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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 46

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, SEPTEMBER 11, 1947

NUMBER 36

Giving a Lift

By DUKE K. McCALL

The three-month tithing emphasis sponsored by the Southern Baptist Convention will give a lift to everything Baptists do. The immediate response of all the state conventions in adopting the three-month emphasis as their program or integrating it with a previously planned program is assurance of success. The enthusiastic reaction of pastors and laymen indicates that they see in this an opportunity to answer all the special appeals being made of them as well as to provide for the enlargement of the local church program.

Lift the Level

Recent news statements reveal that Americans are currently giving one per cent of their income to religious causes. Southern Baptists are giving approximately two per cent of their income to Baptist causes. Remembering that half of the Americans are not members of any religious organization, it appears that Southern Baptist giving is identical with the average church member in the land.

The Southern Baptist denomination stands twentieth in the twenty-six major denominations in stewardship (per capita gifts to all purposes). It stands eighteenth in the twenty-six major denominations in giving to missions.

The unique quality of our Baptist message demands a higher level of stewardship than that of the average member of the average religious group. The authority of the Commission and the missionary imperative of the Baptist spirit demand a higher place in the rank of the religious denominations in terms of faithfulness to the spreading of the Gospel.

Surely the level of giving required in the Old Testament is not too high a standard by which Southern Baptists should measure their stewardship. "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse."

Lift the Lid

Some churches have placed a lid, a ceiling, on contributions beyond the local church program. This is done by saying that all gifts beyond a certain amount shall be used for some local project such as a new building. It may take the course of setting a specific amount to be sent from the church for the Cooperative Program each month or year.

During the period of this special three-month tithing emphasis, let us lift the lid

that all state and Southwide causes and our worldwide witness may share in the increased giving of the people. At least three reasons prompt this suggestion:

1. The vision of giving to the whole world will stimulate the giver and immediately justify the higher level of his giving.
2. It is only fair that state and Southwide agencies which have contributed greatly to this effort should share in the results.
3. By lifting the lid to allow increased giving to flow through the channels of the Cooperative Program, we will avoid developing the habit of designation of gifts to state and Southwide objects.

Lift the Load

Christian statesmanship counsels us to respond adequately for all calls and causes within the purpose of God. No Christian can limit his witness to Jerusalem for Christ said: "Ye shall be witnesses unto me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth"

(Acts 1:8). A Baptist serves but one master yet serves Him through many channels.

Which corner of a sack of meal do you pick up? The question itself is foolish. Put the whole sack on your shoulder and carry it away.

The appeal to every Southern Baptist to tithe for at least three months is an effort to lift the whole load at one time.

The increased load of obligation and opportunity being carried by our local churches is indicated by the increase of indebtedness on church buildings. Between 1944 and 1946 this indebtedness jumped from six to sixteen million dollars. A survey by the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee indicates that Southwide agencies require an additional twenty-one million dollars to carry their share in world evangelization. Special appeals from state objects in the amount of forty million dollars for schools, eighteen million dollars for hospitals, two million dollars for orphanages indicate the greater load being carried by state convention objects.

Baptists Voice Opposition to Alliance Between the United States and Vatican

By Baptist Press

The recent exchange of letters between President Truman and Pope Pius XII has drawn fire from American Baptists visiting in Rome as an implication that the United States government is "an ally of clerical totalitarianism."

Dr. Duke K. McCall, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee at Nashville, Tenn., and Dr. Frank K. Means, educational secretary of the Convention's Foreign Mission Board at Richmond, Va., declared that the President had "associated the American government with the Vatican in a crusade apparently against Communism." Such procedure "violates our cherished American doctrine of separating church and state," they added.

Dr. McCall and Dr. Means were in a party of 44 American Baptists in Rome, on a tour of Europe following the meeting of the Baptist World Alliance in Copenhagen.

Their statement described as a "tragedy" the return of Myron C. Taylor as Presidential

representative at the Vatican, and added: "We believe this action is as closely connected with the presidential elections in the United States next year as it is connected with events in Europe."

"We Baptists resent, and we believe the American people will resent, the implication that our government is an ally of clerical totalitarianism," the statement said. "We believe that it is disservice to the world's hope for peace to identify American aims with those of Roman clericalism."

"We oppose totalitarianism in every form from everywhere in the world by which human liberties are suppressed," they declared.

They charged also that the Italian "clerical press" in order to "strengthen the hand of the Vatican in Italian politics," is giving the impression that all private relief to Italy is a distribution from the Vatican. They said each package was stamped "American Relief for Italy, Inc., care of Myron C. Taylor, Vatican City."

Across the Editor's Desk

Hear, O, America

Listen to the Statutes and Judgments of God

Atheism in the schools of Germany set the stage for Hitler. The religious faith of the German youth was destroyed in the schools of the nation.

The course of this destructive power is easily traced from Hitler back to its origin. Immediately back of Hitler was Ludendorff, the great German soldier, who declared: "Christianity divides the people at home and restrains the fury of the soldier at the front. Therefore, Christianity is Germany's greatest enemy and must be rooted out if the nation is to fulfill its greatest mission."

