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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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ARKANSAS
Baptist

In This Issue

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AUGUST 7, 1958

Hospital Adds New Ministry

A NEW surge of interest in a pastoral ministry to the sick is being demonstrated at Arkansas Baptist Hospital this summer. A seminar, composed of theological students and local pastors, meets to discuss questions as to how the Christian Gospel can be made relevant to the needs of suffering humanity.

This program is called Clinical Pastoral Education, and is a part of the expanding services offered at Arkansas Baptist Hospital. The program is under the direction of the hospital chaplain, Dr. Don Corley, who describes the purpose of Clinical Pastoral Education as "an opportunity for the minister to learn pastoral care through interpersonal relations in an appropriate setting where there is available a friendly air of interprofessional cooperation." Plans are being made to offer periodic such seminars at Arkansas Baptist Hospital.

Participating in the eight-week-long seminar are: Joe Hicks and Robert Baird of Little Rock, students from Baylor University; John Albright and Jim Conard, chaplains at the Arkansas State Hospital; Horace Grigson, pastor of Woodlawn Church, Little Rock; Hogan Dodd, pastor, 47th Street Baptist Church, North Little Rock, and Floyd Simmons, pastor, Trinity Baptist Church, Little Rock.

Hospital Plan For Church Employees

The Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist Convention announced this week a program of hospital prepayment for all ministers and full-time church employees whose churches are affiliated with the Convention.

The program will be underwritten by Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Arkansas, and was worked out by Dr. S. A. Whitlow, executive secretary of the Convention; John Gilbreath, administrator of Arkansas Baptist Hospital; Dr. Frank S. Groner, administrator of Memorial Baptist Hospital in Memphis, and officials of Arkansas Blue Cross-Blue Shield.

Informational literature describing the new program will be mailed to all eligible persons and personal contact will be made by representatives of the Arkansas Blue Cross-Blue Shield Plan.

It is designed to furnish hospitalization benefits to those who wish to enroll in the program, with dues payable monthly. Benefits include: Hospital Care for 70 days; \$8-a-day hospital room; unlimited operating room, cast and cystoscopic rooms, surgical dressings, electrocardiograms, electroencephalograms, and basal metabolism tests.



DR. J. DON CORLEY, Arkansas Baptist Hospital Chaplain, is flanked by two young ministerial students who are taking part in a program of Clinical Pastoral Education at the hospital. The Baylor University students have been busy visiting patients, participating in crisis situations and studying personalities in hospital settings. They are: **Robert Baird**, left, Little Rock, and **Joe Hicks**, Little Rock. Both are entering their senior year at Baylor in the fall.

The principal aims of the program are:

1. To enable the student to gain an understanding of people under stress — their deeper motivations and difficulties and their emotional and spiritual strength and weakness.
2. To help the student develop effective pastoral methods for ministering to people, recognizing his unique resources, responsibilities and limitations as a clergyman.
3. To help the student learn how to work cooperatively with representatives of other professions and to utilize community resources.
4. To encourage a desire for further understanding of religion and life.

Pittsburgh Baptists Plan New Mission

COLUMBUS, O. — (BP) — A Southern Baptist mission or church will be formed in Pittsburgh during July, according to a report made to the quarterly meeting of the board of State Convention of Baptists in Ohio.

Convention Executive Secretary Ray Roberts reported that a group of Southern Baptists living in the western Pennsylvania city have requested help from Ohio Baptists.

Some of the specific subjects discussed in the seminar have been: the art of ministering to the sick; religious factors in personality growth; the psychological impact of cancer and the Bible in pastoral care.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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August 7, 1958

Volume 57, No. 31

Belgians Think On Evangelism

By GAINES S. DOBBINS
(Golden Gate Seminary)

(Dr. Dobbins, as co-chairman of the Commission on Bible Teaching and Training of the Baptist World Alliance, is currently assisting European Baptist churches and leaders in preparing an evangelistic and educational advance.)

May 23 to 26 was celebrated throughout France and Belgium in commemoration of Pentecost. Belgium Baptists took advantage of the long holiday to hold their annual convocation of churches. Six church groups, represented by about 200 messengers, came to Liege for the fellowship meeting.

The church at Liege is largely Polish speaking. Following my sermon, which of course had to be interpreted, the Lord's Supper was observed.

The afternoon was devoted largely to discussions of preparation for the great "Year of Evangelism" being planned for 1959. Belgium is one of the most heavily populated areas of Europe. Within this little country, not much bigger than a large county in the United States, live nine million people. In scores of communities there is no Baptist witness, indeed no evangelical witness of any kind. How can the gospel be brought to these Christless multitudes? How can churches be formed where there are none? How can Bible study be inaugurated and maintained? How can the converts be nurtured and trained?

Much of the time was given to me to lead in discussion of answers to these questions. Especially was there deep concern for a better plan for organized Bible study. The Sunday school, where there is one, is an affair for children only and usually meets on Sunday afternoon. The only literature available is from the Reform Church Press and is of course unsatisfactory. The one-room church buildings do not lend themselves to a teaching service. There are no helps, and there is no plan for the training of officers and teachers. Eagerly the people received the suggestion that a committee be formed to confer with a like committee of French Baptists (for most Belgians are French speaking) to explore the possibilities of Bible study materials in their language and adapted to their needs. No help from Baptists of America, they asserted, would be quite so valuable as in this field of preparation and publication of Sunday school literature.

We came away feeling that Christ is very near to these devout Belgium Baptists and that our kinship with them,

Marionettes Portray Baptist Milestones

ONE OF the milestones in Baptist history is the organization of the Baptist World Alliance in 1905. The founding of the Alliance is portrayed by marionettes in a play, "Baptist Milestones," written and produced by Mrs. Ollin J. Owens of Greenville, S. C. The symbol of the Alliance — with the letters BWA — is in the background, while marionettes in different costumes represent Baptists from many nations who have joined in fellowship through the Alliance. The play "Baptist Milestones" was adapted from a Baptist Training Union study course book of the same name written by Mrs. Owens for Intermediates. Teen-agers from Eastlan Baptist Church, Greenville, "pull the strings." (Baptist Press Photo.)



One Out of 500

Consultant to Help Plan New Procedures

NASHVILLE (BP)— The Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention will employ Booz, Allen & Hamilton of Chicago to help develop new procedures for the Executive Committee.

The new procedures were adopted by the 1958 session of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Thomas P. Pruitt, Hickory, N. C., attorney, and chairman of the administrative committee of the Executive Committee, reported that the cost of the management consultant firm's services would be from \$10,500 to \$12,000.

In voting to employ the firm, the Executive Committee also set aside the necessary funds from operating reserves.

The Convention at Houston adopted recommendations that provide for strengthening the Executive Committee and for giving it an impartial position in working with agencies of the Convention.

despite the language barrier was just as close as if we had spent the day in an associational meeting at home. Never had we joined more meaningfully in singing "Blest Be the Tie that Binds."

