural men and women, fitted for superhuman tasks we are able to evangelize a lost and dying world. Only the gospel that Christ died for our sins and was raised the third day for our justification will ever reach lost sinners.

Perhaps none of us can comprehend to the fullest the mystery of the Cross of Christ for "here we see through a glass darkly," and there are many things we do not understand. Life itself is an insoluble riddle which no scientist has yet explained, but we need not understand life to enjoy it. By the same token I can enjoy the blessings of a life made possible by the mystery of the cross, yet not understand it all.

I think the truth of life through death somewhat clarifies the miracle of regeneration. I am not here to explain the new birth—nor my own birth, nor any one else's birth—no more than I can explain the mystery of the flower in "the crannied wall."

Life Through Death

You will recall that a distinguished teacher in Israel came to Jesus by night to inquire the way to the Kingdom of God, and Nicodemus was frankly dismayed to discover that he must die before he could live—die to self,

die to Jewish tradition, die to preconceived notions and above all his old ego must breathe its last, and out of this death would come a new life in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

This puzzled Nicodemus—it has puzzled many since that far off-day. Christ's intimate followers who had been taught by Him for three long years never seemed to grasp the great truth that Christ could only bless humanity through His death—that He must die that others might find life and life eternal.

I think my own conversion will illustrate my argument. From the very hour the Holy Spirit showed me I was a lost, Hell-bound sinner, I began to die. I could no longer justify myself. My mouth was stopped. I was guilty before God. The pressure was intolerable and finally on a Sunday afternoon, in my deep distress, I looked to Jesus as did the bitten Israelites look to the serpent of brass, and in that instant, I died; but out of that death I was born again. That, my brethren, is salvation. There is no other way.

The truth of finding life through death provides the truest motive for Christian service and sanctification. At the moment we are "born again" we are judicially dead before God. The old indictment is torn up. There are perhaps some unlovely traits of character to be extirpated, hot tempers to be cooled, old appetites to be curbed, self will to be crucified. Then it is that the Holy Spirit begins His work, and He who hath begun a good work in us will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.

With what consummate skill the Great Surgeon of Souls begins to cut away unhealthy tissue to make us the men and women we should be. Sometimes this process is extremely painful, but He is fitting us to be "vessels meet for the Master's use." Like Israel through the wilderness wanderings we are being prepared for our conquest of Caanans which lie ahead. This will continue until "we shall awake in His likeness."

Along with the work of our sanctification we must be educated in "things of the Spirit." Then comes Christian education, enlistment training, doctrinal teaching, etc. The untrained Christian, the untrained Christian, is a helpless Christian, and can never be an effective warrior. Let us teach and train and never minimize its importance.

Golden Key to Effective Living

Jesus once said, as recorded in Luke 9:24, "Whosoever shall save his life shall lose it, but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it." That I think is the golden key to effective Christian living, and we face here the same old paradox of life through death. It is through our daily death that we reach our objectives. We die daily to the world: its glamour, its allure and its charm. But in this daily death we are forever finding new sources of life and joy and peace in the Holy Ghost. So gradually as Christ is given preeminence in our lives, He becomes our all in all.

Now what is the sum of all this teaching? Simply this: Christ's way to glory was the way of death. Our way to glory is the way of death. Our way to service is through death to self. The way of our sanctification is by the way of death. "Except a grain of wheat fall into the earth and die, it abideth, but if it die, it beareth much fruit."

SUNDAY SCHOOL and TRAINING UNION

Literature and Materials

Prepared by Baptists for Baptists

In the first place, let's make it clear that the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention is not organically connected with or subject in any sort of way to control by inter-, extra-, or non-denominational organization of any kind. Yes, sir, that's right.

We have a co-operative connection with the Committee on the Uniform Series of the International Council of Religious Education for the selection of units and Scripture texts and subjects. This outline of units and texts and subjects is adapted to our own programs and needs. Omissions and additions are made. Then Southern Baptist writers and editors prepare the lessons. Our lessons are all read by special readers checking for biblical accuracy and doctrinal interpretation.

Order Adequately—Distribute Carefully—Promote Effectively!

(1) Order enough for your entire enrolment and an extra supply for new members, for replacements when lost, and for use in visiting prospects. (2) Distribute on the last Sunday of the Quarter. Make a real event of it. Call attention to the periodicals. Challenge full appreciation and careful use of these guides and helps. Take materials to all absentees before the first Sunday of the new Quarter. (3) Then through workers' meetings, study courses and training courses, and Sunday opportunities, work for the best use of these periodicals for the accomplishments of the ends involved.

Again—BY and FOR Baptists

All of these periodicals are produced as economically as possible in keeping with making them all that they should and can be in content and appearance. What earnings accrue are considered as missionary money to be reinvested in the sources that produced them. So, in co-operation with state mission boards and associations, these earnings are used to send out workers and

We also offer closely graded Sunday school Bible lessons for each year from three through sixteen, with a separate lesson for each Sunday. These lessons are made up by departments and arranged in units and published by the Quarter. They are Bible lessons, adapted to the ages involved, and progressive from age to age. Our Graded Series is planned and produced entirely by our own Editorial and writing staff.

Our Graded Baptist Training Union materials are also prepared entirely by Southern Baptist writers and editors. They provide weekly program materials, based upon Scripture passages and presenting great central truths. Bible study, Baptist doctrine, and missions receive regular emphasis. A central theme for each year is chosen and subjects and topics are carefully related. Attractive quarterlies for the Story Hour, Juniors, Intermediates, Young People, and Adults carry these materials.

So we have Bible lessons and Bible materials for training prepared from the Scriptures by Baptists for Baptists.

materials to build more Training Unions and Sunday schools—and to produce growth in those already operating. When this is done, *more* periodicals will be ordered and *more* earnings will accrue to send out *more* efforts to get *more* people in training and in Bible study.

And the circle continues—who would want to break it? Truly it's all *by* and *for* Baptists.

For Special Emphasis Now



A NEW MONTHLY

America will fail if her home life fails. Why not put this new magazine, *Home Life*, in every home in your church and in every unchurched home in your community every month!

Distribute this monthly to all Extension Department members and to all Cradle

Roll homes. Its "Altar Fires" and articles about home life will greatly enrich the work of these departments. *Home Life* is successor to *The Better Home* and *The Cradle Roll Home*.

Vitalize a visitation program to church members and for evangelism by taking *Home Life* to the homes of your church and community. It will repay many times over all the effort and cost involved. Let's renew our efforts for the Christian home!

TWO LEADERSHIP MONTHLIES

The Training Union Magazine for every pastor in our whole Convention territory—and a copy for every Training Union officer. *The Sunday School Builder* for every pastor, general superintendent, department superintendent, and for every teacher in the Sunday school. Putting these two periodicals in the hands of the workers mentioned is simply furnishing essential material to the workers who have been designated by the churches to do particular tasks—tasks which are necessary to the best achievement of the churches. So many workers who need them do not get them. If the churches will furnish them, better work will be done.



Subscription rates for HOME LIFE, THE BAPTIST TRAINING UNION MAGAZINE, or THE SUNDAY SCHOOL BUILDER—ordered with other literature to be sent to the church, 25 cents per quarter. Individual subscriptions mailed to individual addresses, \$1.25 per year. Mailed monthly. A free periodical catalog is yours for the asking.

Order adequately from:

Sunday School Board

Of the SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

161 Eighth Avenue, North

Nashville 3, Tennessee

Foundation . . .

Glories of the Resurrection

By DOUGLAS M. WHITE
First Church, DeWitt

This is the first in a series of four messages on "The Glories of the Resurrection," being heard on eleven Arkansas radio stations through programs by the Radio Commission of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

With the Easter season immediately confronting us, it seems appropriate that we center our attention upon the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, with its consequent relationships to Christian experience.

We shall approach our theme from the following standpoints. "Foundation," which reveals the doctrinal importance; "Realization," which has to do with redemptive experience; "Application," which deals with practical Christian living; and "Consummation," which involves the final and eternal outcome of the resurrection.

