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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 46

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, JANUARY 9, 1947

NUMBER 2

HIGHLIGHTS OF 1946

Some of the Outstanding Facts and Trends of the Year 1946 Are Summarized

By PORTER ROUTH

Secretary of Information of the Baptist Sunday School Board

Facts of Interest

..... Most significant development of 1946 has been the growth and progress of the United Nations. There are still problems, but progress is being made.

..... Depressing news of the year has been the fact that 600,000,000 people in the world have been on the verge of starvation or death through lack of clothing and heat.

..... Inflation has caused untold hardships around the world. Inflation goes unchecked in China. In the United States, the retail price index reached 151.7 on November 15 compared with the 1934-39 average. Income has also climbed.

..... Demobilization over the world has brought about an increased marriage rate, birth rate, and divorce rate. In the United States, one out of three marriages now end in divorce, more than 500,000 in 1945.

..... Millions of displaced persons in Europe and the growing number of migrants in the United States reflect a few of the postwar problems which call for more adequate housing.

..... Record numbers are enrolling in American colleges and universities, more than 2,000,000, but the number of qualified teachers fails to keep pace, as teachers leave profession for higher paying jobs.

In the World of Religion

..... Christians met the challenge of a world in need by sending food, missionaries, and Bibles. Methodists raised \$26,000,000, Presbyterians \$17,000,000. Southern Baptists raised nearly \$4,000,000 in summer-time for world relief. More than 1,000 missionaries have sailed for Orient from various denominations. Others have gone to Africa and South America.

..... The Revised Standard Version of the New Testament was published during the year to make the year memorable in the better understanding of the Bible.

..... Catholics named 32 new cardinals including the first Chinese cardinal; continued battle for political power with Russians in Europe, and with evangelicals in the United States over the status of Myron Taylor at Vatican.

..... The Church of the United Brethren and the Evangelical Church merged after considering the mat-

ter since 1813; the Episcopal General Convention refused the proposed plan of union with Presbyterians; and Northern Baptists and Disciples of Christ continued discussions on union.

..... Giving for local and mission work of all United States church groups reached the billion mark for the first time in 1946. This was small percentage of total \$127,000,000,000 spent during year for all goods and services, or \$165,000,000,000 income received.

Baptist Highlights

..... The year was marked by successful relief campaigns conducted by both Northern and Southern Baptists.

..... Progress in working out Christian approach to race relations was demonstrated in action of Georgia Baptists voting to have joint session with Georgia Negro Baptist Convention, and action of Southern Baptist Convention calling for more definite study of problem.

..... Change in Southern Baptist life was reflected by the revision of Convention Constitution, the retirement of Dr. Austin Crouch and election of Dr. Duke McCall as secretary of Executive Committee; Dr. Roland Q. Leavell was elected president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

..... Death came during the year to Dr. John R. Sampey, one-time president of Southern Seminary; Dr. B. D. Gray, one-time secretary of the Home Mission Board; and Dr. Walter M. Gilmore, treasurer and publicity director of the Southern Baptist Convention.

..... Baptist Sunday Schools in Canada, Northern Convention, and Southern Convention climbed during the year, and Southern Baptist Training Union showed substantial gains. Baptisms stayed at approximate 1945 level, but renewed interest reflected with election of Dr. C. E. Matthews as secretary of evangelism for Home Mission Board.

..... Dr. Louie Newton made trip to Russia as member of United States Russian Relief Committee, and brought report of Baptist work in that country. He estimated that there were 2,000,000 Baptists in Russia.

..... All Baptist schools and seminaries are full and forced to turn down students.

BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE

SUNDAY

February 2, 1947

To the Baptists of the world we send greetings. We call upon our brethren in all lands to observe Sunday, February 2, as Baptist World Alliance Sunday.

During the long night of the World War, we were able to keep open many lines of communication. In spite of censors, bits of news from our churches in lands occupied by hostile armies got through to the office of the Alliance in London and to the temporary office in Washington. News letters were sent out which were widely read. And occasionally news from the outside penetrated to friends where war was raging. This interchange of news brought cheer and hope. In this connection, it should not be forgotten that as war is now carried on, countries not actually occupied often suffered as much as those in which battles were being fought. Baptists in lands untouched by war knew of the distress in such cases and responded nobly with material aid. We kept in touch with each other and helped each other during the war.

As soon as hostilities ceased, steps were taken to renew fellowship where intercourse had been difficult. Letters and visits were exchanged. And very early a strong desire was expressed for still closer contact with fellow Baptists than had been possible during the war. It was five years after the first World War before a world congress could be held. We expect to hold our next meeting much earlier than we did then. Plans are well advanced for the Seventh World Congress to be held in Copenhagen July 29-August 3. We are looking forward with joy to seeing friends whom we have not seen for years. There we shall find ourselves lifted above racialism, color distinctions, and nationalism. In that conference there will be no enemies nor ex-enemies. It will be a gathering of brothers in Christ who belong to the great Baptist family. Let us pray earnestly that by God's help our fellowship may be greatly strengthened and the cause of our Master advanced through this congress.

The war has left many of our brethren in certain countries in great distress. They need food, clothing, shelter, and medicine. Some of them are not only homeless but stateless. But man does not live by bread alone. Provision must be made to meet the spiritual needs of our people. They need Bibles and hymn books. We must help rebuild houses of worship. Theological schools must be reopened. By material aid and words of comfort let us do what we can to encourage those who are in danger of falling into despair. Let us make Baptist fellowship real in this time of trouble. The Alliance stands ready to help in bringing those who need to receive into touch with those who can give. We must everywhere pray that wisdom, energy, and sympathy may be abundantly granted us in carrying through this labor of love.

We must not only relieve distress caused by the war, but we must do all we can to prevent another such catastrophe. The war came because men were sinners. Now as in the past all too few seek to know and to do the will of God. It is impossible to build a new world without new men. The hearts of men must be changed if we are to have a lasting peace. Hate, prejudice, jealousy, greed, and pride of nation and race brought on the war and war has strengthened all these evil passions. We cannot escape from the miry pit into which we have fallen without the help of God. The gospel of Jesus faithfully preached is our only hope. Let us pray incessantly that God will pour out His spirit upon all mankind and give us a revival which will bring multitudes into the kingdom of God and that Baptists the whole world over may be instruments in His hand to that high end.