IT IS reported that only about one out of five hundred Southern Baptists have earnestly prayed for the Baptist Jubilee Advance Program or the 30,000 Movement. About one half of the year designated for prayer of preparation has passed. Dr. C. C. Warren, director of the 30,000 Movement, pleads that every Southern Baptist will somewhere, sometime, some place, pause and breathe a prayer for this program. Leaders of various groups are urged to provide at least a few moments in their meetings for special prayer that God may use this program for His glory.

Mission Series Out

THE BOOKS for the Home Mission Graded Study Series for 1959 have just come off the press. **Ways of Witnessing**, by John Caylor, is the Adult book; **Won by One**, by Clyde Merrill Maguire, Young People; **The Charley Matthews Story** by David E. Mason, Intermediates; **For You**, Helen Holmes Ruchti, Juniors; **Seven Little Karmuns Plus One**, Raleigh Jeffcoat, Primaries.

"World Evangelism: In the Homeland" is the home mission theme for 1959:

Singing In the Fields!

A BRAZILIAN Christian, a Baptist, reaps a twofold harvest as he works in the fields.

All day long, he sings hymns as he works. During hoeing season there worked alongside him a non-Christian who drank and mistreated his wife and children. The hymn-singing made this man so furious that at times he could hardly control his temper and refrain from killing the Christian.

But he could not get away from the messages of God's love which came to him through the words of the hymns — not even at night when he returned to the hovel where his family lived

miserably. He drank more and more in an attempt to escape from facing his sins.

Finally, in desperation, he went to a preaching service in an effort to prove to himself that Christianity couldn't get a hold on him. There he became convicted of his sins and accepted Christ as his Saviour.

A faithful member of a Baptist church, he now takes his family to church every Sunday. Their home is still a hovel; but now it is happy and safe — all because of a Baptist who sings as he works in the fields!

The Church and the World

MORE AMERICANS have their names on church rolls today than ever before. According to the annual compilation of church statistics covering 255 church bodies in the 48 states and the District of Columbia, just released by the National Council of Churches, 61% of the people of the United States "belong" to churches. This compares with 49% in 1940, at the beginning of World War II, and with 57% in 1950.

The nation's church membership, including all faiths, now stands at 104,189,678, a gain for the year of nearly a million — 964,724.

The survey shows a total of 59,823,777 Protestants; 35,846,477 Roman Catholics; 5,500,000 members of Jewish congregations; and 2,540,446 Eastern Orthodox members. Eighty-two of the 255 church bodies reporting accounted for more than 98 per cent of the church members. Largest Protestant body is the Methodist Church, with 9,543,245 members. Next in order are: Southern Baptist Convention, 8,956,756; National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., 4,557,416; United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., 3,032,977.

When grouped in "families" of churches, Baptists are by far the most numerous of the non-Catholic groups, totaling nearly 20,000,000 for 27 Baptist denominations. There are 12,059,400 Methodists in 22 Methodist church bodies; 7,529,773 Lutherans in 19 Lutheran bodies; and 4,043,052 Presbyterians in 10 Presbyterian bodies.

It is a terrible commentary on our lives and our Christain influence that while our church memberships grow by leaps and bounds, so does crime in our land. Last year, with more of our people belonging to churches than ever, we had an all-time record of 2,700,000 major crimes committed. Drunkenness, broken homes, juvenile delinquency, sex immorality and crookedness in high places are eating away at the very foundations of our civilization.

If 61% of our people, representing those who are church members, had been born again through faith in Christ, surely the situation would be far different from what it is. Are Americans, professional "joiners," joining the church much as they join lodges and civic, social and political organizations? Are we joining the church just because it is the decent thing to do — because it is good for business or for our standing in society?

"The church is not to be an organization of the fit, but of the unfit who are striving to become fit; and our future does not depend upon the survival of the fit but upon the revival of the unfit," some one has said.

According to the plain teaching of Christ, even the "unfit" are not fit for church membership until they have experienced the new birth, the spiritual regeneration that gives new hearts to repentant sinners who trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior. The church has no miraculous power to save souls. Nor can God Himself build Christian character in lives that are in the church but out of Christ.

Included in the church memberships and the statistics are many who had their names placed on church rolls while still infants and before they could exercise personal faith. Only God knows how many others have walked aisles to become church members but who have not been born anew and so are still outside the kingdom of God.

Every time another unregenerate person comes into the church, the church becomes more of a lodge, a social club, a mere man-made organization, and its spiritual light grows dimmer in the darkness of a lost world.

Only God can know when one who comes making a public profession of faith in Christ has actually repented and exercised saving faith. At best the church will have some as members who have never been saved. But the church must not lose sight of its purpose and perspective. The church is to win the lost to Christ and then, and only then, to church membership with its place of daily going to school to Christ and serving Him sacrificially in His kingdom and in the world. —ELM

Personally Speaking . . .

"It sure is funny . . ."

IT SURE is funny — on a plane and just settin' here on the ground!"

The little lad who said this was sitting with his mother and younger



brother in a Central Airlines plane at Fort Smith, waiting for the take-off. Obviously he was quite thrilled as he looked forward to his first plane ride.

He had been doing most of his family's talking for several minutes as he took in every foot of the interesting interior of the plane and as he peeped out a window from time to time to see what the world looked like from an airplane.

But for some reason the take-off was delayed, or, at least, it did not come as soon as Junior had hoped and expected. Then the humor and irony of the situation had broken upon him.

Here he was, aboard this great man-made bird that had wings and power to make it fly far above the world he had known up till now, and the plane was just sitting there, still on the ground. So far, being in a plane was little different from being inside a cotton wagon, peeping through the sideboards!

Presently the pilot and co-pilot came inside, closing the door which had opened to the outside world. The hostess checked to see that all safety belts were fastened, against the background of the "No Smoking" sign, and soon the plane was soaring far above the countryside, bound for Hot Springs.

The words of the boy still flash across my memory from time to time: "It sure



is funny — on a plane and just settin' here on the ground!"

When I consider how God has blessed America and how many opportunities all of us have for self improvement and for helping others, it sometimes occurs to me: "It sure" is funny —

(Continued on page 5)

THE PEOPLE SPEAK

Fans for the Sick

Dear Dr. McDonald:

Please move over and give me some room for I have a report to give and it's a good report!

Back yonder the first days of April I went to Fort Smith to the WMU State Convention and they gave just a few minutes and I asked the good women of the WMU of Arkansas to go back to their home churches and WMS and ask them to send us the price of a fan for the needy patients here at the State Sanatorium. My what a response we have had and how happy your chaplain has been made to know that he is a part of such a wonderful people as Arkansas Baptists are.