Cardinal Doctrine of Christianity

The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the cardinal doctrine of Christianity. Upon this fact Christianity stands or falls. It distinguishes and differentiates between Christianity and every religion of human origin. By virtue of the resurrection, Christianity triumphs over and brands as false every religion in the world. What does it matter how one lives or dies if he has no power over death? How can one give life to others who himself is powerless in the grip of death?

That Jesus rose from the dead is an eternally established fact which cannot be disputed. The self-styled modern scholarship which seeks to discredit this fact is neither modern nor scholarly. It is just as ancient as Satan, its diabolical originator, and as blind as those who crucified the Lord of glory. Modernism would strip Jesus of His deity by destroying (if it could) the fact of His resurrection. One of its notorious proponents suggests that the mummified corpse of Jesus may be found in some obscure Syrian tomb.

If this be true, Jesus is neither a good man nor a great teacher (as modernism claims) but is automatically branded as an imposter, a fraud, and a falsifier. Jesus Himself said, "I am the resurrection and the life;" "I lay down my life that I may take it again;" "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up;" "The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day."

Jesus Emphasized Its Importance

The importance of the resurrection is seen in the emphasis which Jesus placed upon it as, upon numerous occasions, He sought to prepare His disciples for His exodus from this world by way of the cross. It is seen also in the meticulous care which He exercised in demonstrating the fact of His resurrection by many and varied appearances, during the 40 days which He spent in the world prior to His ascension. A special appearance for doubting Thomas and a private interview for heartbroken Peter are indicative of His desire for them to be fully convinced and persuaded of his complete triumph over the tomb.

In this connection it is also highly significant that all of His appearances were to believers who had been acquainted with Him prior to His death. The testimony of those associated with Him in the flesh,

that this same Jesus had eaten, walked, and talked with them in the same body which had been scourged and nailed to the cross, was of inestimable value. Hence the invitation to Thomas to "Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side; and be not faithless, but believing." That the apostles recognized the importance of this is evidenced when, in choosing a successor for Judas, they affirmed that he must needs "be a witness with us of his resurrection."

The last glimpse which the disciples had of Him as He was received into heaven, stamped indelibly upon their minds and hearts a picture of the nail-pierced hands and feet, and the thorn-crowned brow of that body which, by the divine operation of the Holy Spirit, emerged from the tomb.

In the prologue to his classic on the resurrection Paul is careful to point out that Christ not only died and rose again but "that he was buried." He was not resuscitated from a temporary swoon. He did not disappear. Nor was his body evaporated into gases, but, "he was buried." The same body which was laid in the tomb came out again just as literally as it went in.

The chief priests and Pharisees, having obtained authority from the Roman governor, "Made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch." Little did they realize how their determination to keep Him in the grave would enhance and magnify the miracle of His resurrection. Characteristically they later found it necessary to commission their hired perjurers to circulate a manufac-

ture explanation for the resurrection, rather than to believe and acknowledge the truth.

Proclaimed by Power of Holy Spirit

Again, the importance of the resurrection is seen following the advent of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. The fact of the resurrection becomes the heart and core of apostolic ministry. Immediately following the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples who were assembled in Jerusalem, in obedience to the command of Jesus, Peter delivered the first gospel sermon. He explained to the multitude that the miraculous expressions of divine truth uttered in every language present, by the Spirit-filled disciples, was in perfect harmony with the prophecy of Joel. Then he went on to show that though it was by their wicked hands that Jesus was crucified and slain, God had reversed their destructive purposes and made them contribute to His own glory by raising Christ from the dead.

Through the death and resurrection of Christ—predetermined by God, predicted by David, and predominated by the Holy Spirit—Almighty God triumphed over the powers of sin and darkness and threw open the doors of heaven to all who would repent of their sins, and put their faith in Jesus Christ. "Therefore . . . God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye crucified, both Lord and Christ."

This was, is, and always will be the message of the Church throughout this age. It was this truth, proclaimed in the power of the Holy Spirit, which cut them to the heart that day and swept 3,000 souls into the kingdom. It is the only message which will meet the need of a lost and dying world today. Jesus said, "Because I live, ye shall live also" and "He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." Do you believe in Him as your personal Saviour? "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life."

Yes, WE HAVE SPACE TO COPENHAGEN

By J. W. MARSHALL, Chairman
All-American Baptist Party

Everyone who has already made a reservation deposit with Thomas Cook for the All-American Baptist Party to the World Congress in Copenhagen has ship space. Definite assignments will be mailed soon.

By Air

Space on Trans-Atlantic airlines is at a premium, but those who desire to fly to Copenhagen can secure space if they apply to Cooks now. Accommodations have been reserved for Baptists on several splendid trans-Atlantic planes regularly operated by American Overseas Airlines, Pan American World Airways, British Overseas Airways, and the Scandinavian Airlines.

Delegates who fly will have more time for visiting in England and on the continent. Some Southern Baptist leader will be aboard each plane reserved exclusively for Baptists. Groups traveling by air will be limited, and soon we must furnish airline companies with a complete passenger list.

By Sea

One large section of the All-American Baptist party will leave New York on the Queen Elizabeth July 2. Meeting air passengers in London, this section will visit Bedford and Kettering on July 9 for brief memorial services honoring William Carey and John Bunyan. Another section of the party leaving

New York on the Queen Elizabeth July 17 will meet those who go by air between July 17 and 21 for visits to Kettering and Bedford on July 24.

It is certain that thousands of Americans will travel abroad this summer. The people of Europe welcome American Baptists of serious purpose.

Preparations Ready

A recent cablegram from Dr. W. O. Lewis, executive secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, who is now in Europe, assures us that "preparations for the Congress are well advanced." He indicated that 3,000 would attend from Scandinavia, and more than 400 from England; more than 300 from the Continent are expected as well as representatives from Eastern Asia and Africa.

President Truman has just signed a bill eliminating the tax on overseas transportation. This means a substantial reduction in the cost of tours. First class travel, for example, will be reduced by more than one hundred dollars.

There may yet be time to make steamer reservations with the All-American Baptist Party. Those who act immediately can secure plane space. Write directly to Thomas Cook and Son, Inc., 587 Fifth Avenue, New York City, New York, or Shoreham Building, Washington, D. C., for plane or ship space. (If you live east of the Mississippi River, write to the Washington office.)

Bible Conferences

The Bible Conferences are over. The attendance at all of them was probably decreased considerably by the influenza epidemic. In fact one conference, Batesville, was called off altogether. But in spite of the flu and bad weather approximately 200 pastors attended one or more of the conferences. The men on the programs did exceptionally well.

Now, brother pastor, what do you think of these conferences? Should they be continued from year to year? Do you believe it is better to have several conferences scattered over the state, or do you prefer one State-wide meeting with more of the outstanding leaders of the South on the program? What should be the major interest in the programs? This is the time to give expression to your thoughts. Plans ought to get underway soon for the next year.

Revival Meetings

Spring revivals will be on in many churches all over the state during the next few weeks. Let's covenant together to pray that a great spiritual revival will begin to sweep through our country. Then as the summer comes and all the rural churches join in their revival efforts, may this revival reach a great spiritual peak with Pentecostal results.

Even rural churches should thoroughly plan their revivals. Make those plans well in advance. Set the date. Engage the helpers. Take a census. Hold special prayer meetings. Enlist a personal workers group. Don't just have a meeting. Make it a real evangelistic campaign.

Three Rural Evangelists

The Department of Missions will announce soon the names of the three rural evangelists who will work throughout the state according to the mission program adopted at the last State Convention. These men will major on evangelism in rural churches. They will not be confined to any territory, save the state. If you want to get your request in now for one of these evangelists just write to this department. However, after they take up their work all contacts should be made directly with them.

If in some association, there are half dozen or more churches which would like to have simultaneous revivals, it might be that these three evangelists, with the Superintendent and some pastors could come to you for such a campaign. Take this up in your next Worker's Council and write us if you would like to have our help.