J. H. Rushbrooke, President of the Baptist World Alliance

Walter O. Lewis, General Secretary D. V. Jemison, Member Executive Com.
Louie D. Newton, Associate Secretary W. C. Smalley, Member Executive Com.
C. T. Le Quesne, Treasurer Luther W. Smith, Member Exec. Com.

The Conditions of Salvation

A Devotion by B. H. Duncan

"Repent ye and believe the gospel."

"What must I do to be saved?" What can you do to be saved? Can you buy salvation with money? No, all the wealth in the world cannot purchase salvation. Can you merit salvation with your own goodness? No, for all our righteousness is as filthy rags in His sight. Can you gain salvation by reformation? No, even though the unclean spirit be driven out of one's heart, unless Jesus is invited in, the evil spirit will return.

There is but one source of salvation: "For there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved."

"Repent and believe the gospel," said Jesus. This verse gives the subject of Christ's preaching as He toured Galilee. If this is Christ's gospel, then we cannot improve upon it, we can do no better than preach the same message which He preached.

The time is opportune, this is the accepted time, this is the time when the appeal is issued, when all the influences of a spiritual environment urge upon every soul the necessity of repentance and faith. The kingdom of God is at hand, the reign of God is present and apparent. The one condition which is within the reach of every soul is repentance from sins and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. This is the plain and unalterable message of the gospel. It has stood the test of the centuries and will remain the one and only gospel until time fades into an endless eternity.

"Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent ye and believe the gospel" Mark 1:14, 15.

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A recent issue of the paper gave the address of Dr. W. J. Hinsley, pastor of Second Church, Hot Springs, as 211 Sixth Street, Hot Springs. It should have been 902 Garland Avenue.

"The Bible Speaks" is a new book by Dr. Francis C. Stifler, secretary for Public Relations of the American Bible Society. The theme of the book is "how the Bible speaks to all kinds of men as a living force in our world today." The book is available at the Baptist Book Store.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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O. E. BRYANT, EDITOR
IONE GRAY, EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

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

Across the Editor's Desk

An automobile accident that claimed the life of the editor's great aunt, Miss Sallie Bryant, and seriously injured his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Bryant, Sr., prevented the writing of editorials and other editorial duties in connection with this issue. We are using, in place of editorials, materials clipped from other publications and "over-set" from recent issues.

The Editor wishes to thank the many friends who have expressed concern and sympathy in this period of distress.—CEB.

America

A nation that numbers 6% of the population of the world has for its convenience:

- 70% of all automobiles.
- 50% of all telephones.
- 45% of all radios.
- 34% of all railways.

It uses for its convenience:

- 56% of all silk.
- 53% of all coffee.
- 51% of all rubber.

It produces for its convenience:

- 62% of all the oil.
- 53% of all the corn.
- 50% of all the cotton.
- 34% of all the coal.
- 32% of all the copper.
- 30% of all the iron.

No other "ism" but Americanism can better our present standard of living and no other way of life but the American way can create a world of better opportunity.—Cap-per's Weekly.

Attention: Legislature

A jackass suffering from heat sought relief in a pond. A leech attached itself to the jackass and proceeded to suck blood.

"Kindly remove yourself," said the jackass, "I do not like your company."

"Not so fast, my dear jackass," said the leech, "I have a proposition to make that will be to our mutual advantage: You license me to suck your blood; for every ten drops that I withdraw, I will pay you back one drop as revenue. This will enable you to balance your budget and place you on easy street."

"Really," said the jackass, "your sagacity astounds me! I gladly accept your proposition."

An owl, overheard the conversation, remarked: "Only an ass would fall for that kind of economics."

MORAL: The idea that it is profitable to license liquor traffic for revenue is the height of folly. —Grit.

Church Etiquette

We are careful about our etiquette in our social life. When people come into our homes, we try to put our best foot forward. What about church etiquette? Here are some things that will help us in our effort to be our best in our church relations.

1. Come early.
2. Never pass up the aisle during the reading of the Scripture lesson. You disturb others and destroy the effect of the word.
3. If the sermon has begun, take a seat near the door.
4. Be reverent—the church is not a theatre. You come to worship God, not to whisper, lounge, or sleep.
5. Be thoughtful of the comfort of others. Never make a haystack of yourself at the end of the pew and expect others to crawl over you to reach a seat.
6. Always remember that the strangers are the guests of the church members. Treat them with the same courtesy as you would if they should visit your home.
7. Never put your wraps on during the last hymn . . . they will still be there after the benediction.
8. Never rush for the door after the benediction as though the church building were on fire.
9. Remember at all times that you are in the house of the Lord."

A Prohibitionist

By RUBY R. WALTON

Some merchantmen would have us think

At ten and four we ought to drink
A certain ale to quench our thirst
Or else we may expect the worst.
Some others say we ought to buy
A well-known brand of gin or rye
To match each special kind of food,
To fit the hour, the day, the mood.
Yet when the flowers need a drink
God never has to stop and think
Just what to send at ten or two
Or whether it be grape or lime,—
He sends plain water every time.

A definite relationship exists between the number of times a pastor mentions Christian stewardship and the amount of offering a church makes to missions.—Sam Reeves.

Five state missionaries reported 281 professions of faith in first 10 months of 1946; 39 associational missionaries reported 1,437 in the same period.—C. W. Caldwell.

Heard—

AT THE CONVENTION

Now brethren, we have resolved. Let's do it.—W. J. Hinsley.

"I've seen the lightning flashing, And heard the thunder roll"—words from the song, "Never Alone," were sung by the assembly prior to one of the major controversial issues of the Convention.

The most expensive thing to the Baptist denomination in Arkansas, or anywhere else, is a home without the denominational paper.—T. K. Rucker.

Christian laymen must live above the level of the morals of the merchants in their particular fields.—A. L. McDaniel.

The Baptist denomination must be the most absolute monarchy in the world or it cannot succeed. Christ must be Lord.—M. Ray McKay.

The work is not done until every convert is trained, cultured, and educated.—B. L. Bridges.