Up to date we have received money enough to pay for 100 fans and we have had four fans given to us. I have \$81.50 that I have out in the bank to save for those that will come in later this summer that will be just as needy as can be. I haven't given out near all of the fans yet for the good Lord has in a very wonderful way taken care of the weather for us so far. I just wish that every one of you could come and go with me as I go up and down these halls and corridors giving out fans and see the expression of gratefulness on their faces as they suffer with high fevers and cannot rest because they are so warm.

The good women and the churches over Arkansas are to be commended for this wonderful response and from the deep of my heart let me say, Thank You. How proud I am of Arkansas Baptists—Chaplain Charles W. Finch, State Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Arkansas.

Doctor Needed

Dear Brother McDonald:

Our physician has resigned to take effect August 31. We are in desperate need of a doctor to take care of our medical missionary work in northern New Mexico located at Park View. It is similar to work done on the foreign fields except we have no hospital. A returned medical missionary of course would be of the best advantage. A medical mission volunteer that has a little time before leaving this country would be most acceptable. If you know of any good Baptist doctor with a real missionary heart, please let us know if there is any chance to get him interested.—Harry P. Stagg, executive secretary-treasurer, The Baptist Convention of New Mexico, Albuquerque, N. M.

Personally Speaking . . .

(Continued from page 4)

having all these blessings and so many of us being ungrateful and self-centered!"

When I think what a blessing family life is — or could be — sometimes I muse: "It sure is funny — families



Have you ever lived at the end of the road? From such a place there is only one way out. The man who has sinned is at the end of the road in his personal life. For him there is only one way out. Repentance is the only road to peace and forgiveness from sin; it is the only escape from eternal punishment for sin. Christ warned that "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3).

How can we "repent and believe" as Christ demands? To repent, we must change our minds toward sin, toward ourselves, and toward God. We must turn from sin, and trust in Christ to bring forgiveness for our sins. When any sinner responds in repentance and faith to God's offer of salvation through Christ, God works a miracle in his heart. This miracle the Bible calls a "new birth" (John 1:12-13 and John 3:7). This transformation makes an



individual a "new creation in Christ." The Apostle Paul wrote, "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Do you want to be saved from the ruin that sin brings? Then turn to Jesus, who said of himself, "The Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10).

"God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life," (John 3:16). Man becomes a Christian when he puts sin out and puts Christ in at the very center of his life.



There is no other road to take. When we see how much God loves us we begin to see our sins and realize how much we need God's forgiveness. Our own experience confirms Paul's statement that "all have sinned" (Romans 3:23).

The prophet Isaiah who lived many years before Jesus, told us not only that all have sinned, but foretold the good news that God would provide his Son, Jesus, to bear for us the penalty of our sins. "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him (Jesus) the iniquity of us all," (Isaiah 53:6).

Jesus offers you this salvation from sin as his free gift and as an expression of divine love. You may accept it today.

Are you refusing God's cure for sin that destroys spiritual life? He offers you eternal life on the simple conditions of repentance from sin and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Begin now with the prayer which Jesus promised God will understand, "God be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13). Believe, "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13).

have such nice places to live and they could have so much fun together as families, but they are divided up and gone their several ways to somewhere else most of the time!"

And sometimes at church, especially on Sunday and Wednesday nights, I catch myself thinking: "It sure is funny — we live in a land of religious liberty and have such beautiful and

comfortable places to worship, and worship can mean so much to a Christian, and yet so many of our pews are seldom used!"

Erwin L. McDonald



FIRST CHURCH, DeWitt, will observe its centennial with a celebration beginning Sunday, Aug. 10, and continuing through the next Sunday. At the morning service, the church will dedicate their new educational building, constructed in 1953. A dinner will be served on the grounds and at 2 p.m. there will be a special service beginning the centennial celebration. Douglas White, Bassett, Va., a former pastor, will lead in the celebration and preach each evening in revival services. Andy Heskett is the present pastor and Bill Fowlkes is the Minister of Education. The church is now making plans for a new auditorium and enlarged educational space.

Better Than Paint

MANY OF the unpleasant evidences of age — the mouth with turned-down corners, the eyes whose crows'-feet indicate a too-ready grown — can be avoided. They aren't the inevitable by-products of the years; rather they result from wrong mental and emotional attitudes. By the simple process of changing our thoughts, much of the can be avoided. — **Good Business**

● **REV. AND MRS. Van Gladen**, Southern Baptist missionary appointees to Mexico, announce the birth of a daughter, Linda Carol. They may be addressed, c-o 1st Baptist Church, Uvalde, Tex. Mrs. Gladen is the former Alma Ruth Franks, Lepanto.

* * *



Salem Church

● **MISS JULIA LYNN Dorris**, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. R. H. Dorris, Pike Avenue, North Little Rock, was married July 25 to Donald H. Evans. (CB)

Salem Church Observes 110th Anniversary

SALEM CHURCH, Liberty Association, near Stephens, observed their 110th anniversary on July 20.

Salem Church was organized in 1848 with eight members, four couples. Some descendants of the charter members were present. One person present has been a member 67 years.

Pastor R. C. Jeanes, Magnolia, read from the minutes many items of interest, including the expulsion of a member for "playing cards for pleasure." Reference also was made to policy in early years of excluding members who were absent from three regular services without excuse.

The church's first house of worship included two front doors, one for the men and boys to use; the other for women and girls with a partition through the center of the building.

In addition to the two front doors there was a window opening back of the pulpit (no glass). According to the records this was all the ventilation the building had "except the cracks in the walls." (Later when a second building was being planned a concert was held to raise money to purchase glass for windows in their second building.)

In the first building pews were made from split logs; hewn with a broad ax, put together with pegs. Some of these pews were placed around the walls in order that elderly people and mothers with babies could lean back.

Salem church now has a modern building with beautiful new furnishings.

Revival Reports

AT A revival held recently at Casa Church, C. D. Johnson pastor, there were 3 additions for baptism. Missionary Jesse S. Reed was the evangelist.

FIRST CHURCH, Sheridan: O. C. Robinson, evangelist; Dick Maple, music director; seven by baptism, eight by letter.

OUACHITA MISSION, sponsored by Refuge Church and Caddo River Association, Ivan Marks, missionary; Missionary Jesse S. Reed, evangelist, Joe Lacy, Bauxite, singing, and Sherry Deaton, Arkadelphia, pianist; one by baptism, two by letter.

● **PASTOR W. E. Ashley**, Hunter Church, reports a Standard Daily Vacation Bible School for June 2-13. This was the third year in succession the Hunter Church has qualified for the Standard rating. This year there were 93 enrolled with average attendance of 79. All 17 of the non-Christians enrolled in the junior and intermediate departments were won to Christ during the school. A total of 21 from the church served on the faculty. Among those enrolled were two handicapped children — a deaf-mute, age 10, who was among those saved, and the pastor's cerebral palsy son, age 5.