Back of Hitler and Ludendorff was another man of evil genius. This man was Nietzsche who summed up his own philosophy in this way: "The moral man who lives for others is a weakling, a degenerate. The lordly egoist who exploits other men and rises on stepping stones of their dead selves to higher planes is the proper human ideal, the over-man." Nietzsche was the first to say, "The untruth of a view is not a valid objection to it if only it is useful, and the falsest views are often the most useful."

Theological Criticisms

However, we must go back one step further before we reach the fountain head of this diabolical dream which flooded the world with blood and death. The last step leads us back to the theological criticisms which flourished under the imposing title of "Higher Criticism."

In spite of the protest of the faithful Christian scholarship of Germany this destructive school of Biblical criticism lived and won adherence and sent its apostles throughout all Germany and to all parts of the world. These Bible critics loosened the grip of Protestant faith upon the teachings of the Bible. In place of the teachings of the Bible they substituted skepticism, rationalism, and unbelief. Miracles and the supernatural, sin and salvation, eternal life and eternal death were summarily ruled out.

It was "Higher Criticism" which gave Nietz-

Paper Shortage

The paper staff regrets that we again are forced to publish an eight-page issue of the Arkansas Baptist. Our paper supply is completely exhausted. We are doing everything possible to obtain more paper, but in the meantime we must ask for your patience and prayers. You will understand when articles and news items are omitted.

sche his audience; and Nietzsche prepared a people made ready for Ludendorff and Hitler. Perhaps there would be little point in writing the above were it not for the fact that "Higher Criticism" from Germany invaded the educational system of America. It first came into the universities and from these it trickled down to the grade and high schools through both teachers and textbooks.

Many will recall the time when "Higher Criticism" was a live issue in religious and educational circles. Its fallacies and dangers were pointed out in the religious press and from the pulpits and convention halls of the land. That voice of warning and protest is only a whisper now. But the destructive work of "Higher Criticism" (falsely so called) goes on unabated and it is continuing to gain momentum.

A few years ago Dr. Henry C. Link, consultant psychologist of New York City, wrote a book, "Return to Religion," in which he told the story of the undermining of his religious faith. Dr. Link charges two courses of study in a great eastern college with the responsibility for destroying his religious faith. These two courses were "History of Philosophy" and "Religious Education."

Concerning these two courses Dr. Link says that the history of philosophy was the "story of man's intellectual emancipation from the superstitions and blinding beliefs of religion . . . It glorified the life of reason . . . It revealed the fallacies of religious beliefs . . . It gave me a tremendous respect for the powers of reason and for the revelations of science, and it left religion without a leg to stand on." "During the same year," he continues, "my course in religious education consisted of a historical view of the development of the Bible . . . This course was a perfect example of what was then known as the "Higher Criticism" and it made all my previous conceptions of the Bible seem childish."

Atheism in Schools

This man, whose faith was unsettled by the 'Higher Criticism,' tells of hundreds of other young men and young women who had the same experience—young men and young women who had been reared in the Christian faith only to have that faith undermined and shattered by their teachers and courses of study in the university.

Dr. Link's recovery of his religious faith is a fascinating story. For the purposes of this discussion, be it said that the same destructive forces are at work in our educational

system today. These forces are still producing the same results noted by Dr. Link.

Following the destruction of religious faith, the Germans took one road and the English-speaking nations took, and are still pursuing, another road. Dr. Charles D. Alexander, of Liverpool, describes the German courses as an "amazing throw-back of a national culture to the Nordre gods of the anvil." Continuing, Dr. Alexander says, "In the English-speaking world it (Biblical criticism) has contrived a static religious indifferentism, an inertia of mind and soul which has been equally successful in its wholesale negation, in driving the masses from the forms of religion."

It may be added that the English-speaking peoples, having their faith in the infallible Book loosened, have defied wealth and the pleasures, luxuries, and powers which wealth provides.

Christ Used for Publicity

There is a widespread attitude which, instead of rejecting Christ outright, seeks to capture His popularity traits and capitalize them in the business, social, and political spheres of life. It is the attitude that Christ is not necessarily the Saviour of the world of men and women, nor is He the weakling described by the German philosophers; He is rather the go-getter salesman, the publicity man par excellent. In the mind of great masses of Americans, Christ has been robbed of His redeeming power and is accepted only on the basis of His popularity traits.

We may appropriately read "America" into Deuteronomy 5:1, "Hear, O America, the statutes and judgements which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep, and do them."

The greatest need of America in this day of world-wide unrest, uncertainty, and distress, is a return to God by repentance from sins and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Neither an individual, a nation, nor the world has any security in anything other than the grace of God which we may claim only upon the basis of repentance and faith.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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Arkansas Launches Tithing Campaign

"Tithing will revolutionize our churches, will be a potent force in spiritualizing our members, and will be a vital factor in evangelizing the world," Dr. R. C. Campbell, pastor of First Church, Little Rock, told several hundred Arkansas Baptists gathered at the statewide stewardship rally and conference held at Second Church, Little Rock, September 2.

Among those attending were moderators of the district associations, associational missionaries, pastors, chairman of finances in the local churches, and others. A group of 40 young people from Mountain Home Church was present along with their pastor, Dewey Stark. They will be key persons in putting the tithing campaign over in their church.