Dr. W. J. Hinsley, president, ruled over the recent State Convention with a pocket knife until a gavel was received from Southern Seminary, Louisville. The gavel was made from a beech tree uprooted recently in a windstorm that struck the Seminary campus. Gavels were made for each of the state Baptist Conventions of the South, each one bearing a bronze plate inscribed with the name of the Convention for which the gavel was made, and carrying the date of the Convention's 1946 session. Rev. Taylor Stanfill, Little Rock, secretary of the Convention for five years, left the Convention's gavel at home—"his first mistake," said Dr. Hinsley.

The strongest argument for the power of the Gospel is a redeemed soul.—Carey Selph.

The most important institution in your community is the church. No other institution is on a par with the church of Jesus Christ.—W. J. Hinsley.

Everywhere obedience comes before freedom. We must be obedient to our Lord and Master before we are free in regard to one another.—M. Ray McKay.

There is no worse enemy of the Gospel than an inconsistent Christian.—A. L. McDaniel.

Every Christian is honor bound by the Word of God to give a tenth of his money into the storehouse of God.—W. J. Hinsley.

Our whole consuming business is to be personal soul-winners.—M. Ray McKay.

NOTES OF ADVANCE

Missionary Pastor F. F. Weaver of the Diaz Mission Field reports on progress made in the churches where he is serving. Diaz Church has installed a set of new pews. Jacksonport Church has a membership of 28 with 72 enrolled in the Sunday School. Average attendance in the Sunday School for the year was 48. The Training Union is making progress. Four Sunday School rooms have been added and electricity will soon be installed. Pastor Weaver says: "The church at Jacksonport has a wonderful opportunity of winning souls and training them for service. Our mission field at the airport about nine miles from Newport furnishes a great opportunity of winning souls and organizing them into a Baptist Church. There are hundreds of people living on this base."

Palestine Church, Pearson, W. J. Smith, pastor, has recently added nine Sunday School rooms to its building. Missionary W. H. Lansford says: "This fine church is an example of what a small church can do when it sets out with a real vision."

Guernsey Church, which grew out of a mission of First Church, Hope, and was admitted to Hope Association this year, ordained L. A. Grant, Sam McKamie, and E. Martin as deacons at a recent meeting. Members of the ordination council were Missionary Ottis Denney; Pastor Sid White, Anderson Union Church; Pastor S. A. Whitlow, First Church, Hope; and Henry Haynes, deacon of First Church, Hope. Missionary Denney led in the organization of the church and is preaching until a pastor is called.

The Home Mission Board, through its Department of Evangelism, and the Radio Commission, through its Baptist Hour, seek to enlist every pastor and church in the Southern Baptist Convention in a special soul-winning effort during April, May, and June. The aim is to bind the 6,000,000 Baptists in more than 26,000 churches into one mighty army witnessing to the lost by radio, from the pulpit, and through personal testimony. The movement does not call for extra organization or for special meetings not already planned. It is an appeal to every pastor and church to become a part, a sane, sustained soul-winning crusade and to use the Baptist Hour and the Department of Evangelism of the Home Mission Board.

"The Messiah" was presented at the Wynne Baptist Church, December 22, by the combined choirs of the Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, and First Christian Churches of Wynne. Mrs. Fred Lines, director of the Baptist choir, directed the presentation. Plans are to make this an annual event.

Southern Seminary Alumni officers for Arkansas are Pastor Bruce H. Price, Beech Street Church, Texarkana, president; Pastor B. H. Duncan, First Church, Hot Springs, vice-president; and Pastor Blake Westmoreland, Walnut Ridge, secretary-treasurer.

Arkansas leads all other states in the percentage of its quota raised in the \$250,000

goal for a Memorial Chapel at Southern Seminary. The money is being raised by the alumni of the school. Arkansas has given \$13,480.82 which is 192% of its quota.

Rev. Orlin Allen, Channing, Tex., has accepted a call to South Texarkana Church, Hope Association. He is a post-graduate of the University of Arkansas and has done work in Southwestern Seminary. He plans to resume studies soon and will drive back and forth from his church field. Both Mr. and Mrs. Allen are natives of Arkansas.

One hundred eleven members, 76 for baptism, were added to First Church, Rolla, Miss., during eight days of evangelistic services. Dr. C. E. Matthews, recently elected Superintendent of Evangelism for the Home Mission Board, did the preaching. Two young men, engineering students in the Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy, surrendered to God's call to the ministry. Two high school students dedicated their lives to the service of foreign missions. J. V. Carlisle, pastor of the church says: "Dr. Matthews is truly a man sent from God. His message is that of Good News. His method is the most workable I have known. We believe that similar results can be witnessed in association-wide state-wide campaigns throughout the Southland. The 'Pentecost' which was experienced by our church can be multiplied in thousands of other churches."

Three French Catholics have made professions of faith at recent services of Metairie Baptist Church, New Orleans, where Arkansan E. V. Appling is pastor. Since Pastor Appling went to the church in December 1944 there have been approximately 275 additions to the membership. Pastor Appling was recently elected moderator of the New Orleans Association.

Robert Traw has accepted the call to Pilgrim's Home Church, Black River Association, and upon the request of the church was regularly ordained to the ministry. The ordination council was composed of Missionary H. D. Palmer, Rev. Joe Price, and Deacon Amos Traw. A Bible was presented Mr. Traw from his son in the Army.

PASTORAL CHANGES

Russell Hunt from First Church, Crane, Tex., where he has been educational director, to Oak Grove and Grandview Churches as pastor.

H. L. Lipford from First Church, Earle, because of ill health.

B. R. Lindman from Caraway Church because of ill health.

R. W. Johnson to Caraway Church.

Orlin Allen from Channing, Tex., to South Texarkana Church.

Robert Traw to Pilgrim's Home Church, Black River Association.

Joe Price to the newly organized Banks Missionary Baptist Church, Black River Association.

A Million for Ouachita . . .

Ouachita Campaign Evident on Campus

By visiting Ouachita College campus one can readily see results of the Million Dollar Campaign. The major part of one dormitory is already complete, and the girls have already moved in. Another dormitory, containing 18 apartments for married veterans is nearing completion. This is the building sponsored by Arkadelphia as a part of its \$100,000 quota on the campaign.

A three-story steel, concrete and brick Science Building of fire-resistant character will be erected at the College during 1947. The new building has been authorized by the trustees who have asked that it be completed and ready for use by the opening of the fall term, next September. It will contain the departments of chemistry, physics, biology, mathematics, and home economics.