Missionary Leake Supplying at McKinney

MISSIONARY A. L. LEAKE, Fayetteville, will be supply pastor during August for 1st Church, McKinney, Tex., while the pastor, Dr. Myers, is vacationing. The McKinney church is one of the leading Baptist churches in its section of Texas, having a Sunday School enrollment of 2,000.

The temporary address of the Leakes will be 505 Kentucky Ave., McKinney, Tex.

Mrs. Leake is helping in a camp in Mt. Olive, Mo., where she is the missionary speaker. The Leakes will be back in Fayetteville following the Texas assignment. They plan to continue their mission work in the hills around Fayetteville.

Ordinations

FONTAINE CHURCH, Greene County Association, ordained their pastor, H. W. Clement, to the gospel ministry



MR. CLEMENT

June 22. Guy Whitney, East Side, Paragould led the examination, and John McCollum, Center Hill, was moderator. H. W. Johnston, associational missionary, brought the church to the church and to the candidate and delivered the ordaining sermon. The Bible was presented by Leslie Davis, 3rd Avenue, and Marvin May, Marmaduke Church, led in the ordination prayer.

Special Week Marks Clarendon Dedication

THE WEEK of July 6-13 was set aside as Thanksgiving and Dedication to God by 1st Church, Clarendon, as the congregation dedicated a new \$85,000 building.

The new church is of red brick, seating 400. It is of colonial architecture. Two wings adjoining the auditorium provide space for 26 Sunday School rooms, a nursery, kitchen, large recreation room and three rest rooms. The recreational area can also be used as a dining room.

Interior of the auditorium is egg shell white with dark walnut trim. New pews and pulpit furniture also were added.

Dr. Clyde Hart was speaker for the special dedication service. Ministers participating in the week's services included: Art King, L. W. Joyner, L. C. Tedford, John Holston, L. Y. Lewis.

Records as early as 1867 have been preserved by the church, and history reveals that possibly as early as 1840 some missionaries came down the White and stopped at the city organizing the first Baptist congregation.

\$55,000 Tube System Installed by Hospital

IMPORTANT AREAS within Arkansas Baptist Hospital, including all nursing chart desks, will soon be linked by a \$55,000 automatic selective pneumatic tube system that will deliver patient records, messages, and even medicines from one point to another in a matter of seconds.

J. A. Gilbreath, ABH administrator, said installation of the 28-station system would begin within the next few days and would be ready for use in about six months. The vacuum-operated system is manufactured by Airmatic Systems Corp., Rochelle Park, N. J.

Pastoral Changes

EDDIE McDonald, Newport, has accepted the pastorate of Campbell Station Church for the summer. A ministerial student at Ouachita, he is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Ed McDonald, Newport, where Mr. McDonald is pastor of 1st Church. The church is currently in a revival with Bill Huddleston, Southern Seminary student, doing the preaching.



MR. McDONALD

● REV. AND MRS. Billy B. Tisdale, Southern Baptist missionaries to the Philippines, have recently moved from Manila to Tarlac, where their address is Philippine Baptist Mission, New Tarlac Heights Addition, Tarlac, Philippines. Mr. Tisdale is a native of El Dorado, Arkansas.



FIRST CHURCH, Clarendon, has dedicated a new \$85,000 building. Participating in the cornerstone ceremonies were, left to right: Art King, Contractor; W. D. Shirman, DeWitt; Pastor Bill Stratton, L. Y. Lewis, and Associational Missionary H. S. Coleman. Mr. King and Mr. Lewis were among the ministers who filled the pulpit during Thanksgiving Week, July 6-13.

● 1ST CHURCH, Marianna, is rejoicing over the fact that the Standard was reached in Vacation Bible School this year. Last year, 986 points were made on the standard but two departments fell short of a required 75 per cent in daily attendance. This year, 251 were enrolled, the average attendance was 210 with 84 per cent present daily, 91 had perfect attendance, \$42.63 was given to the Cooperative Program, there were three conversions and three for special service. D. Hoyle Haire is pastor of the church. Herbert M. Haney, associate pastor, was principal. Mrs. D. Hoyle Haire was the associate principal. More than 50 workers served during the two-week period.

* * *

● EDNA MAE PUGSLEY (Mrs. Ruben I.) Franks, Southern Baptist missionary, has recently been transferred from the Chilean Mission to the Spanish Baptist Publishing House Mission, El Paso, Tex. Mrs. Franks is a native of Helena.

* * *

28 from Arkansas Register for RA Meet

ONLY 28 ARKANSAS registrations for the 2nd Convention-wide Royal Ambassador Congress had been made as of July 25. Total registrations on that date were 3,319.

Convention goal for the Aug. 12-14 meeting in Ft. Worth is 8,858. Arkansas has a quota of 232.

Start Your College Career Or Your Next College Year

at

STUDENT WEEK

at

GLORIETA

August 21-27

Send your \$2.50 registration immediately to Tom Logue, 401 West Capitol, Little Rock, Arkansas. Chartered bus leaves August 19 and returns August 29.



REGULAR WORSHIP of God gives strength and stability to the life of the individual, family and the nation. This is the message of Religion In American Life's 10th annual campaign, which will be launched throughout the nation in November. Above is a reproduction of the poster which will appear in brilliant colors on more than 6,000 billboards, on 90,000 car cards in buses, street cars and trains, on posters on the sides of buildings, on transportation terminal platforms and in store windows. In addition, the messages will be carried in 10,000 newspaper advertisements, in hundreds of magazines, will be seen on television, and heard on radio. Time and space valued at over \$8,000,000 for these messages will again be contributed by American business and advertising firms through The Advertising Council.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

By Dr. R. Lofton Hudson

My Late Wife

QUESTION: I have been married for twenty years and have two teenage children. There is one problem that



DR. HUDSON

like my wife.

ANSWER: I know exactly what you are talking about. I have been married twenty-five years and my wife has the same problem.

Believe me, you are fighting a losing battle. I have told my wife that the reason the Bible speaks of a second resurrection is that she will not be able to get up on time for the first one.

The fact is, you have been married long enough to stop trying to reform your wife. I tried for the first twenty years, but finally woke up. Getting a wife or husband is like buying a victrola record; you buy it for what you want on one side and you have to take what is on the other side.

Quit tantalizing your wife. She probably has a compulsion to be late. And fussing won't change her. As for the children, if they love you they will tend to copy your traits instead of your wife's.

There are other ways to get the Devil out of you besides worrying. Try praying for patience.

Putting a Handle on the 30,000 Objective

Eight Can Equal One

By George W. Schroeder

(Executive Secretary

Brotherhood Commission, SBC)

YOU MAY not believe it, but with the help of God and the backing of a church, **eight can equal one**. Odd arithmetic, you say? Right you are. But before looking at the idea behind such queer mathematics, let us first consider one of our adopted denominational objectives.

Southern Baptists have launched and are in the midst of the promotion of their greatest undertaking — the establishing of 30,000 new preaching stations by 1964. The objective, if successful, can be instrumental in changing a world for Christ.