Church Buses

Many churches are buying buses to furnish transportation to the church services. The First Church, Booneville, was expecting a new bus delivered last week. The Fordyce Church has voted to buy a new one. The church at Peach Orchard is planning on purchasing a used school bus. The church at Atkins has

WHEN IN DALLAS

Worship with Ross Avenue Baptist Church

Ross and Moser

HOMER B. REYNOLDS, Pastor

Department of MISSIONS

C. W. Caldwell, Superintendent

one rented at a very nominal rate. Likely there are scores of others.

Now, that is missions carried on by the local church. In many instances it is better to bring people in to the town church than to try to maintain a mission or to organize a church with a few members. This is the time for churches to try operating a missions bus. Many used school buses can be bought at reasonable prices. So without going to much expense the church can try out such a mission program.

Personal Word

One month has passed since I began my work as Superintendent of Missions. It has been a busy one indeed. There was the task of getting the office set up with supplies and equipment; the task of planning and promoting the Bible Conferences, and since there had been no Superintendent for a year, there was a pile of requests for aid of some sort from churches, pastors, associational missionaries and others all of which had been "deferred until superintendent is elected."

Along with it all has been the problem of getting a place to live. I left the family at Fordyce and every spare hour was spent in searching for living quarters. No house or apartment could be found for rent if there were any children, and we have two. So, we were forced to purchase a house at inflated price and will move the middle of April.

But to top it all, your Superintendent became a victim of the "flu" just two weeks after taking up the work. Talk about sulfa drugs, penicillin sprays, influenza shots, cough medicine, etc.—well I have had them all. If I have written some crazy letters and articles, or have done some foolish things let's blame it on these drugs. I regret that it became necessary for me to cancel several engagements.

I write these words not to create sympathy but to let you know the problems of this first month. Of course there will be other problems, but I feel that we are now ready to get going in this great mission program.

—000—

Attention

Convention Messengers

By JOE W. BURTON, Secretary
Southern Baptist Convention

Has your church elected messengers to the meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis, May 7-11?

Have these messengers been properly certified for enrolment at St. Louis?

Messenger cards are available in the Baptist convention office in your state. Write to the state secretary to request the number of cards needed in your church—one for each messenger.

Registration in St. Louis will be greatly facilitated if each church will certify its messengers in advance by securing these registration cards from the Baptist state office.

Request Repeated For Vatican Probe

(By Religious News Service)

A group of Protestant editors have written Attorney General Tom Clark repeating a demand they made last November for an investigation of Vatican activities in the United States.

The five editors requested Clark to "immediately call a grand jury investigation to see how the Foreign Agents Registration Act is being violated by the representatives of the Vatican State in America."

They asked that the investigation include "an inquiry into the control of the channels of communication by the Vatican State."

The editors explained they were making the latter request because the Associated Press, the United Press and the New York City newspapers had not given any publicity to their demand for an investigation of Vatican activities in this country.

Also, the editors urged the Department of Justice to make sure that Roman Catholic parochial schools do not "operate as propaganda agencies of a foreign state, namely the Vatican State, in violation of the Foreign Agents Registration Act."

This request was made "in view of the recent Supreme Court decision approving use of public school funds for Roman Catholic schools."

Editors who signed the letter were Dr. Emory Stephens Bucke, Zions Herald, unofficial New England Methodist weekly; Dr. John W. Bradbury, Watchman Examiner, unofficial Baptist weekly; Dr. Stephen H. Fritchman, Christian Register, official organ of the Unitarian Church; Dr. John R. Scotford, Advance, official organ of the Congregational Christian Churches, and Dr. Guy Emory Shipley, the Churchman, unofficial bi-monthly non-denominational journal.

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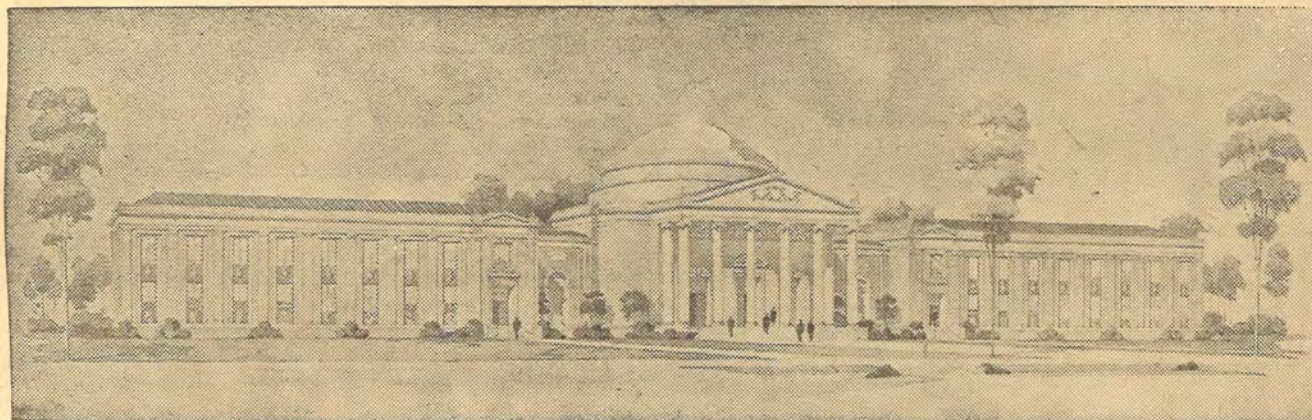


GEORGE W. TRUETT

SOUTHWESTERN SEMINARY Is Grateful for All the Contributions Made to the Scarborough-Truett Memorial Building Fund

With your help \$756,314.09 has been subscribed. Of this total \$607,552.11 has been paid, leaving a balance of \$148,761.98. Present prices make this inadequate.

Southwestern, with its 1,007 resident students, needs this building for library facilities and additional classroom space NOW. Increased gifts through the Cooperative Program will provide additional funds.



SCARBOROUGH-TRUETT MEMORIAL BUILDING (PROPOSED)

Many individuals signally blessed of God can make over and above investments which will pay eternal dividends. NOW is the time. Let us not fail to perpetuate the memory of these two great men, and at the same time supply a pressing need.

NOTE WELL: There are two other Southwide seminaries — New Orleans and Southern. We are comrades and contributors — not competitors. What we ask for ourselves, we ask for them also — your loyal support.

SOUTHWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Dr. E. D. Head, President

SEMINARY HILL, FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Woman's Missionary Union

Auxiliary to Arkansas Baptist State Convention
209 Radio Center Building, Little Rock

MRS. J. E. SHORT
President

MISS LAVERNE ASHBY
Young People's Secretary

MRS. C. H. RAY
Executive Secretary and Treasurer

ALVIN HATTON
Royal Ambassador Secretary

200 ATTEND GA CONFERENCE

The twenty-third annual Intermediate GA Conference was held at Central College March 14-16. More than 200 girls, counselors, and speakers registered from 45 different churches over the state.

The theme for the Conference was "Light for the World." Messages brought by the missionary speakers, Mrs. Hugo Culpepper, Mrs. J. L. Moye, Miss Nancy Cooper and Miss Jandira de Sousa made the theme very meaningful to all, especially to the 19 girls who made dedication of their lives to serve the Lord wherever He would lead them.

Features of the program were a "Candlelight" Banquet on Friday evening, group discussions on GA work and personal problems, a missionary play, "Two Masters," presented by the dramatics department of Central College under direction of Miss Mary Latham, a skit about "World Comrades" presented by the GA's from Helena, and a Talent Hour in which the GA's presented stunts and musical numbers.

Two important features came on Saturday evening. The only entrant in the Missionary Reading Contest gave her reading and the Coronation Service was held. Miss Marleen McKeenan, First Baptist Church, Fayetteville, gave her missionary reading entitled, "Katie and Her Thirteen Babies." We congratulate the A-1 GA of the First Church, Fayetteville, for their capable representative.

Forty-three girls participated in the Coronation Service conducted by Mrs. J. E. Short and Miss Laverne Ashby. Ten of these girls received their crowns and became Queens of Girls Auxiliary. Misses Ila Maud and Martha Ann Baxter of College Hill Church, Texarkana, and Miss Vernelle Neimyer of Bentonville were awarded their scepters as Queens with Scepter. The climax to the service came as Mrs. Short placed on the shoulders of Miss Lessia Ruth King of Walnut Street Church, Jonesboro, the cape which symbolized that she was now Queen Regent, the highest award that can be given a GA for attainment in the Forward Steps.