In addition to money from the Million Dollar Campaign, substantial assistance in financing the new building will be given by the Federal Housing Authority, for the benefit of 300 GI students now enrolled and for many more expected to enroll.

Structural material and full equipment for all of the laboratories will come from surplus supplies owned by the government. The College will pay for the concrete foundation and floors, brick for the outer walls and other materials, and will finance construction.

The planning committee of the Board of Trustees has chosen a site on the southwest corner of the campus, between Wallis Hall, a men's dormitory, and the Aylmer Flenniken Student Center. It will face west.

Ouachita needs a million. How much will you give?

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Baptist Institute Opened in Florida

The Florida Baptist Institute of Lakeland, Fla., now in its fourth year of operation, has been approved by the government for the entrance of veterans under the GI Bill of Rights, it is announced by President Leon M. Gambrell. The school, sponsored by the South Florida and adjoining Baptist Associations, is designed to train religious workers who do not possess grammar school or high school requirements for college or seminary entrance.

Forty students are now enrolled, most of them full-time pastors who are working for high school diplomas. Included in the student body are five Indians from the Everglades who are preparing to do full-time religious work among their own people.

The Florida Baptist Institute is filling a gap formerly occupied by the Baptist Bible Institute at New Orleans for training of non-high school graduates.

Call 4-0251 for Drummonds

The advertisement of Drummond and Company, Little Rock funeral directors, in last week's issue of the Arkansas Baptist erred in listing of the telephone number. The correct number is 4-0251.

SOUL-WINNING IN APOSTOLIC CHURCHES

+ +

By L. M. KEELING

Pastor, Judsonia

+ +

Soul-winning in prospect is evident from the burden of the message of Christ to His disciples immediately preceding His death, and in His post-resurrection ministry to His ascension (John 17:20-21, Acts 1:3, 8). There were a number of contributing factors to initial soul-winning at Pentecost. Of these, we read in Acts 1 and 2. In initial soul-winning, 3000 were saved (Acts 2:41).

At Pentecost, that first church was only 10 days removed from Christ's ascension, and only some three weeks removed from that mountain-top experience in Galilee where Christ had commanded them to "Go and make disciples of all the nations." "Make disciples" is the heart of the Great Commission. Winning the lost to Christ is the hub of the gospel. All else in connection with the gospel issues out of and into soul-winning. Certainly we are to "go" and "teach or train" the saved as commanded by our Saviour. It is evident that those first disciples of Christ understood that "make disciples" was their supreme Christ-given, world-embracing task.

In Christ's last ascension words (Acts 1:8), the emphasis was on "making disciples" in Jerusalem and out to the ends of the earth, His disciples so understood Him. Their being filled with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, their testimony to Christ in various tongues on that day, and Peter's sermon were all directed to the lost and for the lost. Peter's Pentecostal sermon was not primarily to feed the sheep, nor for the edification of the saints. It was that the lost might be won to a saving knowledge of Christ and into fellowship in obedience to Christ with the 120 that still others might be won to Christ. All those added to the church at Pentecost were assimilated, conserved to the fellowship of the church in winning others to Christ (Acts 2:42, 47). That model church was a soul-winning, multiplying church (Acts 5:13-14).

Forgotten Heart of the Commission

As followers of Christ, are we today placing the supreme emphasis on the heart of our Christ-given Commission? Are we unwittingly, unknowingly, unintentionally placing the supreme emphasis on programs, organization, standardization, church equipment and machinery, and on methods of church work and worship? Is it not apparent that the first apostolic church was a mighty soul-winning church without any, or very little, of our modern programs, methods and machinery? Do not misunderstand me. I am not against our present-day programs, organizations, standardization, church equipment and methods. Many of our churches can and should improve in these things. I am only raising the question: Where are we placing the emphasis in our thinking, in our teaching and preaching, and in our church and denominational programs?

Someone has said that "agonize" is not a popular word in our modern church's vocabulary. Organize appears to have the supreme place. We organize more than we agonize. While the church is looking for better methods, trying better organizations, Christ is looking for better men and women in His churches. What the church needs today is not more and better machinery; not new and better organizations, but men and women whom the Holy Spirit can use—men and women of prayer, mighty with God in prayer. The church must learn that she cannot substitute organization for agonization and expect God to mightily

use her. The Holy Spirit does not flow through methods, but through men. He does not come on machinery, but on men. He does not appoint plans and programs, but men—men of prayer (Acts 1:14, 2:42, 4:31-33).

Another has said: "Is it not a fact that the average active church member is giving considerable attention to some of the incidentals of our church life today, but he is leaving out the heart, the very heart, of our Lord's destiny determining Commission?" I would, also, raise the question, is it not a fact that the average preacher, and our church and denominational leaders are leaving out the heart, the very heart, of our Christ-given Commission?

Pentecost is to be Perpetuated

In soul-winning, Pentecost was perpetuated through the book of Acts. Doubtless, there was mass evangelism after Pentecost in connection with revival meetings to which the multitudes came and were saved in large numbers. It is repeated that multitudes of believers were added to them. I do not believe that the days for mass evangelism are gone. Given a church whose members are surrendered in heart loyalty to Christ, whose lives are consecrated to Him, and whose wills are surrendered to Him as was true of that first Apostolic church, a church whose members and preacher are filled with the Holy Spirit as were that church and preacher, and we will have mass evangelism today as at Pentecost and the years immediately following.

Personal soul-winning was also given a large place in that first church. In Acts, Chapters 8, 9, and 10, it is evident that all heaven is interested in one lost soul. The angel and the Holy Spirit sent Philip down the desert way that one seeking soul might be saved. Christ Himself came from heaven to save Paul on that Damascus road—one man. The angel and the Holy Spirit brought Cornelius and Peter together because just one lost soul was sincerely seeking salvation from sin. Apostolic churches and church members won the lost to Christ in groups and as individuals (Acts 5:28, 42, 18:8).

Holy Spirit is a Perpetual Promise

The primal mission of the Holy Spirit is to convict the lost of the sin of disbelief in Christ (John 16:9). Since the work of the Holy Spirit is co-extensive with the gospel age, soul-winning was not to be temporary, but permanent. The perpetual promise of the Holy Spirit is our promise now (Acts 2:38-39). The presence of the Holy Spirit in soul-winning insures us of the companionship of the Triune God as we go and win the lost to Christ.