It can be said without fear of contradiction, however, that the 30,000 objective is a man's job. If Southern Baptists are to come anywhere near achieving complete success in the venture, the men of our thousands of churches will have to rise as a unit and fill their rightful place in it.

Say what you will, success in the tremendous undertaking will be measured in just about the direct proportion that the church leadership is able to enlist the manpower in the churches and use it in the task of planting new light-houses for God.

Now here is where the strange arithmetic, eight can equal one, enters the picture. The idea is for eight men without a church to pledge themselves one with the other, their pastor, their church, and their Lord, that they will link their lives one with the other in an all out effort to establish a new mission point.

In so agreeing to be a part in the

undertaking, the men will agree to man the new work, assist in making surveys, visit in the homes, fill the pulpit when necessary, help build or renovate a place for the meetings, take an active part in all of the services, and stay with the task until success is achieved for the Lord. Yes, eight can equal one. If eight men in any church will band themselves together and seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit they can have a part in the establishing of a new lighthouse for God.

The challenge of the 30,000 objective just now is to enlist our men to do something about it. We need to put a handle on it — something that men can catch hold of and do something about. "Eight can equal one" can be that handle. Eight men fully consecrated to a divine task in multiplied thousands of churches can do much in assuring success in this our greatest Southern Baptist undertaking.

Eight men fully dedicated — will you be one of them in your church? If so, then seek to rally the other seven and when they have agreed to be a part in such a venture, sit down with your pastor and inform him of your decision and pledge the best of your lives in an all-out effort to establish a new lighthouse for God.

ROGER BABSON, the great statistician, said, "What America needs today more than it needs banks, railroads, and industries is a return to the kind of religion that years ago stopped work on the farm an hour earlier in order that everyone could go to midweek Prayer Service." — Park Hill Church Bulletin (N.L.R.)

THE BOOKSHELF

Teach Me to Pray, by James DeForest Murch, Standard Publishing, Cincinnati, O., 1958, \$2.50.

One of the most practical books of its kind we have seen, **Teach Me to Pray** is based on the premise that Christians through a study of the teachings of the Bible on prayer can learn better how to pray.

Because of the nature of God and His love for man, and because of the nature of man and his need for God, the author concludes that "under proper conditions prayer is inevitable."

The Death of Christ, by John Knox, Abingdon, 1958, \$2.75.

"The Cross . . . stands for the entire Christian way of looking at and living life. It is the real crux of decision for or against Christ. One can do three things with the Cross — and only three. One can deny that it happened because, if acknowledged, it would make nonsense of life; one can acknowledge it and decide in consequence that life is meaningless; or one can find in it a clue to a deeper meaning in life than otherwise appears," writes Author Knox, an associate editor of and contributor to the new **The Interpreter's Bible**.

Those who seek to find the meaning of life in terms of the Christian faith will find this discussion of the Cross "both intellectually stimulating and spiritually satisfying."

1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered, by George H. Sandison and staff, Baker Book House, 1958.

Although we disagree with some of the "answers," as, for example, how the Negro race originated, according to this book, we realize that no book on this theme could do more than give the "answers" according to the scholarship and views of the author. A book like this should prove helpful in stimulating study of the source of the right answers — the Bible itself.

One Step to America, by Elizabeth B. Whitmore, Broadman, 1958, \$2.75.

This is a juvenile which relates the experiences of Sig and his family as they move from their native Germany to Ohio, U.S.A., their new home. How Sig adjusts to new friends and new surroundings makes a warm and exciting story.

The Bond Slave, a novel by Sallie Lee Bell, Zondervan, 1957, \$2.50.

A romance of Bible times, this is the story of Princess Zoan, granddaughter of Egypt's power-mad Pharaoh, who could not forget the bronzed young Israelite slave, Caleb.

● DONALD F. GRAVENMIER has resigned as pastor of 1st Church, Plumerville, to become pastor of Pinecrest Church, Sanford, Fla. Pastor Gravenmier, a graduate of Ouachita College and Southern Seminary, had been at Plumerville two years. Pinecrest is a new church, a year old, with over 300 in attendance in Sunday School.

Baptist Crosscurrents

O Day of Rest and Gladness!

More and more in the United States, Britain, and Canada greedy commercialists have been striving to destroy our Christian Sunday. They profess to be advocates of a "free" Sunday — free for sport and recreation — but what they want is a Sunday free for the promotion of commercialized sport and entertainment.

That these promoters confuse and mislead Christian people, who should know better, is clearly indicated in an article by the Rev. R. C. Plant.

That the traditional Christian Sunday is an institution worth maintaining, despite the disciplines involved, is clearly set forth in an article by Dr. Leslie Weatherhead of London, England.

We have very definite convictions about the proper observance of Sunday. We believe it should be for all Christians "the Lord's Day."

It is a day set apart for worship. If men were nothing more than machines or animals they would not require a special day for worship.

Those who would rob men of the privileges of such a holy day would also hinder them from such opportunities for spiritual communion and growth. They would, because of their own lust for gain, keep men dragged down and chained to the level of animals and machines.

Our Christian Sunday is a day of rest — a day of rest and gladness — a day of joy and light, a balm for care and sadness, most beautiful, most bright.

Man is so constituted that he needs regular recreation. He needs at least one day in seven when he can turn from his normal pursuits to things more worthy. Arnold Toynbee, in his **Study of History** writes of modern man as, "Cramped and blinkered by professional specialization through which he has been earning his living for six days, and having on the seventh day an opportunity to live the life of an integral human soul."

Sunday, when observed in the traditional Christian manner, is the one day in the week when a man may know himself to be something more than a buyer and consumer; a machine or an animal. It is a sacred day that affords him the opportunity of realizing his high estate as a **human soul** and it gives him time and opportunity for the free growth and development of his soul.

Our Christian Sunday is a family day. It is a day when home ties and family responsibilities and pleasures may be emphasized, enjoyed and developed. If homes and family life are important to our civilization and the stability of the nation — so is Sunday, the festival day of home life.

Sunday is a day sacred to the cultivation and preservation of the finer things that make for better family life. It is a day when all the family may unite in worship in the church and enjoy fellowship in their homes.

Our Christian Sunday has been a preservative of our Christian heritage. Dr. Elton Trueblood says the heritage of the Hebrew faith has been preserved largely because in their captivity in Babylon the Jews kept up their Sabbath observance. He claims that such observance becomes an external badge to hold the people together by their public witness. Once a week they stood up to be counted in their alien environment and though the weaklings naturally fell away, the faithful were consequently strengthened.

Today is a time when Christian people should have the courage to stand up and be counted. Today Christians should set the example in proper Christian Sunday observance and they should seek to influence others to do the same.

If we are to remain a free people we must cherish and actively promote the sacred institutions and traditions that have made us free.