YWA GIRLS all over the state are planning on the YWA 40th Anniversary Banquet to be held Tuesday, April 8, at 5:30 p. m. at



Miss Marleen McKeenan

First Baptist Church, Jonesboro. It is to be a great celebration. Reservations are limited to 200. Make yours by writing this office today!

Annie Armstrong Offering For Home Missions

The Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions is being received daily. We urge each WMU organization to glean for this offering and to remit same to the State WMU Treasurer at your earliest convenience. Please make a real effort to complete your offering during the month of April.

Observance Home Mission Prayer Season

We have had interesting reports from several organizations concerning the observance of the Home Mission Season of Prayer. We wish we had space to give in detail the unusually interesting features of the program for we greatly appreciate receiving these reports. A large number of women participated in the program of

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Pastor Elliff Goes to Fordyce After Leading Lake Village in Much Growth

J. T. Elliff, pastor of First Church, Lake Village, the past three years, has accepted the pastorate of First Church, Fordyce, succeeding Dr. C. W. Caldwell, who has become state superintendent of missions.

During the three years of Pastor Elliff's leadership the Lake Village Church has received 153 members. Average attendance in Sunday School has doubled, and church income has also doubled. Training Union attendance is now more than twice that of three years ago. Gifts to mission causes have been raised to 25 per cent of last year's gross income. Pastor's salary has also been increased.

Many improvements have been made in the church property. The entire church plant has been redecorated inside, the nursery and beginner departments have been equipped with needed furniture, the pastor's study has been newly furnished throughout, and an organ has been paid for and installed in the auditorium.

Pastor Elliff has been moderator of Delta Association for two years, is a member of the Baptist State Hospital Board of Trustees and the Executive Board of the Baptist State Convention. He has been



Pastor Elliff

active in civic affairs and was a member of the Chamber of Commerce and president of the Lions Club.

Fordyce Church has a membership of more than 600 and has enjoyed steady growth for some time. More than \$45,000 has been raised to build an addition to the educational building.

the First Baptist Church, Arkadelphia, and the offering was above par. The WMS of the First Church, Fayetteville, had the privilege of hearing the Rev. Pedro Hernandez, missionary to the Spanish-speaking people, who was assisting in a school of missions during the week. Their offering far exceeded any previous year.

Greetings and An Invitation

The Woman's Missionary Union of the First Baptist Church of Jonesboro sends greetings and a cordial invitation to every member of the Baptist Woman's Missionary Union of Arkansas to attend the fifty-eighth annual meeting to be held with us April 8-10, assisted by the Unions of Walnut Street, Fisher Street and Central Baptist churches.

Preparations are being made for a record attendance. The homes of our town are being opened wide and bed and breakfast will be furnished every one in attendance. Our women are looking forward

with great anticipation and pleasure. We are grateful for the privilege of hostessing so great a gathering.—Mrs. Frank Barton, President, First Baptist W. M. U.

Make Ridgecrest Reservations Now

The WMU Conference is scheduled to be held at Ridgecrest August 7-13. There will be a special conference for members of Business Women's Circles as well as for all members of missionary societies during this WMU Week. Write at once to the Business Manager, Ridgecrest, N. C., and remit \$1.00 for registration fee. We hope to have sufficient number women attending from Arkansas to charter one or two special busses for the trip. Plans must be completed far in advance and you can help us in completing arrangements for the trip. Write your State Secretary if you plan to go.

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THE *Diary* OF A BIBLE

January 15—Been resting quietly for a week. The first few nights after the first of the year my new owner read me regularly, but has forgotten me, I guess.

February 2 — Clean up. I was dusted with other things, and put back in my place.

February 8 — Owner used me for a short time this afternoon, looking up a few references; went to Sunday School.

March 7—Clean up: dusted and put in my old place again. Have been down in the lower hall since my trip to Sunday School.

April 12 — Busy day, owner led devotions at mission circle, and had to look up references; had an awful time finding them, though they were in the right place all the time.

May 5 — In Grandma's lap all afternoon. She is here on a visit. She let a teardrop fall on Colossians, second chapter, verses 3-7, steadfastness.

May 6 — In Grandma's lap again this afternoon. She spent most of her time on First Corinthians 13, and the last four verses of the fifteenth chapter, charity, steadfast, unmovable.

May 7, 8, 9—In Grandma's lap every afternoon now. It's quite comfortable. Sometimes she reads me and sometimes she quotes from me with her eyes closed.

May 10 — Grandma gone; back in old place again. She kissed me goodbye.

June 3—Had a couple of four leaf clovers stuck in me today.

July 1—Packed in a trunk with clothes and other things. Off for a vacation, I guess.

July 2-7 — Still in the trunk, though nearly everything else has been taken out.

July 15—Home again, and in my old place. Quite a journey, though I don't see why I was taken.

August 1 — Rather stuffy and hot. Have two magazines and a novel and an old hat on top of me; wish they would take them off.

September 5—Clean up: dusted and set right again.

October 10—Used by Mary a few minutes today. She was writing a letter to a friend whose brother had died, and wanted an appropriate verse.

November 10—Cleaned up again. What does my Bible say? If we read three chapters each week day and five each Sunday, we can read the Bible through in one year.

—The Canadian Baptist.

—000—

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board sends contributions to the American Bible Society, which distributes Bibles in the countries where we have mission work.

In All Thy Ways

A Page for Youth
By
CATHERINE JORDAN

Did You Know?

The American Bible Society employs a force of 3,645 persons to carry on its world-wide work of translating, publishing, and distributing the Scriptures. The entire Bible has been translated into 175 languages and parts of it have been translated into 797 languages or dialects, making a grand total of 972 languages and dialects.

Several hundred languages in which the Scriptures have been published did not exist in written form until an alphabet and grammar were provided by missionaries so that the peoples could have the Bible in their own tongue.

The Bible contains 3,566,480 letters, 733,746 words, 31,102 verses, 1,189 chapters and 66 books.

The longest chapter is the 119th Psalm; shortest, the middle chapter, the 117th Psalm. The middle verse is the 8th of the 118th Psalm. The longest verse is the 9th of the 8th chapter of Esther; the shortest verse is the 35th of the 11th chapter of John.

The Bible contains two Testaments. The Old is Law, the New is Love. The Old is the Bud, the New is the Bloom. In the Old, man is reaching up for God. In the New, God is reaching down for man. In the Old, man is in the valley but can see the sun shining on the mountain tops. In the New he is on the mountain top basking in the sunlight of God's infinite love.

Eleven Million

The American Bible Society announced that it distributed 11,394,200 Scriptures during 1946 in more than 40 countries, including nearly 4,000,000 volumes in the United States.

A total of 105,500 Testaments and Gospels were sent to Patriarch Alexei of the Russian Orthodox Church, 3,000,000 Scriptures to Latin American countries, and several hundred thousand to refugees and German POWs in various parts of Europe.

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Hospital Pastor Finds Opportunity Frequently to Lead Lost to Christ

By J. F. QUEEN
Hospital Pastor, Baptist State Hospital

After some months of silence in the Arkansas Baptist I am registering again some experiences in the Baptist State Hospital as pastor.

Since I am called to supply pulpits over the state those who have heard me speak have heard many of the experiences I have had in soul-winning. It has been my privilege to speak in more than 60 churches during the past two years and I am glad to say that I have been most graciously received by everyone.

My remarks concerning the hospital have seemed to arouse unusual interest with a deeper appreciation of the hospital. Of course with nearly 1,000 patients per month with 2,000 or more visitors and relatives of patients per month, some soul-winning experiences should be had.

A most interesting experience occurred this way one day last year: A woman came to my office early in the morning deeply distressed because she had just admitted a sick husband, and her husband's brother had just admitted his wife who was seriously ill with a brain tumor.

The woman requested that prayer be offered for the two sick ones but include in the prayer a petition for the salvation of her husband's brother who was lost. There in the office we poured out our hearts in prayer for the two sick ones and for the lost man.