Every Baptist A Tither

The event was the launching of the state's part in the "Prove Me" Campaign of Southern Baptists to enlist at least 1,000,000 tithers for the months of October, November, and December. The state has been assigned a quota of 40,000, but Arkansas Baptists have adopted as their slogan, "Every Baptist a Tither." Executive Secretary B. L. Bridges says "if the Lord wants one tither, He wants all Baptists to tithe."

Dr. W. J. Hinsley, president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, presided at the meeting and in his opening remarks warned Arkansas Baptists of the danger of refusing to share increased income with the entire world. "If we go into this with a great spirit and the churches receive great increase in income, and, if they keep it all at home, great hurt will be done to our churches and to our denomination," he said. "It is just as sinful for a church to withhold 'more than is meet' as it is for an individual to withhold 'more than is meet.'"

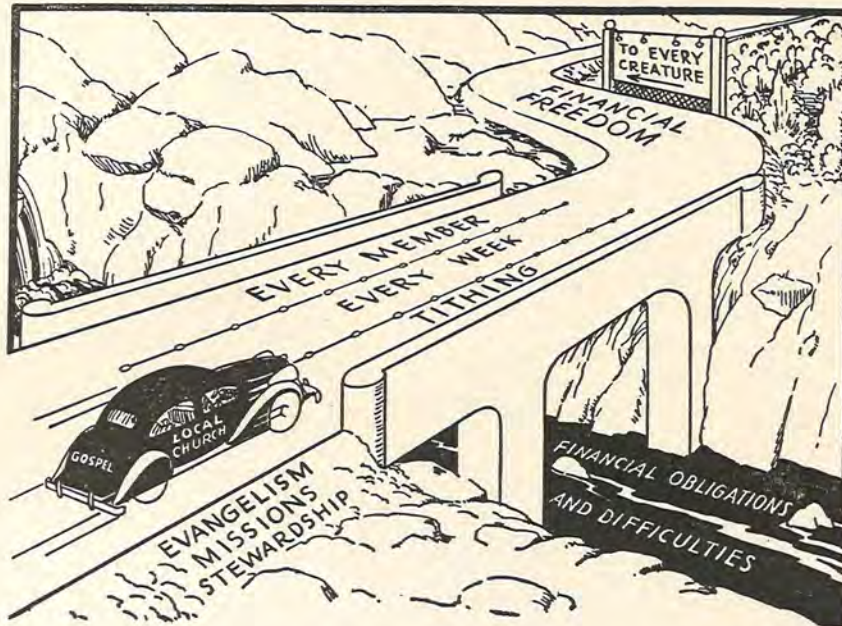
"If we do not give a reasonable share of the increase to the Cooperative Program, we are going to get miserably at home," he declared.

President Hinsley informed the group that the Executive Board had voted the night before to recommend to the State Convention in November the largest budget in Arkansas Baptist history—\$516,660. "Speeches will not bring in that sum," he said. "It will not come in unless all the churches of the state increase their gifts to the Cooperative Program."

Facing The World Task

General E. L. Compere, Little Rock layman and member of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, brought the group face to face with the world mission task in a 10-minute talk in which he asked such heart-searching questions as: "What is our mission as Southern Baptists? What is our mission as Christian people—particularly here in God blessed America?" "Our mission," he declared, "is to evangelize, not only Arkansas, not only the South, not only America, but the entire world. And until that is done we have not accomplished our mission."

General Compere gave alarming figures showing the small number of evangelical



Christian missionaries in proportion to the population of foreign countries and continued: "Christ gave no other plan for the salvation of these people except for us to carry the message of the Gospel to them. If we don't do it, they will die and go to hell. Southern Baptists are spending 32 times as much at home as we are providing for the preaching of the Gospel around the world. Are we living up to our obligations when we do that? If Christ's program of evangelizing the world is lagging, who is to blame? We need to get this matter on our hearts."

"We have used every plan that human beings could devise. Let us use God's plan for evangelizing the world. "But," he said in closing, "we'll never try Christ's plan until we tithe and then do more."

Mrs. J. E. Short, Gould, president of the Woman's Missionary Union of Arkansas, told of the continuous program of the Auxiliaries to enlist tithers and she announced that the women of the state would accept one-third of any goal adopted by the State Convention.

Dr. J. E. Dillard, who recently retired as Director of Promotion of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, was one of the principal speakers. He said the three fundamental needs of Southern Baptists are: "to get more of our people in the support of more of our work; to give a larger proportion of our income for our denominational work; and to get all of our people to give the tithe as the minimum."

Tithing Is A Spiritual Matter

Pastor A. B. Pierce, First Church, Pine Bluff, stressed the spiritual angle of tithing in one of the addresses at the evening session of the all-day meeting. "A God who is so perfect in His planning, so meticulous in the order of the universe certainly did not overlook a plan for financing an institution as great and as important as His church, which is the greatest institution on the face of the earth," he said. "I do not know of a single church where an effort has been made to put God's plan into effect that there has failed to be enough money every month to keep the bills paid."

"It is a spiritual matter, not a monetary matter," Pastor Pierce said. "You can talk tith-

ing, but if the individual loves material possessions more than he loves God, the message will fall on deaf ears. If God is first in life, you won't have any difficulty getting that person to be a good steward of the things he possesses." He said it is perfectly all right to stress the reward angle of tithing for Jesus continually talked of rewards, and God has promised 10,000 per cent interest on investments made for Him.