—The Canadian Baptist



AFTER BIOGRAPHIES—Leaders of Southern Baptist historical groups are pointing toward "Operation Baptist Biography" which seeks to secure biographical material on 45,000 denominational laymen and pastors. The leaders are from left, J. P. Edmunds, chairman of the Southern Baptist Convention Historical Commission; Norman W. Cox, Commission executive secretary, and R. N. Owen, president of the Southern Baptist Historical Society. Edmunds is secretary of research and statistics with the Baptist Sunday School Board; Owen is editor of the Tennessee weekly paper, **BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR**. Biography project is one of last Commission efforts directed by Cox, who retires in August, 1959. (Baptist Press Photo)

● **FIRST CHURCH**, Bay, Max L. Taylor, pastor, is receiving the Arkansas Baptist under the month free trial offer.



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**William Morton Heads
Midwestern Department**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. —(BP)— William H. Morton will head the department of archaeology at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here, according to Seminary President Millard J. Berquist.

Morton is a native Missourian. He is a graduate of Southwest Missouri State Teachers College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Until June 12, Morton was a member of the faculty of Southern Seminary at Louisville.

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Billy Graham Joins 'Old Fashioned' Evangelist

TWO OF the world's leading evangelists — youthful Billy Graham and Dr. Charles E. Fuller of radio's "Old Fashioned Revival Hour" — have joined forces with Graham's acceptance of a position on the Board of Trustees of Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena.

Graham's acceptance of the new position stems from a long-time affection for Dr. Fuller, founder of the seminary and director of the world's largest religious radio broadcast. The Old Fashioned Revival Hour is now in its 34th year and reaches 20,000,000 listeners throughout the world each week.

Graham explained that he shares Dr. Fuller's realization of the need for an educated evangelical ministry.

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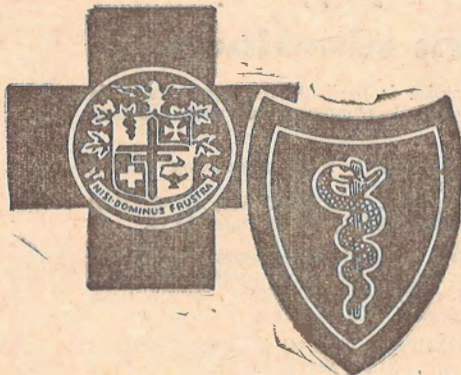
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Miss Nancy Cooper, Secretary

Workshop for Youth Workers

UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITY will be afforded Arkansas workers with youth organizations September 18-19. A



workshop will be provided on Sunbeam Band work, Girls' Auxiliary work and Young Woman's Auxiliary work where convention-wide directors will lead. Attendance will be limited to two teams from each association — one composed of the organizational directors for 1958-59 and the other chosen by the association. The workshop will be held at the First Baptist Church of Conway.

Leadership Conference

September 9-10 is the time for the annual leadership conference for associational WMU officers, and Ferncliff is the place of meeting. Special instruction will be provided for the following officers elected to serve during 1958-59: associational presidents (superintendents), vice presidents (associate superintendents), directors of mission study, prayer, community missions and stewardship. Youth directors will not be included in this conference because of the Workshop to be held September 18-19 in Conway.

Sunbeam Band Focus Week

August 10-16 is Sunbeam Band Focus Week. Splendid plans for the observance will be found in Sunbeam Activities. Every WMS should work with Sunbeam Band leaders to make that important week a time when attention will be focused on the oldest of the missionary organizations for the youngest of missionary possibilities.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Edgar Williamson, Secretary

Sunday School in Evangelism

USING THE Sunday School in Evangelism, the book recommended for use during Sunday School Preparation Week, Sept. 21-28, 1958, was released through the Baptist Book Store Aug. 1.



The author is Dr. Leonard Sanderson, secretary of evangelism for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. The publisher is Convention Press, Nashville, Tenn., and the price of the book is 60 cents. Credit will be given in Section IV of the Sunday School Training Course for the study of the book.

Dr. Sanderson prepared the book especially for use during Preparation Week, as a means of making more effective the ministry of a Sunday school

in the soul-winning program of a church. In it he has recorded a genuine understanding of the value of the Sunday school in winning the lost. He rightly views evangelism as the primary purpose of a church and each of its organizations, and interprets it as a spirit rather than a mere program. His development draws an excellent picture of this spirit possessing the personnel and pervading the program of a church.

The 1958-59 Sunday School Planning Booklet, which has been sent to all pastors and superintendents, carries a suggested schedule for Preparation Week, including the study of Using the Sunday School in Evangelism each evening, Monday through Friday. In most cases, the pastor will want the privilege of leading his people in this study and planning with them for a renewed emphasis on evangelism in the year ahead.

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BROTHERHOOD

By Nelson Tull

RA Congress

WHAT PROMISES to be the largest gathering of Baptist boys in history will take place in Fort Worth, Texas, Aug. 12-14, when the Southwide Royal Ambassador Congress will convene.



MR. TULL

The Brotherhood Commission has spared no effort or expense to make this the best meeting of its kind ever held; and the Baptists of Texas have gone all-

out in their planning to insure a whole series of wonderful experiences for those who attend.

The Congress is not only for Royal Ambassador boys. It is for their counselors and for Brotherhood men from all over the Southern Baptist Convention. Twenty-two states and one foreign country have already sent in registrations. Thousands of men and boys will be there.

Months ago we sent out from this office publicity concerning the Congress, asking that registration fee of \$1 per person be sent to the Brotherhood Commission, 1548 Poplar Avenue, Memphis. However, if you have not sent your registration fee and you desire to attend the Congress, go on to Ft. Worth. When you arrive contact the Royal Ambassador Congress Registration Desk at the Center Motel, 3520 Camp Bowie.

We hope that Arkansas will be well represented at the Congress, both by boys and by men.

Royal Ambassador Camps

The Royal Ambassador Camping program is over for the summer. We have had four very fine camps with a wonderful lot of boys at each camp and some very fine adult helpers. A complete report on the camps will be published as soon as it can be compiled. But know now that the summer's camping program was successful from every viewpoint; and that those in charge of the development of the camp program are looking forward to an even better year in 1959.

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MISSIONS & EVANGELISM

C. W. Caldwell, Superintendent

Problems of Rural Churches

ALL CHURCHES have problems, but we must admit that the rural churches of Arkansas are facing problems which are not common to city churches. The shift of population from rural to urban centers has weakened the rural churches, both numerically and financially. More and more the rural churches are demanding a better educated pastor.



DR. CALDWELL

More and more, they want a man to live in their midst and give his full time to the work of the church. They also want better buildings with classrooms, rest rooms and kitchen facilities; but with many of their substantial leaders having moved and with limited finances the church cannot have all of these wants.

Some expect the Department of State Missions to supplement the pastor's salary, thus making it possible for them to have regular preaching.