Two days later after an opera-

tion for the brain tumor, I found her husband in a sun-parlor by himself. Immediately I told him of our prayers for his wife's recovery and for him to be saved. Conviction went as an arrow through his heart. After a few moments with the word of God and prayer he was gloriously saved. His wife recovered from her operation and she was taken home to live happier than she had ever lived in her home before.

A book could be written on sowing and reaping in our Baptist State Hospital.

—000—

Pastors Seek Re-Hearing Of High Court Decision

Birmingham, Ala., Baptist pastors are supporting a movement to obtain a re-hearing of the recent Supreme Court decision favoring use of public funds for transportation of children to parochial schools.

The Birmingham Baptist Pastors Conference adopted a resolution here deploring the court decision and reaffirming "our time honored position of religious freedom for people of all faiths as guaranteed by the Bill of Rights and its corollary separation of church and state.

The pastors stressed that "we are opposed to the Court decision not as one church body against another church body but on the principle that church and state must be forever separated."

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LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

THREE WORTHY IDEALS

The Baptist Brotherhood of Arkansas is endeavoring to keep before our Baptist men the three ideals which are the very foundation stones of the whole Brotherhood program. They are: PERSONAL CONSECRATION, PERSONAL STEWARDSHIP, and PERSONAL SOUL-WINNING. These three foundation stones rest on the bed-rock of personal faith in Christ as Saviour, and support the entire framework of Brotherhood organization and activities. It will be well for us to examine each of these ideals.

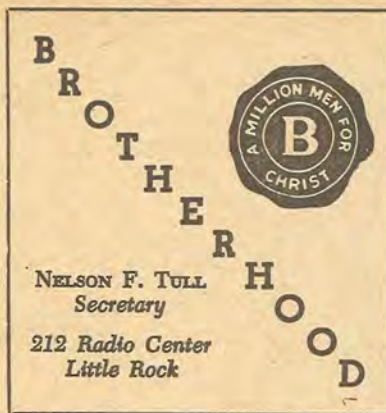
I. PERSONAL CONSECRATION

Setting one's self apart for the service of God, is the real meaning of personal consecration. Consecration thus has two aspects: Separation from sinful living and worldly conformity, and separation unto God for His own use.

From 65 to 75 per cent of our Baptist men are wholly inactive in the work of their churches. Why this terrible loss of Christian manpower? Aside from the fact that many of our churches have given the men nothing to do, there are two obvious reasons why a large part of our men are not carrying their cross for Christ. The first of these reasons is that many of the finest flowers of our Christian manhood are saddled down with fleshly habits; habits which paralyze their Christian conscience; blind their Christian perceptions; prostrate their Christian powers; crush their Christian impulses; crucify their Christian example. Fleshly habits bring a Christian to a condition of spiritual ineptitude. "Ye cannot serve God and mammon" is an axiom of spiritual truth. We can't, even when we try!

Worldly practices also take their terrific toll of Christian manhood. Conformity to worldly patterns of living, of amusements, of business methods, of ideals, will put any Christian man in a strait-jacket of worldly thinking and worldly practice. John the Beloved pleads with those who bear the name of Christ, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him" (I John 2:15). And James asks the stinging question, "Know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God?" (Jas. 4:4). And the plea of the Lord, through Paul the Apostle, is "Come out from among them, and be ye separate" (II Cor. 6:17).

The Brotherhood seeks to lead Baptist men into that true consecration of life which involves their separation from fleshly habits and worldly conformity, and their separation unto God. Personal consecration is the BASE of Christian living and serving. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies



a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Rom. 12:1-2).

II. PERSONAL STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship is first a concept; then a practice; then a life! Stewardship is really the positive and active side of consecration. Stewardship is Christian life possessed by God; lived within the will of God; lived for the glory of God. If a man would be a good steward he must first comprehend and accept the scriptural concept of stewardship, and then grow toward the complete surrender of all that he is and has into the Savior's hands for His use.

The Brotherhood seeks to help men get the true concept of their stewardship, and to develop this concept into lives which reflect an understanding of their total obligation to the Savior. "Ye are not your own . . . for ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (I Cor. 6:19-20).

III. PERSONAL SOUL-WINNING

A Christian who is consecrated and who is developing as a steward will be able to comprehend his sacred obligation to win souls to Christ. For the consecrated steward comes to know that the supreme duty of every Christian is to bear fruit; and that the fruit of a Christian should be other Christians. The Bible rule of everything producing "after his kind" (Gen. 1:24) applies here as well as everywhere else.

At the beginning of a new year many churches ask their members each to covenant to win "at least one soul to Christ" during the year. But it is so easy and natural to postpone the matter that many of the covenant-signers never get around to the doing of it. Why? The answer is that a Christian must be a soul-winner all of the time if he is to be a soul-winner any of the time. Soul-winning is a life! Soul-winning

Beirne Dedicates Building



Beirne Church has completed a new frame church building. Dedication Day services were led by Missionary Marvin Jagers, Harmony Association; Homer Adkins, Red River Association; and Pastor J. G. Cothran, First Church, Arkadelphia. Pastor Marvin Gennings led the dedicatory prayer. Many former members and friends attended the services and enjoyed the noon luncheon served at the church.

The new church building is well planned with 11 Sunday School rooms and a kitchen. It is heated by natural gas. A six-foot walk and a graveled drive add to the beauty of the new \$3000 plant.

Pastor Gennings reports that spiritual progress is in line with material growth. A full-time program of work is being carried out. The Ouachita College campaign quota has been accepted.

must be supreme in a Christian's life if it is to be there at all.

The heart and core of Brotherhood work is soul-winning. The Brotherhood seeks to set men to work at the supreme task of bringing precious souls to the Lord.

Personal Consecration, Personal Stewardship, Personal Soul-Winning: That is the work of the Brotherhood!

—000—

One of the chief problems facing China is reconstruction. They have to develop the country, clothe and care for 465,000,000 people, and educate 42,000,000 between the ages of six and twelve years.

Figures to Inspire

March 23, 1947

Church	Addns.	S.S.	T.U.
Arkadelphia, First	6	363	191
Benton, First	6	534	101
Camden, First		253	92
Conway, First	3	375	115
Elaine, First		150	
El Dorado, First		372	132
El Dorado, Second	2	206	64
Eldorado, West Side		131	90
Fort Smith, First	2	861	360
Hamburg, First	5	260	118
Hot Springs Churches:			
Park Place		327	106
Second		356	129
Including Mission		412	
Little Rock Churches:			
Baptist Tabernacle		340	75
Bethel	1	41	
Calvary		119	40
First	1	703	
Gaines Street	6	301	169
Immanuel		868	222
Including Mission	11	1,243	427
Pine Grove		51	56
Plainview	1	93	53
Second	4	589	200
Shady Grove		38	31
South Highland		223	68
Woodlawn	2	101	51
McGehee, First	2	370	111
Including Mission		399	
Norphlet, First		145	87
N. Little Rock, Central		157	52
Paris, First	1	238	134
Pine Bluff Churches:			
First	5	545	155
Including Mission		583	183
Second	4	201	54
Rogers, First	2	270	69
Springdale, First		321	119
Including Mission		402	
Stuttgart, First		236	107
West Memphis, First	13	480	163

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Religious Education

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Training Union Director

Radio Center Building, Little Rock

T. D. McCULLOCH

Student Union Secretary

MRS. B. W. NININGER

Church Music Director

Baptist Students Plan to Hold Spring Retreat

KEPT BY THE POWER OF GOD will be the theme of the annual State Baptist Student Union Spring Retreat scheduled to be held May 2-3 in the Baring Cross Baptist Church, 13th and Parker Streets, North Little Rock. Pastor Harvey Elledge is a friend of young people, and the church happily opens its doors for this meeting.

The Spring Retreat will be a very important occasion for the state officers, newly elected council members, retiring presidents, college center church young people's leaders, pastors and student secretaries. Before coming to this Spring Retreat council members should have been installed, had a B. S. U. study course, counseled with the retiring council members, and attended a few council meetings. This will prepare them to get the most out of this meeting.