Then Pastor Pierce reminded the attendants: "Following the first World War the official government of Japan sent a request to the Executive Committee of the Foreign Mission Board asking for 5,000 missionaries. Young people were ready to go, but there was no money, so we sent them five missionaries. We sent 5,000,000 of our soldiers and spent \$50,000,000,000. I believe the Christians of America, including Baptists, will be held accountable for the last war."

"We are having another chance. God is counting on us. I predict that if we let God and the lost of the world down this time and refuse to bring God's tithe into His house that the next war will have another story to tell. How much finer to take people alive for Christ!"

Hugh Latimer, associate executive-secretary of the Baptist Brotherhood of the South, brought the closing address of the day in which he called upon the churches to increase their gifts to the Cooperative Program until they have reached the ideal of a 50-50 basis.

The afternoon was given over to conferences in which associational moderators, associational missionaries, and local church financial leaders discussed the best ways of putting over the Tithing Crusade.

State Organization

Dr. Bridges is the general director of the Campaign. Each church is urged to elect or appoint a committee. Two songs have been selected for themes of the Crusade. One is "Trust, Try, and Prove Me," found in most hymnals, and the other is a parody written by Mrs. C. D. Creasman of Tennessee to be sung to the tune of "Since Jesus Came into My Heart." The words will be printed in the Arkansas Baptist.

Associations are asked to spend a half-day session promoting the Campaign in their annual meetings and to make it the major emphasis in the September Workers' Conferences. It is suggested that every pastor preach at least one sermon on stewardship during September.

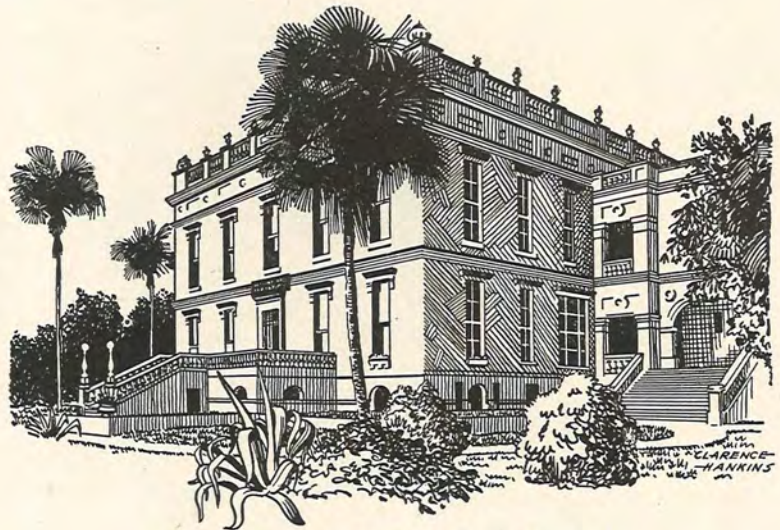
Pastor Minor E. Cole, First Church, Forrest City, has prepared a Sunday School lesson on stewardship and tithing. Copies of the lesson may be secured from state headquarters.

Many churches have already entered enthusiastically into the Campaign and glowing reports are already coming into the paper office regarding increase of finances and spiritual blessings both to individuals and to churches.

YOUR TITHE WILL DO THIS...

OUR PRAYERFUL hope concerning the tithing campaign is for a spiritual revival. A million new tithers will insure our new building program, stronger faculty, enlarged endowment, and seminary training for hundreds of additional students.

ROLAND Q. LEAVELL, *President*
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary



Main building, New Orleans Seminary

THOUGH the youngest of Southern Baptists' three institutions of theological education, New Orleans Seminary does not lack in fruitfulness. A continual stream of young ministers has come from this institution since its founding in 1917, and the entire Mississippi delta area has come to know firsthand the impact of the gospel preached by Baptists. The usefulness of the school has grown so that a new plant is necessary; seventy-five acres of property has been purchased for cash, and buildings will be erected as soon as money is available. Thus a mighty institution waits for the support it must have from Southern Baptists.



A MILLION SOUTHERN BAPTIST TITHERS FOR CHRIST

Benefiting: All local, state, Southwide and worldwide causes. "And prove me now, saith the Lord."

Southern Baptists and Foreign Missions

M. THERON RANKIN
Executive Secretary

E. C. ROUTH
Editor, The Commission

The program of the Foreign Mission Conference at Ridgecrest, August 1-20, was one of the best ever prepared in the interest of world missions. The Conference was directed by Dr. Everett Gill, Jr., recently returned from two years residence in South America. On Sunday morning he brought one of the most significant messages on world missions ever heard at Ridgecrest.

Among the distinctive features of the program this year were the missionary conferences for pastors, laymen, women, and young people, directed by Dr. J. E. Rawlinson, Dr. Doak Campbell, Mrs. Everett Gill, Jr., and Franklin Fowler, respectively. Sunrise and sunset devotionals were led by the missionaries representing our various foreign mission fields.

Among the outstanding addresses besides that given by Dr. Gill were messages by Secretaries M. T. Rankin, just returned from Europe, Dr. John A. Mackay, president of Princeton Theological Seminary; Colonel Jesse M. Johnson, former Judge Advocate in Japan; Miss Ethel Harmon, missionary to Nigeria; Dr. J. B. Hipps, Shanghai University, China; Dr. George Modlin, University of Richmond; Dr. Bela Udvarnoki, Hungary; Frank Price, Presbyterian missionary to China; Dr. W. O. Carver of Southern Baptist Seminary; and Dr. Park Anderson, New Orleans Seminary.