Jesus saw the permanent, prevailing need of lost men to the end of the gospel age. When our Saviour of Calvary gave His timeless, universal Commission on that Galilean mountain: "Go ye, therefore and make disciples," He also gave a promise which is worth infinitely more to His disciples than all things else they may have, "Lo, I am with you always"—

all the days and all the day of every day. Jesus does not send His servant out without the promise of His presence and His almighty power. One has said: "A Divine Person—a Divine Presence—is of more importance than all else His disciples may say and do." The Holy Spirit makes real the abiding presence of the Triune God in our supreme task of winning the lost to Christ.

Essential Work of the Holy Spirit

God's plan to save the lost is permanent. The promise for Pentecost has not been revoked nor altered. Christ knew that the devil would keep on deceiving men and women to the end of the gospel age—the Holy Spirit age. The perpetual power of Pentecost is our guarantee in winning the lost to Christ (Zech 4:6, 1 Cor. 2:4-5, 1 Thes. 1:5, Eph. 6:17, Acts 2:37).

One has said: "Vast numbers of churches, and many more preachers and church members are seriously in need of a power which they are not evidencing. Quite likely fewer than five per cent of the members of our churches are making any direct effort to win disciples to Christ. The great majority of those who attend the services of the church with worthy regularity seem just to be present, and to contribute to the support of their church. What will awaken and arouse our church members to their primal mission of winning the lost to Christ? What will make church members sacrifice in winning the lost to Christ to the point of suffering and, yet in their sacrifice, find joy? What will make every man and woman who has accepted Christ as Saviour to become living epistles for Christ, read and known of all men as soul-winning Christians?" Acts 5:28, 42, 2 Cor. 3:2-3).

Let us, pastors church, and denominational leaders, take the lead in bringing Christ's churches back to His original pattern for His churches in soul-winning (Judges 5:2, 1 Tim. 4:12). Let it ever be our prayer that Christ will put His own compassionate, soul-winning heart into our heart, life and ministry for Him (Acts 4:13, 5:13-14).

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RADIO

A new Arkansas Baptist Radio series began last Sunday over 11 stations and will be heard weekly throughout 1947. The program is a quarter-hour in length with a message by an outstanding pastor and music by a special mixed group known as the Arkansas Baptist Quartet. Each speaker brings messages on four consecutive programs.

Pastor A. B. Pierce, First Church, Pine Bluff, is the first speaker. His messages are on the second chapter of Ephesians. He spoke last Sunday on the subject, "Lost." His subject next Sunday will be "Saved."

The program may be heard next Sunday over the following stations:

KFFA, Helena—7:45 a. m.
 KLCN, Blytheville—8:00 a. m.
 KCLA, Pine Bluff—8:30 a. m.
 KHOZ, Harrison—8:30 a. m.
 KTFS, Texarkana—8:45 a. m.
 KARK, Little Rock—10:30 a. m.
 KELD, El Dorado—12:15 p. m.
 KWFC, Hot Springs—1:30 p. m.
 KGH, Little Rock—1:30 p. m.
 KFPW, Fort Smith—1:45 p. m.
 KUOA, Siloam Springs—4:15 p. m.

Arkansas Baptist

TRAINING UNION CONVENTION

FIRST CHURCH, PINE BLUFF — JANUARY 30-31, 1947

Excellent Program



REV. REL GRAY

Beginning Thursday morning, January 30, at 10 o'clock, the first post-war State Training Union Convention will be held in First Church, Pine Bluff. An excellent program has been planned with the theme being "Living the Book of Books." The program includes inspirational messages, department presentations, and life interest conferences. The Junior Memory Drill, Intermediate Sword Drill, and Better Speakers' Tournament will be held during the convention. Special music will be rendered by the Ouachita Choir and the Central College Quartette. A 45-minute panel discussion will thoroughly explain the plan of enlisting 100,000 Daily Bible Readers in Arkansas during 1947.

The program personnel includes, Dr. Marshall Craig, pastor of the Gaston Avenue Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex., and Dr. J. W. Marshall, personnel secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va., who will bring the inspirational messages of the convention. Representatives from the Training Union Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board will include Miss Thelma Arnote, Dr. Clay I. Hudson, and Mr. Leonard E. Wedel. The song service will be conducted by Rev. C. D. Sallee, Jr., assistant pastor of First Church, El Dorado. Other leading workers of the state will appear on the program.



DR. J. W. MARSHALL

Six Suggestions

Plans are being made by all of the churches of Pine Bluff to entertain 500 people with bed and breakfast free. In order to reach the attendance goal of 500, six simple suggestions are made:

1. We suggest that churches agree to care for the expense of cars going to Pine Bluff. It would be well for churches to pay all of the expense of director and pastor.
2. We suggest that as many pastors as possible attend. Bring at least five in each car. Those coming in cars could share expenses.
3. We suggest that at least one bus from each association be secured so that some can attend from every church.
4. We suggest that associational Training Union directors, and associational missionaries work together in securing bus loads and car loads from their associations.
5. We suggest that every one of the 42 associations in Arkansas be represented at the convention.
6. We suggest that everyone do his best to arrive at Pine Bluff in time for the beginning of the convention, 10 o'clock Thursday morning, January 30, and remain until the close at noon Friday, January 31.



DR. W. MARSHALL CRAIG

Five Facts

In order that every one may thoroughly understand the plans being made for the State Training Union Convention we give here five facts:

1. There will be a small registration fee of 50 cents for Adults and Young People, and 25 cents for Intermediates and Juniors. This charge is being made to help care for the expense of the convention. This fee is to be paid upon registration at the convention.
2. Bed and breakfast will be furnished free by all of the churches of Pine Bluff.
3. Better Speakers' Tournament, Intermediate Sword Drill, and Junior Memory Drill will be held in connection with the convention. The Junior Memory Drill will be held at 2:30 on Thursday afternoon, and the Intermediate Sword Drill and Better Speakers' Tournament will be held on Thursday night. The winners of the Speakers' Tournament and the Intermediate Sword Drill will be eligible to represent Arkansas at Ridgecrest during the Third Training Union Week, the summer of 1947, which will be July 24-30.
4. Moving pictures will be taken of various groups during the convention.
5. An attendance banner will be awarded to the church, outside of Pine Bluff, that has the largest attendance. A mileage banner will be awarded to the church having the largest attendance multiplied by the miles driven to Pine Bluff.