Bob Denney of the Southwide Department of Student Work, will be present with his fun, inspiration and information.

Dr. R. C. Campbell, one of the South's best, and who has recently come to the First Baptist Church, Little Rock, as pastor; Rev. Harvey Elledge, host pastor, and Dr. Edgar Williamson, director of the Department of Religious Education, will speak. Rev. Roy Pasley, assistant pastor of the Second Baptist Church, Little Rock, will direct the music. Special music will be given by the Ouachita Men's Quartette.

The State Student Union Spring Retreat is a must with every newly elected council member.

The BSU state officers will conduct officers clinics for the newly elected officers. Miss Elma Cobb of the Baptist Hospital, Little Rock; Miss Mary Jane Redwine, University of Arkansas, and Mrs. Hollis Todd of Ouachita, will assist in the conferences.

Registration and home assignment at 1:00 will precede the opening session, beginning at 2:00, May 2. The meeting will close at 12:30, Saturday, May 3. State Student Secretary T. D. McCulloch will be in charge.

They're Ready; They're Free!

A new series of Junior Union Tracts have recently come off the press. The Tracts included are: The Junior Department, Baptist Junior Union, This Is Important

to You (a letter for parents), Eight Point Record System, and The Graded Baptist Training Union Study Course. These have all been revised.

The most important addition to the package are the duties printed for the Group Helpers. Now every Junior will have his duties attractively printed to paste or clip to his quarterly. They are as follows: Junior Leader, Junior Sponsor, Junior President, Junior Vice President, Junior Group Captain, and Junior Union Group Helpers for Attendance-Visitation, Bible Reading - Memory Work, Room Arrangement - Visitors - Social, and Preaching Attendance-Missions-Giving. The above are all in one package and may be had by writing to the State Training Union Director.—Mrs. W. J. Perkinson, State Approved Junior Worker.

Arkansas Training Union Goals For 1947

1. One hundred additional churches with Training Union work.
2. Eight thousand increase in Training Union enrolment.
3. A functioning associational organization in every association.
4. One hundred thousand daily Bible readers enlisted by Training Unions.
5. Fifteen thousand study course awards.
6. Seven thousand in attendance at the simultaneous associational meetings, December 8, 1947.

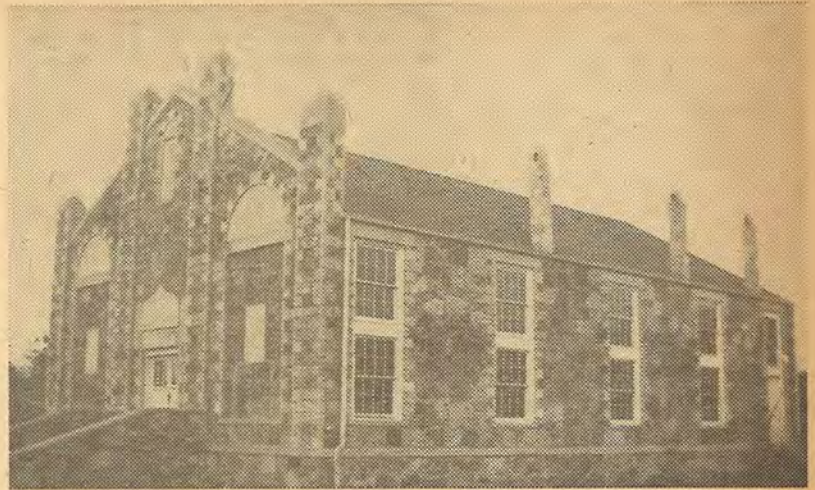
Summer Field Work Plans For 1947

During the summer of 1947 the Summer Field Workers plan to work in the following associations:

- July 10-19, Concord Association.
- July 19-26, Little Red River Association.
- July 26 - August 2, August 2-August 9, Harmony Association.
- August 9-16, August 16-23, Bartholomew Association.

Home Board Missionary A. N. Murray of St. Joseph, La., is planning his 1947 Bible Institutes for the Negro pastors of the great delta area of Louisiana. He will need 600 good books to distribute

Marshall Has New Edifice



The new \$25,000 building of First Church, Marshall, is made of stone taken from the ground on which it is built. It has a full basement, large auditorium with balcony, is heated by a furnace in the basement, and has an attic fan. It is equipped with a baptistry. Pews and pulpit furniture have been purchased and will be delivered soon.

The new edifice is located near the business section of the town. Marshall is the county seat of Searcy County and has a population of 1200 to 1500.

Marshall Church has a membership of approximately 250. The Sunday School is well organized under the leadership of Superintendent C. E. Stephenson. Other

organizations are making progress. A. E. Creed is director of the Training Union; Mrs. Bert Horton is president of the WMS. The church gives 10 per cent of current budget receipts to the Cooperative Program.

Pastor W. L. Leach, who came to Marshall from the pastorate of Mountain Home Church, is now in his fourth year of leadership with the church.

among them during the schools and asks anyone who has one or more which can be of service to these underprivileged and, for the most part, uneducated pastors, to communicate with him or ship them to him, prepaid if possible.—Baptist Home Mission Board.

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Morals Slump

Asserting that the "Canadian morals picture is an ugly one," Dr. J. R. Mutchmor, secretary of the Board of Evangelism and Social Service of the United Church of Canada, criticized the Church for evading "the hard moral issue, tough social problems, and complex international questions."

"The decline in our moral behavior," he told the annual meeting of the Board, "has not reached its lowest point. Its rate of decline is being checked by the

churches, but the waging of war on evil is not easy."

He said the gravity of the moral crisis is revealed in "such significant figures as the illegitimacy rate, the abortion, divorce, venereal disease rates and the mounting sales of contraceptives."

"All these rates in Canada are at record highs," he declared.

Urging that no moral issues be by-passed, Dr. Mutchmor said the Church must realize that "God means business, that we must throw into the struggle everything we have. Then and only then will Christ's redemptive teachings come alive."

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Tentative Program . . .

Southern Baptist Convention

May 7-11, 1947 - St. Louis, Mo.

THEME: "Human Designs - God's Destiny"

DR. LOUIE D. NEWTON, *President, Presiding*IRA C. PROSSER, *Director of Music for Convention*

Wednesday Morning, May 7

- 10:00 Song and Praise
 10:10 Devotional and Prayer ----- Fred F. Brown
 10:20 Secretaries Report on Registration
 10:25 Order of Business ----- John W. Raley, Chairman
 10:30 Welcome ----- C. O. Johnson, St. Louis
 10:35 Response ----- R. Lofton Hudson, Shawnee, Okla.
 10:40 Address of President ----- Louie D. Newton
 11:10 Recognition of Fraternal Messengers
 11:40 Music
 11:45 Convention Sermon ----- W. A. Criswell: Claude Bowen, alternate

Wednesday Afternoon, May 7

- 2:00 Song, Scripture and Prayer ----- Roger D. Hebard
 2:10 Appointment of Committee on Committees and Committee on Resolutions
 2:15 Miscellaneous Business
 2:30 Executive Committee Report ----- Duke K. McCall, Executive Secretary
 3:45 Committee on Evangelism ----- A. C. Baker, Chairman
 4:00 The Future of Mass Evangelism ----- Charles F. Taylor

Wednesday Night, May 7

- 7:15 Music and Special Features ----- E. E. Deusner
 7:45 Home Mission Board ----- J. B. Lawrence, Executive Secretary
 9:00 Adjournment

Thursday Morning, May 8

- 9:15 Song, Scripture and Prayer ----- C. B. Blevins
 9:25 Journal Approval
 9:30 Baptist Foundation Report
 10:00 Southern Baptist Hospital ----- Louis J. Bristow, Superintendent
 10:30 American Baptist Seminary ----- T. L. Holcomb, Chairman
 10:45 Inter-Seminary Conference ----- Wash Watts, Chairman
 11:10 Song
 11:15 New Orleans Seminary ----- Roland Q. Leavell, President
 11:30 Southern Seminary ----- Ellis A. Fuller, President
 11:45 Southwestern Seminary ----- E. D. Head, President
 12:00 Address on Seminary Education ----- Ellis A. Fuller