* * *

Four veteran missionaries attending the Ridgecrest conference with a total service on foreign fields for nearly 150 years were Dr. George Green, Africa; Dr. Everett Gill, Sr., Europe; Dr. J. L. Hart, Latin America; and Dr. W. B. Glass, China.

* * *

Miss Ethel Harmon reminded us that there are 12,000,000 Moslems in Nigeria alone, almost as many as the number of Baptists we have in all of North America. The Moslems are intensely missionary. Wherever he goes the Moslem trader seeks to make converts for his religion.

* * *

Among the impressions which American Baptists brought back from Europe was a deep sense of the need of the starving, ill-clad people of Europe. Many American Baptist shared their garments with their less fortunate brethren and sisters from lands which had been devastated by war. There will be need for many months for us to provide relief for the suffering millions around the world.

* * *

One note we have heard in recent days was the reminder that God has bestowed on us many material blessings. Above all other blessings, we have the gospel made available to practically every person in the United States who wishes to hear the message of salvation. The word of Jesus is: "Unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall much be

required." We are sinning against God and we are denying relief to an impoverished world if we do not share with them both material resources and the message of salvation.

* * *

Our missionary forces in Japan have been reinforced by the recent arrival of Tucker Callaway and Alma Graves. We have been informed that the occupation authorities in Japan are asking each member of an incoming missionary family to bring a ton of food. It is difficult for us to realize the lack of food and other necessities as well as of inadequate facilities for traveling.

* * *

Heard at Ridgecrest: "Dying Europe... Awakening Asia... Explosive Africa."

* * *

Mr. Buxton, treasurer of the Board, reports July receipts through the Cooperative Program totaling \$187,109, compared with \$188,298 for corresponding month last year. Gifts for World Relief totaled \$20,502 for the month. Among special gifts received in July were: \$4,000 as a bequest under the will of Miss Daisy B. Winton, deceased, a former resident of Richmond, Va., \$1,000 for salary of missionary from First Church, Petersburg, Va., \$2,150 for a gift annuity from a Baptist woman in Glencoe, Ky.; \$450 for salary of a missionary from Olivet Church, Honolulu; \$100 for mission work in Japan from Vacation Bible School, Second Ponce de Leon Church, Atlanta, Ga.; \$1,000 for salary of a missionary from Highland Avenue Church, Montgomery, Ala.; \$907 for mission work in Africa from Pilgrim Rest Church, Branch, La.; \$4,500 for relief to Romanian orphans, from a member of First Church, Salisbury, N. C.; \$4,429 as a bequest under the will of Ellen T. Rider, deceased, a former resident of Baltimore, Md.

* * *

From the president of the Finland National Baptist Union comes a letter of thanks for clothes, shoes, and canned goods: "The articles arrived just before our annual conference. I wish you had been present to see the joy of preachers and other needy families when they received their parcels. With tears of joy they asked me to express their best thanks to the donors and mediators."

* * *

In looking over the latest reports of our Church World Service Center, New Orleans, operated by Southern Baptists, we are gratified to note such memoranda as follows for "Commodities ready for shipment: heavy, winter weight clothing, 241 bales, 21,290 lbs.; women's shoes, 32 boxes, net weight 708 lbs.; men's shoes, 70 boxes, 1747 lbs.; light mixed cottons, 147 bales, weight 13,331 lbs.; used clothing, 3 bales, 199 lbs." Let the good work continue. Try to imagine what clothing and shoes will mean to families without shoes and adequate clothing. "Inasmuch as ye have

done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

* * *

Rev. and Mrs. W. E. Haltom, Rev. and Mrs. Malcolm Stuart, Miss Mary Lee Ernest, and Miss Hannah Plowden left for Hawaii by boat from San Francisco on August 8. Rev. and Mrs. Charles Whitten and Rev. and Mrs. Evan F. Holmes left for Columbia by plane from Miami on August 15. Miss Theresa Anderson, Miss Gladys Hopewell, Miss Margaret Collins, Miss Kathryn Bigham, and Miss Catherine Walker left for China by boat from New Orleans on August 15.

On furlough: Mrs. A. J. Terry of Brazil is now at Ridgecrest, N. C., Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Hipp of China are at 270 Cumberland Ave., Asheville, N. C.; Miss Wilma Weeks of China is at 5818 East 15th St., Terr., Kansas City, Mo.; Miss Lorene Tilford of China is at 108 Greenleaf St., Chattanooga, Tenn.; Rev. and Mrs. C. W. McCullough of Columbia are at Brady, Tex.; Rev. and Mrs. J. L. Riffey of Brazil are at 6138 Seminary Hill, Fort Worth, Tex.; Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Lunsford of Brazil are at 719 Creath, Jonesboro, Ark.; Miss Georgia Mae Ogburn, on sick leave from Chile, is at 3011 Vally St., Meridian, Miss.; Rev. and Mrs. M. E. Brantly of Nigeria, who flew home July 16 for an eye operation for Mr. Brantly, are at 42 South Woodward, Tallahassee, Fla.