It should be remembered that State Missions have never provided sufficient

amount of money to make it possible for every Arkansas church to have a full time pastor living on the field. What then should be done?

In many instances, two and three churches should combine into one. A study of the geographical area will reveal that in many areas there are several churches not more than four or five miles apart. Not one of the churches could maintain a full time pastor, but all of them together could secure an excellent leader and yet none of the people would have to drive more than three or four miles further than usual. This has been done and can be done in many places. If the churches could only see that it would be better to have one church with 150 in Sunday School than to have three churches with 50 each and all of them struggling to keep the work going.

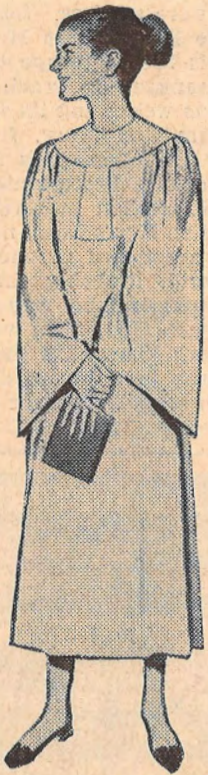
In a bulletin from South Dakota, the pastor states that two people joined his church by letter who had to travel 99 miles. In other words, their nearest Baptist church is 99 miles away. This is quite a contrast to the distances between Arkansas churches.

Wouldn't it be better to have a pastor with a \$5,000 salary giving his full time to a church field than to have two to four men whose total salaries would be above \$5,000 but whose services were only on Sunday?

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The Schoolboys' Hymn of Praise

MORE THAN two hundred and fifty years ago an English schoolmaster was inspired by a happy thought. Thomas Ken, a clergyman and a teacher in Winchester College, a famous boys' school, decided to write some hymns for his pupils.

He prepared three different hymns, each suited to a different time of the day. One was for the morning when the boys got up, the second was for the evening when they had finished supper, and the third was for midnight.

All the hymns were beautiful, and each one had the same refrain at the end:

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The hymns had no sooner been introduced at the school than they became very popular. All the boys came to love them, and the hymns became a regular part of their daily routine.

The part the boys liked best was that closing refrain. Sung to a beautiful, solemn tune, "Old 100th," from the Genevan Psalter, it became their favorite song at the school.

When they completed their courses of study and went back to their homes, they still carried the words and music with them. Often they would sing the refrain in their homes, and other members of their families would join in. In this way the schoolboys' hymn of praise became popular all over England.

It was not long before "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" was introduced in many churches. In some churches it was sung at the opening of the service. In others it was used after the offering had been taken.

In time the schoolboys' hymn of praise was taken from England to other English-speaking countries. In Canada and the United States it became as popular as it had been in the country where it was first sung. In these countries it was given the same honored place in church worship services.

How surprised the author of those simple, sublime lines would have been, could he have known how his words would be carried down the ages!

Thomas Ken became one of the most noted churchmen in all Britain. From schoolmaster and cleric, he rose to be Bishop of Bath and Wells. He was appointed a chaplain to King Charles II.

When this monarch died and his son James II became king, the latter tried to restore the Roman Catholic religion as the official religion of Britain. But the English people would have none of it. Thomas Ken and six other bishops

THE TEEN AGE

by Judy McDonald



"I can't understand why Mom told me I was unobservant."

who opposed the king became the heroes of the hour when James imprisoned them in the Tower of London.

A great protest followed this imprisonment and then great rejoicing when the bishops were set free. Soon it was the renegade King James II who was flying for his life to escape the angry mob. He managed to reach France as Britain was welcoming its new monarchs, William and Mary, from Holland. After that there was no longer any question as to Protestantism being the preferred religion in England.

Today Bishop Ken's lines, now called "Doxology," are heard in churches all over the world. Probably few of the tens of thousands who now join in singing, "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow," know that these words were first sung in a joyous chorus by some English schoolboys more than two centuries ago.

SIGN OBSERVED on flooded lawn in Anderson, Ind., during the recent high water: "Have Water—Will sell 1,000,000 gallons for 5 cents. Bring your own bucket."

A **REPORTER** in the Rio Grande Valley recently found farmers selling tomatoes at two cents a pound. One farmer gave a friend a bushel of tomatoes to take home, then handed him a dime. "I'm losing 10 cents on every bushel," he explained, "and I don't want to get the books tangled up."—Farm Journal.

YEARS AGO, on a hot day, a farmer started with horse and buggy to town. Halfway in, the horse stopped, turned his head and said, "Shakes alive, Boss-man, but it's hot."

THE **AMAZED** farmer turned to his dog riding beside him and asked, "Did you hear what I heard?"

"Yeah," the dog yawned, "but he's like everybody else. He talks about the weather, but he won't do anything about it."—Capper's Weekly.

QUESTIONED ABOUT his need for glasses at such an early age, the Baptist minister explained, "It was all caused by eye strain—looking for my deacons at the Wednesday night service."

A **WOMAN** waiting at the door ready to go to church had her arms full of coats and four little children at her side.

Her husband, coming down the stairs, asked why she was standing there.

She explained, handing him the coats, "This time you put the children's coats on and I'll go honk the horn."

TODAY'S HOUSEWIFE enjoys cooking — especially when it's done by the chef at one of the better restaurants. —Harold Coffin.

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Justice in Government

Deuteronomy 16:18-20; 17:14-20; 2 Samuel 23:1-8; 1 Kings 2:1-4; 3:1-14;
Amos 5:11-15; Romans 13:1-8; printed text, Deuteronomy 16:18-20;
Amos 5:12-15; Romans 13:1-7

By **WALTER YELDELL**

Pastor, 1st Church, West Memphis

August 10

THAT THERE is graft and corruption and injustice present in our government, from the local to the Federal level, there is no doubt. The question is—how much? That these evils exist is an indictment against the citizenry of these United States. A man said to me a short while ago, when we were talking about corruption and injustice in our city and county governments, "If about seven thousand more people would buy poll-tax in our county and go to the polls and vote, our problem would be solved." Whether he was right, or wrong, I do not know. However, I do know that we complain much about our government but very few of us ever take the time to do anything about it. An article in one of our news magazines recently pointed out that a small percentage of the qualified voters in the United States take the time, or think it important enough, to vote.

What are some of the ills that exist in our government? The National Municipal League of New York City has listed seven:

- 1) Popular apathy and ignorance
- 2) Undemocratic methods in elections
- 3) Spoils and corruption
- 4) Wasteful and antiquated systems
- 5) Overlapping services
- 6) Hand-to-mouth planning and financing
- 7) Unnecessary centralization and bureaucracy

Our lesson selections for Sunday are intended to start our minds to thinking seriously about the justice administered by the State and the justice which we as citizens of the State must practice.