Thursday Afternoon, May 8

- 2:00 Song Scripture, and Prayer ----- Walter D. Thompson
 2:10 Committee on Preservation of Baptist History ----- W. O. Carver, Chairman
 2:25 Public Relations ----- Walter P. Binns, Chairman
 2:40 Report on Correlation ----- Gaines S. Dobbins, Chairman
 3:00 Committee on Baptist History ----- Henry W. Tiffany, Chairman
 3:10 Baptist Papers ----- O. W. Taylor, Chairman
 3:20 Baptist Papers Circulation Campaign ----- Louie D. Newton
 3:30 W. M. U. ----- Mrs. George R. Martin, President
 4:00 Election of Officers

Thursday Night, May 8

- 7:15 Song Service and Special Features ----- H. Guy Moore
 7:45 Foreign Mission Board Program ----- M. T. Rankin, Executive Secretary
 9:30 Adjournment

Friday Morning, May 9

- 9:15 Song and Praise ----- A. T. Usher
 9:20 Journal Approval
 9:30 Committee on Calendar ----- W. Morris Ford, Chairman
 9:45 Time-Place-and Preacher Committee
 10:00 Radio Committee ----- S. F. Lowe, Secretary
 10:30 Baptist Brotherhood ----- Lawson H. Cooke, Executive Secretary

- 11:00 Negro Ministerial Education ----- S. A. Newman, Chairman
 11:15 Social Service Commission ----- J. B. Weatherspoon, Chairman
 11:35 Special Committee on Negro Work ----- J. B. Weatherspoon, Chairman
 11:55 Music
 12:00 Address ----- George D. Kelsey

Friday Afternoon, May 9

- 2:00 Song and Praise ----- H. S. Inabnit
 2:10 Luther Rice Memorial ----- R. C. Campbell, Chairman
 2:20 Report of Committee on Boards ----- J. W. Storer, Chairman
 2:35 Report of Resolutions Committee
 2:45 Miscellaneous Business
 3:00 Committee on Committees Report
 3:15 American Bible Society ----- Thomas J. Holloway
 3:30 The Book We Teach ----- Robert S. Kerr

Friday Night, May 9

- 7:15 Music and Special Features ----- Walter L. Moore
 7:45 Sunday School Board ----- T. L. Holcomb, Executive Secretary
 8:45 Music
 8:50 Address ----- R. G. Lee

Saturday Morning, May 10

- 9:30 Song and Praise ----- W. F. Couch
 9:45 Correction or Approval of Journal
 9:50 Miscellaneous Business
 10:00 Education Commission ----- C. D. Johnson, Chairman
 10:15 Commission to Cooperate with Returning Chaplains ----- L. L. Carpenter, Chairman
 10:30 Memorial Service ----- Chairman, Order of Business
 10:50 Relief and Annuity Board ----- Walter R. Alexander, Secretary
 11:40 Baptist World Alliance Hour

Saturday Night, May 10

- 7:30 Special Music and Features ----- R. H. Tharp
 8:00 The Church and Christian Democracy ----- W. R. Pettigrew
 8:30 Baptists and World Peace ----- Honorable Harold S. Stassen

Sunday Morning, May 11

Services in St. Louis Churches under direction of local committee

Sunday Afternoon, May 11

- 2:45 Song, Scripture and Prayer ----- Robert S. Scales
 3:00 America's Strength ----- Joe W. Burton
 3:07 "Gloria In Excelsis"
 "Battle Hymn Of The Republic"
 Oklahoma Baptist University Bison Glee Club directed by Dean Warren M. Angell
 Address ----- President Harry S. Truman
 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"
 Oklahoma Baptist University Bison Glee Club
 3:30 p. m.—Mother's Day Tribute ----- Bison Glee Club
 4:00 p. m.—Adjournment

Sunday Evening, May 11

YOUNG PEOPLE'S NIGHT, SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

Auspices Training Union Department,

Baptist Sunday School Board, J. E. Lambdin, Secretary

THEME: The Bible Our Textbook in the School of Life

- 6:45 "Sing Aloud Unto God Our Strength" ----- Ira Prosser
 7:00 Youth Speaks: "The Bible Is Our Guide" ----- Directed by R. Maines Rawls and Versil S. Crenshaw
 1. "Our Rules for the Game of Life" ----- An Intermediate
 2. "Our Guide for Clean Living" ----- A Young Person
 3. Youth Choir
 7:30 "Spiritual Underpinnings for Youth" ----- Judge Camille Kelly, Memphis
 8:15 Crusading for Bible Reading ----- James L. Sullivan, Nashville
 8:30 Special Music
 8:40 "Youth Anchoring to the Living Book" ----- Dr. J. D. Grey, New Orleans
 9:15 Adjourn

Resurrection of Jesus Christ Is Undeniable, Historic Fact

By R. PAUL CAUDILL

"Ye have a guard: go your way, make it as sure as you can. So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, the guard being with them" (Matt. 27:65, 66).

The chief priests and the Pharisees did everything humanly possible to see that Jesus might not rise from the dead "after three days" even as He had prophesied. They left no stone unturned to make the sepulchre "sure until the third day."

But Jesus did rise from the tomb, even as He said, and His resurrection is the most attested fact of history.

Fear

Numerous writers have attempted to picture the reaction of the people in Jerusalem, and particularly Christ's disciples, to His death on the cross. No one, however, has succeeded better than John who tells us (20:19) of how "on that day, the first day of the week, and when the doors were shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you."

It was an hour of fear.

The disciples were aware that the tomb had been sealed and that the Roman guard had been stationed, among other precautionary measures, to put an end to the resurrection story. There was tension everywhere and especially on the part of the disciples. Who were they to say that they themselves would not be next to die at the hands of the priests and the Pharisees. Had not Jesus Himself sought to interpret for them something of the grim days that lay ahead?

Paralyzing fear, therefore, gripped their hearts as rumors of the resurrection began to spread among the people, and no one knew what policy the inimical leaders might adopt as their next step.

Peace

But "fear" was not to grip their hearts for long. There awaited them the blessings of a "peace" more glorious than they had ever known before, even in the days before the crucifixion.

As they were gathered, therefore, in the room behind the carefully closed doors "Jesus came and stood in their midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you" (John 20:19f).

John tells us of how Jesus showed unto them his hands and his side" and how the disciples "were glad" when they saw the Lord.

It is interesting to note that it

Sunday School Lesson

For April 6

John 20:19-21, 24-29; 21:15-17

was necessary to offer proof of His actual presence to the disciples as a whole just as He did to doubting Thomas a little later, as He showed, even unto them, His hands and His side. "This body, not yet glorified, retains the marks of the nails and of the soldier's spear, ample proof of the bodily resurrection against the modern view that only Christ's 'spirit' arose and against the Docetic notion that Jesus had no actual body" (Robertson).

The Commission

The peace that Jesus brought to His disciples, however, was for a holy purpose. In that peace they were to go out as witnesses of His resurrection and proclaim His plan of salvation to the whole world.

The Commission recorded in John 20:21 is the first of the three commissions given by the risen Christ. Said He, "As the Father hath sent me, even so send I you."

The Commission is stated in a slightly different form in Matthew 28:16-20, and again in Acts 1:3-11. Dr. A. T. Robertson places the Commission as stated in Luke 24:44-51 as also being delivered on the Mount of Olives.

Jesus wanted His disciples to understand that they, too, had a mission in the world as His followers. They were to bear witness of their own salvation and of the saving power of Christ for all mankind. They were to be martyrs, if need be, for the cause.

My Lord and My God

John tells us that after eight days Jesus again appeared to the disciples, Thomas being with them. It will be recalled that Thomas was absent when Jesus first appeared to the group. When he was told, therefore, by the disciples of how they had seen Jesus, he bluntly replied, "Except I shall see in his hand the print of the nails, and put my finger into the nails and put my hand into his side, I will not believe" (John 20:24-25).