—00—

Power of God's Word Seen at Greenwood

A man, living one-half block from First Church, Greenwood, sat on his porch as usual one evening recently. But something unusual happened this particular evening.

A revival meeting was in progress at the Greenwood Church. The man could not help but hear the gospel singing as it was directed by Pastor Harold Seefeldt, First Church, Paris, and the preaching of God's word by Pastor Rel Gray, First Church, Rogers.

The fellow did more than listen. He accepted the promises of God related by the evangelist and believed in his heart the story of Jesus.

Then the invitation began, calling for people to begin a new life with Christ and to make public profession of faith in Him. The man arose, walked to the church and then down the aisle. He took Pastor George H. Hink's hand and said: "I want to turn everything over to the Lord."

Nine other people accepted Christ as Saviour during this meeting, six joined the church on statement and two by letter.

—00—

First Church, Bearden, had 24 additions, 15 for baptism, in revival services with Pastor F. A. Stephenson, Mauriceville, Tex., as evangelist. Pastor H. S. Coleman writes: "Brother Stephenson is a tireless worker and the best soul winner I have ever worked with. He is a fine preacher as well." The Bearden Church has a new 15-room Sunday School annex which will soon be dedicated.

* * *

Oak Bowery Church, Faulkner County Association, baptized 22 candidates as a result of revival services with Evangelist Purl Stockton, Little Rock, doing the preaching. Many men rededicated their lives. Charles Riley is pastor.

Music Week at Ridgecrest

By RUTH NININGER

All previous attendance records were broken at the Southwide Church Music Conference held at Ridgecrest, August 21-29. Approximately 300 music leaders from all the Southern states participated in the class work, laboratory choir, discussion forums, and lectures on church music. The splendid faculty included B. B. McKinney and Hines Sims, directors of the Church Music Department of the Sunday School Board; Pluckett Martin, New Orleans Baptist Seminary; Warren Angell and Don Drake, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla.; J. Campbell Wray, Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.; and Mrs. Marjorie Psalmonds, pianist of Bartlesville, Okla.

The Laboratory Choir of 100 voices, under the direction of Warren Angell, furnished the special music for every service.

The climax of the conference was the presentation of "The Messiah" (Handel) sung by the entire group under the direction of J. Campbell Wray.

Outstanding feature of the conference was the preponderance of young people of high school and college age who were enrolled for the week, and who manifested such spontaneous and intelligent interest in development of Church Music. Many of these are planning to devote their lives and talent to the ministry of music.

The six state directors of Church Music gave reports of their work and announcement was made of the election of a state director for Louisiana.

The appearance of "Keynote," an attractive new catalogue for church music and supplies, was greeted with enthusiasm. Everything listed in this catalogue has been reviewed and recommended by the several state music directors and may be ordered through the Baptist Book Store.

Stewardship Week at DeQueen

First Church, De Queen, had a five-day stewardship study course and revival with classes and a sermon each night. Bob Mayes, Ouachita College, taught "Living Abundantly" to the adults; Jack

Religious Education

203 Radio Center
Little Rock

State Sunday School Convention, Oct. 20 - 21



Mrs. Will S. McGraw, superintendent of Extension work of the Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., will lead the Extension Department Conference at the State Sunday School Convention in First Church, Little Rock, October 20-21 of this year.

Cutbirth, also of Ouachita, taught "More Than Money" to the young people; Elizabeth Amos, Central College, and Mary Glasgow and Jo Nell Ingram, of Ouachita, led the intermediates in the study of "Not Your Own;" Dean Newberry, Jr., Ouachita College, taught "The Junior and His Church" to the juniors; and Mrs. Gerald Patton led the Story Hour group. The three ministerial students from Ouachita alternated in preaching. Pastor Boyd Baker was in charge of the music. Everyone participated in a fellowship hour sponsored by the Young People's Department of the Training Union at the close of the Thursday night service. Enrollment reached 90, average attendance was 65, and awards were issued to 50 for completion of the study course.

WM. T. STOVER CO.

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Appeals for State Mission Offering

By C. W. CALDWELL
Superintendent of Missions

Greetings to every member of the Women's Missionary Union throughout Arkansas! May your observance of the Dixie Jackson offering and prayer for State Missions be a time of information and inspiration which will result in evangelization.

If you could travel over the state as I have, read the letters which come to my desk, or listen to the workers over the state tell of their field of service, you would fully realize that "Arkansas is white to harvest."

There are approximately 1,250,000 people in Arkansas who have no church affiliations whatsoever. In 25 of the 42 associations the Baptist constituency, affiliated with the Convention, is less than 10 per cent of the white population. In the mountainous sections the average is about five per cent, while in one association it is only one per cent. Our mission program majors on evangelism with the hope of winning the lost to Christ.

Of the 1,035 churches in Arkansas, about 276 are pastorless. Some of them do not have enough interest to try to get a pastor. Many of them do not have houses of worship. Some of the houses they do have are about to fall down. The Mission Department helps such churches through the ministry of associational missionaries, rural evangelists, pastoral missionaries, and in giving financial aid in building new houses of worship.