THE PROBLEM OF ALCOHOLISM

By DR. A. C. KOLB
Little Rock

Alcoholism with all its ramifications and by-products is, beyond question, the number one problem of America today. It is a group problem. In order to understand fully the problem, we must know something about the underlying factors connected with it.

Symptoms Of Mental Conflict

Alcoholism, in a large percentage of cases, is merely a symptom of an unrecognized mental disorder; alcoholism being the outward expression of a deep seated mental conflict. Also, we must distinguish between the alcoholic and the social drinker. The alcoholic is an individual who has become an addict to alcohol and cannot control his desire for the drug. Once the addiction has become established, he cannot return to social drinking. The social drinker can control his desire for alcohol.

Recent surveys reveal the fact that there are, at this time, 750,000 chronic alcoholics and 2,250,000 excessive drinkers in the United States, also, that seven billions of dollars were spent for alcohol in this country in 1945. The 750,000 chronic alcoholics, in most cases, have become social liabilities and the 2,250,000 excessive drinkers are rapidly approaching this status. Then, too, that great group of social drinkers have no guarantee against slipping over into a dependence upon alcohol—that is, chronic alcoholism.

The power of alcohol to produce addiction approaches that of opium and its derivatives such as morphine, heroin, etc. It is unfortunate that people do not know this, or, if they do, they treat it so lightly that they continue with their drinking until they become hopeless alcoholics. Drinking is vastly on the increase and the idea seems to have become prevalent that a person must drink in order to be socially acceptable. I have seen much tragedy result from chronic alcoholism which developed out of social drinking.

The Cost of Alcoholism

Alcoholism, from the social aspect, touches every community in this country. It reaches into the pocket book of every taxpayer. The 750,000 chronic alcoholics and their families, in a large percentage of cases, have become public liabilities and are wards, more or less, of welfare agencies supported by voluntary funds or by taxation. Many of these people are ill housed, clothed and fed, all of which contribute to ill health.

Alcoholism is a large factor in the matter of broken homes through divorce. Many children of such wrecked homes become charges of the juvenile authorities. Many of them develop into major criminality. Since the Insanity Plea Law of this state was adopted by a vote of the people at the November 1936 election, the medical staff of the State Hospital has examined about 700 criminals for the courts of the state. In the majority of the cases found to be sane and who were returned to the courts for trial, alcoholism was found to be the leading factor in the crime.

Alcoholism is a public health problem because it brings about invalidism among a large percentage of its victims. Many of these cases develop cirrhosis of the liver, kidney disease, arterio-sclerosis with its many accompanying side results, mental and nervous disorders, all of which are chronic in nature

Dr. Kolb recently addressed the Community Council of Little Rock on alcohol as one of the city's greatest problems. We asked him for a synopsis of that talk, and are publishing it here. Dr. Kolb served many years as Superintendent of the State Hospital for Nervous Diseases, and now is a psychiatrist with the U. S. Veteran's Administration

and render the patient unable to care for his economic needs. There is a close relationship between alcoholism and prostitution which is both a social problem and a public health problem. Venereal diseases in all forms is a by-product of alcoholism. Seventy-five percent of men and 65 percent of women who become infected with these diseases become so while under the influence of alcohol.

The alcoholic spreads his disease while drunk. About 10 percent of the cases of syphilis develop paresis, or syphilis of the brain, in from 10 to 20 years later. Most of these cases are necessarily sent to the State Hospital for care and treatment of this condition and often remain in the institution for long periods of time, often for the rest of their lives. The taxpayers pay the bill. The venereal disease problem is, in all probability, the greatest public health problem with which the medical profession has to deal.

Suggestions for Alcohol Control

Alcoholism has been an unsolved problem since the beginning of history and, no doubt, will continue to remain so. Efforts to control alcoholism have been directed along two

lines; (1) legislative, (2) educational. Much energy and funds have been spent through various legislative efforts. This method of attack will continue to be used.

Perhaps less efforts have been used along educational lines. We have witnessed the tremendous increase in cigarette smoking which is the result of a clever advertising campaign by the tobacco interests but, they have closely approached it by clever advertisements such as, "Men of Distinction," in many popular magazines. It remains to be seen whether they will become more aggressive in this respect.

If the problem of alcoholism is to be successfully combated, I am of the opinion that it must be done through a vigorous and continuous educational effort extending from the home and on through the school life of the youth of our nation. Our young people must be taught that:

1. A healthy mind and body are essential to a happy and useful life.
2. Alcoholism is mentally and physically harmful to the human being.
3. The power of alcohol to produce addiction is practically equal to that of opium and its derivatives, such as morphine, heroin, etc.
4. The drinking of alcohol is contributory to inefficiency of people.
5. Alcohol contributes nothing to the moral and physical stamina of the individual.
6. Alcohol yields no dividends on the money invested in it.
7. It is not necessary to drink in order to be socially acceptable.

The proper place to begin an educational campaign against alcoholism is in the home.

NOTES OF ADVANCE

Rev. L. D. Eppinette, native of Arkansas who was recently released from the chaplaincy, has become pastor of East Avenue Church, Springfield, Mo.

J. M. Hayes, pastor of Lexington and Corinth Churches, Stone-Van Buren Association, reports that both churches are engaged in building programs. Lexington will soon be in the new building if weather permits. Corinth has a building committee at work on plans.

With the ordination of Fisk Ray on Christmas Day, First Church, Tyler, Tex., has sent out from its membership 17 preachers during the 18 years Dr. Porter M. Bailes has been the pastor. Added to this number the church has one member preparing himself for religious education and church music, another for mission work, and a young woman for mission work.

Program for the Watch Night Services of Second Church, Pine Bluff, included singing from 8 to 8:45, Training Union 8:45-9:00, Sunday School 9:00-10:15, refreshments 10:15 to 10:45, motion picture 10:45 to 11, and worship 11-12.

Response to a recent announcement made by Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Mich., of its \$10,000 International Christian Fiction Contest has been staggering.