Before passing judgment on Thomas one might recall the fact that Jesus had, upon His first ap-

pearance to the astonished disciples, convinced them of the reality of His presence by showing them "his hands and his side."

At any rate, upon seeing Jesus and beholding the print of the nails in His hands, Thomas replied, "My Lord and My God."

Thomas is saying that henceforth Jesus, the Resurrected One, is to be the Lord and Master of his life having supreme control over his being—for that is what the word "Lord" literally means. Moreover, he will henceforth regard Jesus not merely as "Rabbi" but as very "God." The fact of the resurrection had removed every doubt.

The resurrection of Jesus, therefore, stands as a living proof of the deity of Christ. Upon the fact of the resurrection rests the validity of every word that Jesus taught and of every deed He performed in the name of the Father.

Lovest Thou Me

In the closing verses of our lesson (John 21:15-17) Jesus uses Peter for an object lesson that is to benefit not only him, but all the disciples through all the years to come.

Jesus knew full well what the disciples would be called upon to face in the years that lay ahead. He knew something of the trials that would be theirs and how death would come for many of them. He, therefore, seeks to put their love in the scales of appraisal that they themselves may weigh the character of relation to Him.

First, Jesus places Peter's love in the scale of comparison. He would know if Peter has a type of love that is exalted, high and uplifting, and if it is of greater degree, in reality, than that of the other disciples.

Second, Jesus places Peter's love in the scale of quality. This time He is interested in but one thing, namely the quality of Peter's love. Does he have for Him that high and exalted regard that disciples should have?

Finally, Jesus places Peter's love in the scale of reality. He says to him in substance, "Peter, do you really have a man to man friendship for me? Would you stick by me now, come what may?"

It is our love that Christ wants

more than all else. We may be poor, we may be unable to do much in a material way for His Kingdom, but we can love Him much. And he wants our love, whether we be rich or poor, as He wants nothing else that we can offer.

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\$30 Per Capita Is Liquor Bill

Canada has reached an all-time high in liquor spending, according to Dr. John Coburn, Toronto, reporting to the Board of Evangelism and Social Service of the United Church of Canada.

"Latest figures show a total of \$373,000,000 as the liquor bill for 1946," he says, "more than a million a day, more than \$30 for every man, woman and child in the dominion."


Dr. Coburn reported that the head of Canadian brewery interests told shareholders recently that the company planned to double its capacity within four years, and that such expansion would be needed to meet increasing demands for beer.

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★ Executive Board — STATE CONVENTION ★

B. L. Bridges, General Secretary, 200 Radio Center, Little Rock, Ark.

The Cooperative Program And the First Quarter

If you will send us your Cooperative Program check immediately upon reading this announcement, we will try to give you credit for the contribution on the first quarter of the year if you want it, but you will have to hurry. Our books close at the end of this week. We need your contribution in order to reach the goal, and in order that all departments and phases of our Mission Work may have sufficient funds to operate upon. Please do it hurriedly, especially if your church has not made a contribution for Cooperative Missions this year.

The Widows Plan

We have been unable to enlist a sufficient number of applicants to make the Widows' Supplemental Plan operative in Arkansas this year. After the last definite effort, we lacked so many that we have concluded that it is useless to pursue these efforts any further at the present time. Probably we can enlist enough men to inaugurate the Widows' Supplemental Plan early next year. If you have made a payment along with an application, this payment is being returned to you.

Some Baptist Facts

Vassar College, the first institution of higher learning for women, was founded by a Baptist, N. J. Jewett, with money furnished by Matthew Vassar, a Baptist.

The first two presidents of Harvard College were Baptists — Henry Dunster and Charles Chauncey.

Brown University, founded by the Baptists in 1764, was the first college of the world to make liberal provision for "full, free, absolute, uninterrupted liberty of conscience."

In his "History of the Free Churches of England," Skeats, who was not a Baptist, said: "It is the singular and distinguished honor of Baptists to have repudiated, from their earlier history, all coercive power over the consciences and actions of men with reference to religion. They were the proto-evangelists of the voluntary principle."

Cooperative Program receipts for South-wide causes have reached \$930,240.05 for the first two months of 1947, compared with \$833,122.75 for the same period in 1946. Total receipts for the first two months are \$1,796,677.56.

Home Mission Board receipts for 1946 reached a new high. Total receipts were \$1,301,103.51, compared with \$1,614,390.78 in 1945. Cooperative Program gifts for the Home Board were \$836,427.74, compared with \$828,767.80 in 1945.

The Bible Conferences

During the last two weeks, we have attended five great Bible Conferences in different sections of the state. (The one at Batesville was postponed on account of influenza.) The Conferences were well attended by the preachers and leaders. The programs were great and the speakers were well prepared to do a splendid piece of work. These Conferences have been full of information and inspiration. Much emphasis was laid upon Baptist doctrines and missions. These matters have become very popular and our leaders look forward to getting into them.

The Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis

The Southern Baptist Convention meets in St. Louis May 7-11. The W. M. U. Convention opens on the 4th. The program for the Convention has been released, and is printed on Page 14.

Remember you must make application for a room in St. Louis if you expect to go to the Convention. You cannot delay and hope to get accommodations.

April 21 the Dead Line

The Housing Bureau has announced that you must make your application for a room before April 21. Get your application blank by writing to us. Fill out the blank, and mail it to the Housing Committee in St. Louis. This is the prescribed method of obtaining a place to stay during the Convention. Do not expect a place to stay if you neglect to do this. We cannot do it for you, but we can send you an application blank and you can do it.

Mrs. Irving Prince

Sunday morning, March 23, Mrs. Irving Prince crossed the river. Mrs. Prince, as most of our people know, was the wife of Pastor Irving Prince, of First Church in Paragould where they have lived for the last six years. She had been in poor health for several years.

Mrs. Prince was one of the most consecrated and talented leaders among our workers. Her efforts were positive, her plans and programs were clear, her spirit was affable, and her radiant smile was a source of inspiration. She was a shining light, and a real servant of the Lord in the work in Paragould. A very large crowd attended the funeral services, and the floral display was simply gorgeous. Lee Prince, the only child, is 13 years old. Brother Prince is heroic, and brave, and submissive in his terrible ordeal.

There were 124 additions in a revival at the First Baptist Church, Nashville.

Dr. Hinsley a Real Doctrinal Preacher

Dr. W. J. Hinsley has been doing much pungent preaching on the distinctive doctrines of the Baptists. For the past two weeks it has been our privilege to accompany him to the Bible schools, and we have heard every one of his messages, save one. The theme of his messages has been "Preach the Word." He has been preaching the Word on six of our great Bible doctrines in the Bible schools. They are "Sin," "Salvation," "A New Testament Church," "Baptism," "The Lord's Supper," and "Stewardship." We seldom hear our doctrines stated more clearly or supported with more direct scripture proof and sound logic.

Dr. Hinsley has retired from the active pastorate and is able to come to your church and deliver this series of messages. He is this week with the church in Forrest City with Pastor Cole. His messages will be well received by your church people, and they will strengthen any church. Preaching of this type is needed everywhere today, and Brother Hinsley does it excellently. We hope the churches and pastors will use him freely. His address is: 905 Garland, Hot Springs, Ark.

Pastor J. I. Owens

Rev. J. I. Owens, of Magazine, passed to his reward March 16. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Joe Fred Luck, of Booneville, and Rev. G. H. McNutt. The large crowd attending the funeral reflected a great admiration and love for Brother Owens. He was 64 years old.

Brother Owens served as pastor in several Arkansas towns including Dardanelle, Wynne, Carlisle, Mansfield, and Magazine. He was a great preacher. He knew the Baptist principles and was great in proclaiming them. He was one of our very best doctrinal preachers, and was a power in the pulpit.

Mrs. Owens and three children survive him, and there are many other relatives.

No Pocket in a Shroud

Use your money while you're living
Do not hoard it to be proud,
You can never take it with you—
There's no pocket in a shroud.

Money takes you no farther
Than the graveyard where you lie.
And though you are rich while living
You're a pauper when you die.

Use it, then, to help these lost ones,
Hopeless, groping, on they plod.
Place your bank account in heaven
And grow rich toward your God.