Let us urge you to pray earnestly and then give generously. It is our determination, through God's good grace and your generous giving, to change the religious complexion of our fine state. We must reap the white fields, organize new churches, strengthen the old ones, enlist more workers, and firmly establish the Baptist cause to the end that Christ may be honored. Pray and give. Give and pray.

WMU

Auxiliary to Arkansas Baptist State Convention

209 Radio Center

Little Rock, Arkansas

State Mission Season of Prayer

The suggested date for the observance of the State Mission Season of Prayer is September 15. It is hoped that every WMU organization will observe the program on this date or during the week if possible.

Mission Books and Helps

We are receiving many requests for the names of the suggested books for study previous to the observance of the Foreign Mission Season of Prayer in December. The book for WMS is entitled "That the World May Know." The price is 50 cents.

The other books listed in this graded series on world evangelism are: "My World, Too," by Porter Routh, for young people, price 50 cents; "Great is the Company," by Wood, for intermediates; price 75 cents; "Lamplighters Across the Sea," by Margaret Applegarth, for juniors, price 40 cents; "A Little Book in a Big World," by Nan Weeks, for Sunbeams, 40 cents.

All these books are available from the Baptist Book Store, 303 West Capitol, Little Rock, except for the book for the Sunbeams. It is expected in the near future. We have been informed by Miss Mary Hunter, manager of literature and exhibits of the Foreign Mission Board, Box 5148, Richmond, Va., that mimeograph helps for teachers will be available.

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Christians Should Practice Doctrine of Feeding Enemies

By R. PAUL CAUDILL

One thing is now clearly manifest: unless humanity finds, and that right early, a common ground upon which to stand in a mutual effort to rebuild a bruised and broken-hearted world there can be no hope for the continuation of civilization as we now know it. Another war would mean the actual extermination of the larger part of the human race.

Men of Violence

"Strive not with a man without cause. If he hath done thee no harm. Envy thou not the man of violence. And choose none of his ways" (Prov. 3:30-31).

The greatest antidote for men of violence is to be found in the "soft answer," "A soft answer turneth away wrath; But a grievous word stirreth up anger." This is literally true. The last thing in the world that a wrathful man would want to hear is "a soft answer" coming from the person whom he would seek to endanger or do ill unto.

Gentle words have a way of quieting the angry heart whereas "a grievous word stirreth up anger" (Prov. 15:1).

A Snare To The Soul

In Proverbs 22 (verses 24 to 25) we are warned to make "no friendship" with men who are given to anger lest we learn his ways, and get "a snare" to the soul. It is difficult for one to form friendships with men who are unregenerate and un-Christian in their attitudes toward others without, sooner or later, "learning" their ways.

In his letter to the Romans, Paul enjoined his fellow Christians to "Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good" (12:9). The Christian is to shun the very presence of evil and not to

Sunday School Lesson For September 14

Proverbs 3:30-31; 15:1, 18; 22:24-25; 25:18, 21-22; 26:20-21; Matt. 5:9; James 3:17.

have fellowship with the works of darkness.

A Good Investment

"If thine enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; And if he be thirsty, give him water to drink: For thou wilt heap coals of fire upon his head, And Jehovah will reward thee" (Prov. 25:21-22).

Here we are enjoined to do that which the natural man is least disposed to do with reference to his enemy—feed him. Such a course of action bears a twofold fruit. First, there is a favorable reaction on the part of the enemy when he receives bread and drink from the hands of an enemy. In the second place there will be reward for such charity from the hands of our heavenly Father.

Christians in today's world have perhaps the greatest opportunity of all time to implement this doctrine—the doctrine of feeding one's hungry enemies. The distressed people of the war areas must have food and clothing if they are to survive the coming winter. Already there have been unnumbered deaths because of hunger and cold. A pastor in Frankfort, Germany, told me that in his congregation alone there had been 17 deaths by starvation. The pastor of a prominent Baptist church in Berlin is said to

have starved to death following World War II.

Undernourishment that prevails on every hand is giving way to tuberculosis which is rampant throughout the war zone. One cannot move amidst the wreckage of war-torn Europe and look into the gaunt faces of our erstwhile enemies and see the ghastly lines of hunger written in their faces without realizing that we have not only a no opportunity but an obligation to feed them—to give them bread to eat.

In feeding our enemies we lay the foundation for better understanding and open the way for the gospel witness which constitutes the hope of the world.

Sons Of God

Jesus in His characterization of the citizen of His kingdom had this to say: "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the sons of God"

In other words, there is happiness in store for the peacemakers for the simple reason that their mission in life lies so close

to the heart of our Lord. It was peace that Christ came to bring into the world, and it was peace that He promised unto His disciples, "My peace I give unto you." It is not the war makers—not the generals of military conquest—who are glorified in the kingdom of our Lord; it is rather the peacemakers who are called "blessed" in his sight. Yea, verily, they shall be called "sons of God."

It is unfortunate that there should be so many voices in public and private life today sounding the trumpet of war. The world is desperately in need of more "peacemakers"—those who bear the good tidings of God in Christ Jesus. "He is our peace," and He alone.

A man who is turning out careless imperfect work is turning out a careless, imperfect character for himself. He is touching deceit every moment, and this unseen thing rises up from his work like a subtle essence and enters and poisons his soul.