Three cash prizes, plus royalties, are being offered to the winners in this special contest to develop new novelists and raise the standard of Christian fiction. The first prize is \$7,500; the second, \$2,000, and the third, \$500. The deadline for manuscripts to be submitted is December 31, 1948. A complete set of rules may be secured by writing the editors of the \$10,000 International Christian Fiction Contest, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids 2, Mich.

Russell Hunt, a native of Boone County who has been serving as educational director of First Church, Crane, Tex., has been ordained into the ministry, and has accepted the pastorates of Oak Grove and Grandview Churches, Boone-Carroll Association.

Mt. Zion Church, Little Red River Association, had 40 enrolled in a church clinic conducted by Associational Missionary W. H. Lansford.

First Church, Leachville, had 57 additions, 41 for baptism, in evangelistic services with Dr. Arthur Fox, Morristown, Tenn., preaching and Ray Morgan, Dell, directing the music. Since Pastor Rex Brown moved on the field in June 1945 there have been 81 additions to the church. The congregation has outgrown its building and plans are being made to erect a new house of worship next spring.

Hundred Per Cent Enlistment Is Goal Of Dew Drop Mission Near Pine Bluff

Enlistment of every Baptist in the Dew Drop Community during the first quarter of 1947 is the goal of the Dew Drop Mission of First Church, Pine Bluff. The mission building, where full-time services are conducted by Pastor A. W. Upchurch, Jr., is located five miles west of Pine Bluff at the intersection of the Little Rock-Sheridan highways.

Attendance has grown from 52 on June 30, 1946, when the mission was organized to an average of 69 in November. A tabernacle which was erected immediately after organization of the mission has been expanded to make a present building 36 feet square with heavy concrete floor and sheet-rock ceiling with concrete wall.

A WMU was organized December 12. A Training Union was organized December 29 with all departments.

Work began in the community with a two weeks tent revival in June. Preachers who assisted in the revival were Pastor A. B. Pierce, First Church, Pine Bluff; Dr. Selsus E. Tull, retired minister of Pine Bluff; Missionary Marvin S. Jaggars, Harmony Association; Rev. Leon P. Kimmell, Pine Bluff, and Pastor Up-

church. There were 18 additions, seven by profession of faith.

Lots for the building site were donated by S. T. Dunn, prominent Pine Bluff layman. A tabernacle was constructed by members of the mission under supervision of Joe Hall, Pine Bluff contractor. Women of the community served noon lunch to the builders. The entire building, including installation of lights, was completed on July 4 and first services were held in the new tabernacle that evening.

The approximate value of the improved plant is \$2,000 which, with the exception of a contribution by the Pine Bluff Church, was financed by the mission itself. The new building is completely free of debt.

Pastor Upchurch is a resident of Pine Bluff. He was employed for 12 years by St. Louis Southwestern Railway Company in Pine Bluff, and was chief clerk to the assistant superintendent when inducted into the Army 1943. Serving with the 726th Railway Operating Battalion, he was active in mission work in Assam, India, with Dr. J. Morris Forbes, Northern Baptist missionary from San Jose, Calif. He also worked with Dr. Grace Seagrave, missionary surgeon, brother to Dr. Gordon Seagrave, famous Burma Surgeon.

Letter to the Editor . . .

Self-Styled "Jack Leg Preacher" Begs Fellow Ministers to Preach God's Wrath

Dear Editor:

I can hardly wait until I get my Arkansas Baptist each week. It is a blessing to our home. I just wish that every Baptist in the state would subscribe to it.

I notice you don't get very many reports from so-called "Jack-leg" preachers. Well, nevertheless, we love our work just as much as the D. D. does.

The Lord is blessing my efforts even though I am just a clothing salesman, called to preach. I accepted a call to the Midland Church some few months ago and the Lord went along. I have tried to do only the things He directed, and He has blessed beyond words. We have had 43 additions in a very short time, and 30 of those were conversions coming for baptism. We are not striving for additions only; but what makes our hearts rejoice is to see men and women coming down the aisle with tears flowing down their cheeks—not that smiling gum-chewing kind.

In my short period of ministry I have only found one message in God's Word and that is He died for sinners—that there is a heaven to gain and a hell to shun. The love of God is a beautiful sermon; but there is more than love to remember. There is the wrath of God. I know there are a lot of people that don't like to hear of the wrath of God, for they are reminded of their sins. But when a man is called of God to preach, not because his "pappy" was a preacher, but because he was called of God, he had better mix up a little wrath with love.

Thanks be to God. He is blessing in every service and church members are still asking, "What must I do to be saved?" Many pastors of our nation are soliciting membership with-

out conversion. In that final day they will see the handwriting on the wall, and the question will be asked, "Friend, how comest thou in hither, not having a wedding garment?" And he was speechless.

Pray for our church that God will continue to bless, and that we will give Him first place in all things.

Yours in His service. A so-called "Jack-leg" preacher—one that was called of God.

Route 2, Box 51 Warner W. Kersh
Fort Smith

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Church Organized

The Banks Missionary Baptist Church, located on Martin's Creek, about 15 miles north-east of Hardy, was organized December 22 with 10 charter members. The presbytery consisted of Missionary H. D. Palmer, Rev. Joe Price, Rev. Robert Traw, and Deacon Amos Traw.

The members came by letter granted by the Pilgrim's Home Church. The church voted to adopt the Articles of Faith by Pendleton and the Church Covenant, and also to cooperate with the Black River Association, the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention. Rev. Joe Price was called for half-time work. The charter will be held open for 30 days in order for others to come in as charter members.

Officers elected by the church are: deacons, Loyd Byers, Johnie Byers, and Hurshel Byers; clerk, Mrs. Ruby Lester; and treasurer, Johnnie Byers.

Northern Baptists Say Ministers Untrained

Only 38 per cent of the ministers of the Northern Baptist Convention have standard college and seminary education and 48 per cent lack even two years of college and three years of seminary training.

These statistics were reported at a meeting of the denomination's committee on theological education.

The survey also revealed that there is a declining interest in ministerial training among educated young American men; that the demand for trained pastors far exceeds the supply; that the churches are offering salaries far below those of other trained professions; that the rural field has been "practically abandoned" to untrained or poorly trained clergy, and that individual churches are often indifferent to maintaining high ministerial standards.