We know that the Hebrews suffered much under the ruthless rulers of Egypt, and when they were freed from Egyptian bondage those who were to have authority over them were commanded to practice justice impartially. However, things did not go as had been planned and when the prophet Amos arrived on the scene several years later he condemned the judges. Israel had wandered away from God and was tolerating judges who could be bought with a bribe and who could not be trusted to treat the poor with equity.

So corrupt had become the courts of that day that good men were afraid to say anything against them for fear that their lives would be taken. But Amos fearlessly spoke out against such practices.

In considering the passages in the New Testament for Sunday, there would appear to be, at least on the surface, a difference of opinions between the prophet Amos and the apostle Paul as to how God's people were to react to evil leaders within the government. However, upon examination one comes to the conclusions that there are no differences between these two men of God. Paul admonishes the Christians of Rome to be just in their treatment of their government but in return, the government owes justice to its citizens. Paul is not saying that the Christians of his day should respect a tyrant like Nero; they were to respect the office he held.

Conditions Today

What about justice in our government today? America has been a country which for many years could boast of good courts. Our people made it a business of keeping them out of politics. The judges prided themselves in the way the affairs of their courts were conducted. This was not only true in the Federal government but in local and state governments.

For the most part we can still be proud of our courts but there are enough judges and lawyers who practice injustices to bring disgrace upon the nation. Gangsters, union racketeers, influential men, men with money, can buy the services of some lawyers, and enough money can be spent to persuade witnesses to testify in their favor.

The answer to this problem has always been an aroused citizenry. When the West was young and the only law was that of a "six gun," good men revolted against such practice, and though it cost many of them their lives, they were able to close down the saloons and gambling joints and make bad men move on. Most of the injustice in our land today is caused by the apathy and unconcern of Christian people. If we spoke out against such practices, often and loud enough, the politicians would eventually hear and do something about it.

Can we expect to have justice in government if we elect evil men to office? It is true that very often good men whom we elect "sell out" under the pressure of money, and other considerations. I remember a very fine Baptist deacon who was elected to a

high office in another state a few years ago. After his election I said to myself, "There is a man who can't be bought. There is a man who can stand the test." It was not two years until this man had "sold out" to the liquor interests and was doing all he could to promote legislation to protect their business. I came to the conclusion then, and I have not changed my opinion, it is very difficult to stay "clean" in many of our governmental offices. However, I still believe that we have the best men in the offices of our nation's government of any other nation in the world.

But the truth remains — we get the kind of government we desire. A little while ago Herbert Hoover and his committee made a survey of the waste in government spending and presented a program of how some of it could be overcome. Most of their suggestions have been disregarded. It is because we, the public, are not really concerned about how Congress spends our money. At least we are not concerned enough to get together and demand that things be done differently. Very often you are urged by your pastor, or others, to write letters to your Congressmen urging them to vote for, or against, a certain bill. Most of the time these appeals go unheeded.

Questions to ponder:

—Do you pray for those in places of political authority?

—Are you doing your part toward good government by going to the polls and voting for good governmental officials?

—Do you practice justice toward others?

Truth of the Lesson

Plato once said, "The penalty good men pay for indifference to public affairs is to be ruled by evil men."

ATTENTION, PARENTS!

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S. A. Whitlow, Executive Secretary, 100 Baptist Building, Little Rock, Ark., Ralph Douglas, Associate

Actions by Executive Board Announced

WE WOULD LIKE to make a report this week on the meeting of the Executive Board held on July 15. This meeting was primarily for the purpose of formulating a proposed budget for 1959. The budget appearing on this page last week in the amount of \$1,700,000 will be presented to the Arkansas Baptist State Convention at its annual meeting November 18-20. This budget will be more fully discussed in succeeding issues of the **Arkansas Baptist**.



DR. WHITLOW

Now I would like to direct your attention to some of the other actions taken at the July meeting. A committee previously appointed to make a study of a hospital plan for Baptist ministers and other full-time church

workers made a report on a proposal by the Blue Cross-Blue Shield. It was unanimously adopted. It is a standard Blue Cross hospital coverage including the benefit of an \$8 room, all operating rooms, surgical dressings, all physiotherapy, 50 per cent of all X-ray services, a drug allowance and a number of other benefits. The monthly dues would be \$2.30 for an individual and \$5.80 for a family.

This service would be available to all of our Baptist ministers and all other full-time employees of our churches. This plan does not envision any cost to the church or the denomination, but is simply a service rendered through the office of the Executive Secretary for the benefit of the above named persons. More particulars of this plan will be found on page 2.

In keeping with commonly accepted business practices, the Executive Secretary was authorized to discontinue the issuance of receipts for the weekly or monthly contributions to the Coop-

erative Program unless the church requested it. These contributions are published quarterly in the **Arkansas Baptist** and it was thought unnecessary to issue the monthly receipts. The date for the closing of our books was also changed to the 5th of each month. All contributions postmarked not later than the 5th of each month will be included in the current month. When the month closes on Sunday, or Monday, this will give the church treasurer time to close his books and get the check for world missions off in time to be included in the current month.

The Board also adopted a plan of promoting our work which looks to a supper meeting in each of our forty-four associations between now and the time of the Convention in November. The pastors, deacons, church treasurers, and the associational missionary in each association will be invited to attend and one of our institutional heads or the Executive Secretary or his Associate will be present to discuss fully the proposed program. The Board member in each association will be responsible for arranging for this supper meeting. —SAW

"Outlook Good"

ACCORDING TO the Agriculture Department the farmer should have more dollars in his pockets in 1958 than last year. The Associated Press reports, "Should conditions for the remainder of the growing season continue favorable, total crop production might well set a new record, surpassing that first record set in 1948."



DR. DOUGLAS

Arkansas is fast becoming industrialized, but agriculture is still a big factor in the economy of our state. We have been over all the state and crop prospects look good, which means that we can look forward to a prosperous fall and winter.

This should encourage each Baptist to give thanks and give back to God a portion of that which he has so

bountifully received. But many will not do that unless someone calls their attention to the matter. This can best be done through a Bible-centered stewardship program presented by the church. Such a program always shows the individual church member that God does not want to wring something from him, but is interested in doing something worthwhile for him and through him. Bible stewardship is more than raising and collecting money — it is God's way of growing his children. Therefore it behooves every church to provide a good Stewardship atmosphere in which Christians can grow.

Providing that right atmosphere is not easy and not done without spending some time and a little money. The best plan found by Baptists to produce more full-grown, stalwart Bible stewards is the Forward Program of Church Finance.

We have been conducting about two finance clinics per week for the past few months, plus helping individual churches in adopting the Program and getting started in the preparation pe-

riod. This means that many churches will use the plan this year.

The time is far-spent, and the hour is short, but there is still time to use the Program this year, but the leaders in the church need to get started within the next few weeks.

Let's do our best for God because he has always done his best for us. —RD

REMEMBER!

We have a 22-minute, 16-millimeter film on the Forward Program of Church Finance.

Call us for a date and we will mail it to you. The only expense to you will be return postage.

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