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★ Executive Board — STATE CONVENTION ★

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

“Prove Me” Campaign Starts With Interest

We had two significant days last week that were state-wide in their reach and world-wide in their planning. On Monday the Executive Board met and suggested a 1948 unified budget which it will submit to the Convention for the approval of the messengers of the churches. Never was there more interest taken in outlining a tentative budget. Never was there more interest in making a budget all inclusive, and in offering to each agency and department more adequate support.

The total of the entire budget which the Board adopted is \$516,660. It is a challenge to Arkansas Baptists. Arkansas Baptists are well able to give more than a half million dollars through the Cooperative Program. If we have a vision of a lost world, and if we take seriously the Great Commission, and if we become unselfish enough so that we can properly divide our church budgets with the Cooperative Program, we should have no difficulty in carrying through on this great forward-looking, unified budget and program.

We have just learned that the per capita income of Arkansas Baptists is \$697 per year. This is three times as great as the per capita income in 1940. Now, our reports show that there are 190,000 Baptists in Arkansas. These figures indicate that the income of Arkansas Baptists for the year is \$132,430,000. Now, if every Baptist becomes a tither, Baptists should contribute \$13,243,000 during the year, if the income continues on the same figure.

In 1946, Arkansas Baptists contributed about \$4,000,000. If all of us tithe next year, and contribute more than \$13,000,000 we can more than reach the goal on our state budget. The churches could make six and one-half million dollars for their local work including their building program, and could give six and one-half million dollars through the Cooperative Program, and have more than a quarter of a million dollars for associational missions. What a possibility!

Wouldn't you as an Arkansas Baptist be interested in seeing the Kingdom work adequately financed for one year? Would you be willing to tithe for at least one year in order to see the thing well done? Would you do it if you knew that it would please Christ? Here is the suggested budget. Are you willing to support it?

Miss Roberta Cochran of Oklahoma has become director of young people's work and recreation at First Church, Little Rock. A graduate of Oklahoma A. and M. College, Stillwater, Miss Cochran received her master of religious education degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex. She formerly held posts as young people's director in other states.

Suggested 1948 Budget

I. ADMINISTRATION AND PROMOTIONAL

Administration	\$23,000
Arkansas Baptist	8,000
Brotherhood Department	8,000
Religious Education Department	28,660
WMU	18,000
Promotion and Convention	5,500
Retirement Plan	20,000
Old Debts (Annual Payment)	7,500
History Commission	5,000

TOTAL

II. STATE CAUSES

Baptist Hospital	\$ 5,000
State Missions	55,000
Ouachita College	36,000
Central College	36,000
Orphanage	25,000
Ministerial Education	2,000
Emergency Reserve	2,000
Radio	13,000

TOTAL

III. SOUTHWIDE CAUSES

Southwide and Worldwide	\$174,000
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GRAND TOTAL

What Do We Want For Fifteen Cents?

There is one thing that everyone of us should think about and pray about at this time. That thing is the proper division of the church budget. Many of our churches are giving only about 12 cents out of the dollar for cooperative missions. What a pitifully small expression of unselfishness. Many more churches are giving less than 10 pennies out of the dollar for cooperative missions, and many, many more of the churches are giving less than seven and eight pennies out of the dollar for cooperative missions.

Brethren, even 15 cents out of the dollar will not adequately support the cooperative mission program. It seems to us that no church should expect less than 35 cents out of the dollar of its budget to go for cooperative missions. Nothing less than 50 cents out of the dollar should be ideal, and some churches say that they can give 60 cents out of the dollar for cooperative missions.

Certainly no man has a right to say what a church must do unless he is a member of

Write for Materials

Don't forget to drop a card to us telling us what material you need for the "Prove Me" Campaign. Here is what we have for you.

First: "Tithing Posters"—free.

Second: "Tracts on Stewardship and Tithing"—50 cents a hundred.

Third: "Pledge Cards"—15 cents a hundred.

Fourth: A Sunday School lesson for all officers and teachers—free.

Fifth: A booklet on Stewardship and Tithing for a five night study—10 cents.

Drop us a card.

that church. We are not attempting to say to any church what it must do. But if we are going to cooperate in the great cause of the Lord, we ought to bear one another's burdens. We humbly protest against the meager consideration which some of our brethren are giving to cooperative missions. Wouldn't it be a wise thing for us all to rethink our church budget, and try to finance cooperative missions as adequately as we are financing our local work?

Victor Florence

Another good layman has crossed the river. We refer to Victor Florence, of Texarkana, who died suddenly on a recent Saturday night.

Brother Florence was for a long time a member and a deacon in Stamps Church. He was a layman of inestimable worth in that little city where he was a trusted leader in the church.

Later he removed to Texarkana and joined Beech Street Church. Soon the people of this church recognized his goodness and integrity, and discovered his ability as a Christian leader. They placed him in positions of service and trust. He never disappointed them. He kept faith with them and never "let them down."

He was always at his post of duty, and performed his tasks well. His pastor paid the highest tributes to him, not simply in the funeral services, but in all places. This man loved his pastor, and followed his leadership.

Brother Florence was a real citizen of his state. He took an unusual interest in the moral and economic issues in his city and assumed the responsibilities that each citizen ought to bear. One never had to wonder what might be the attitude of V. E. Florence on any question where moral issues were involved. May the Lord reincarnate such a spirit in the lives of our young men.