It was pointed out that the statistics and problems of the Northern Baptist denomination are parallel to those of other denominations.

The Northern Baptist Convention, the committee reported, must give strength to ordination standards; raise the quality of candidates; lift the educational level of ministry through inservice training; provide adequate leadership for rural churches; and extend the ministry through competent lay leadership.

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First Church, Washington, D. C., has recently celebrated the tenth anniversary of the pastorate of Dr. Edward Hughes Pruden. During his ministry, the church has grown in membership from 772 to 2,036 with the annual budget increasing from \$17,000 to \$110,000.

Sixteen officers and teachers of Colfax Church, White River Association, earned certificates in a Sunday School Study Course, "Preview of Sunday School Lessons for First Quarter of 1947." Missionary Claude Crigler was the teacher; G. W. Johnson is pastor.

Missionary Claude Crigler, White River Association, reports that four persons have been led to accept Christ in Rollins Hospital recently. One is a young man whose wife was a patient in the hospital. One young man was led to Christ in his own home.

WHEN IN DALLAS

Worship with Ross Avenue Baptist Church
Ross and Moser
HOMER B. REYNOLDS, Pastor

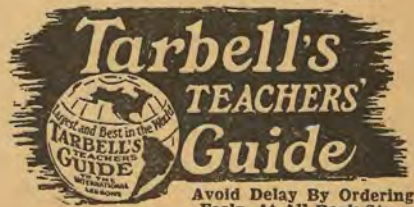
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THE STATE BAPTIST PAPER

We, your committee, in making another report to the Convention are thankful to God for the service the paper has been able to render through all the years, and especially during the year just closed.

During the year, the circulation of the Arkansas Baptist has exceeded 28,300. This Convention-owned enterprise is one of the indispensable parts of the whole program, and should have the hearty support of every pastor and every other member of our churches throughout the state. The budget plan for subscriptions is a convenient and economical method for presenting it to the churches. Let pastors confer with the Editor about the plan that will be best suited for their church, which will help to grow Christians with world-wide sympathies and outlook.

Our Goal—"In Every Home"

We would earnestly urge all the pastors, all the women interested in the work done by the Woman's Missionary Union, all those interested in the work of the Baptist laymen, and all who are interested in carrying forward Baptist work in this state, the South, and in all the nations, to earnestly and diligently assist in getting the Arkansas Baptist regularly into every home in Arkansas, that all of our people may be informed concerning all this work, and enlisted in successfully carrying it forward according to the will of our Divine Lord.

Roger Babson said, "The most expensive thing for any church is an empty pew." This principle applies to the progress of a religious denomination. The most expensive thing to the Baptist denomination in Arkansas, or any where else, is a home without the denominational paper. People will never support institutions, educational, charitable, or beneficent, nor will they ever support missions in any part of the world, if they are ignorant concerning those institutions and missions and do not have before them earnest denominational appeals.

If any church member should attend upon the ministry of his church, all should attend, and if one Baptist home should have in it the agency for denominational information and appeal, all Baptist homes in Arkansas should have it. The Baptist denomination in Arkansas, or anywhere else, will grow strong and effective in proportion to the number of homes receiving news every week of what is being done and appeals for doing more. It is utterly impossible to obey the Great Commission unless our people are informed and become increasingly zealous in their obedience to the Master.

Current Operations

As for the finances of the Arkansas Baptist, the spiraling production costs make necessary an increase in subscription price effective January, 1947. The Budget plan, wherein the church sends the paper to every family in its resident membership, will be increased from 10 cents to 11 cents per month. The Club plan, wherein 10 or more subscriptions are secured in the same list, increased from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per year. The Individual plan is to remain at \$2.00 per year. The Arkansas Baptist, constantly operating on the narrowest possible margin, continues to give you the best possible paper at the lowest possible cost.

We commend the workers in the office of the Arkansas Baptist. It is doubted if there could be found a group of workers in any

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Convention Report of Committee on Arkansas Baptist

By T. K. RUCKER, Malvern

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office where all and each take as much earnest, personal interest in the success of the business as do the workers in all the departments of the Arkansas Baptist. We express also our appreciation of the cooperation by the printers who have produced the Arkansas Baptist this year and for several years past. On all occasions and in every way, our Editor has received the most hearty, careful and immediate cooperation of all those connected with the mechanical production of the paper.

Dr. Paul Caudill, pastor of First Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., has freely contributed notes on the Sunday School lessons during the year. This labor for the instruction of our Baptist people is very greatly appreciated. We thank him gratefully and earnestly for his helpful service.

The editor has endeavored this year, as always, to maintain his policy of fraternal harmony and constructive spirit.

A Look to the Future

In reviewing the past and turning toward the future, we are filled with gratitude for the advance made by institutions, departments, and all the work of this Convention. We thank God for the hundreds who have been received by baptism in every section of the state. In turning toward the future, we would press on and would urge our brethren everywhere to go forward and to use the Arkansas Baptist to the utmost in the homes of the people for the glory of God and the promotion of His cause in the earth.

One of the greatest and most significant inventions of man is the printing press. Dr. George W. Truett speaking on "The Leaf and the Life" said, "The printing press is man's greatest mechanical triumph—besides which none other can begin to compare." Wendell Phillips said, "What gunpowder did for war, the printing press did for the mind." Religious literature today is the product made possible by this revolutionary invention.

As never before in the history of the world, we face a reading public. This has been made so by the universal program of popular education by the state. People are reading and the question of what they read is vital and important to the individual home, church, and state. God has said, "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." Paul gives us the secret of his great life when he said, "Whatsoever things are true, pure, just, honorable and of good report, think on these things."

Literature a Sustaining Force

Great souls do not grow from mean thoughts. To hold your mind in the presence of the best is no pious platitude. If we are to enrich, enlarge, and develop this reading public in the fullest and highest sense, we must produce literature that honors God, lifts life, and produces righteousness.

"Knowledge is power" everywhere and if we are to disseminate Christian knowledge and

make it effective, we must make much of Christian literature. It is a trite saying that "the pen is mightier than the sword." A thought that grips and holds is one of the greatest forces among men. Oratory is the great creator of public sentiment, but it takes the printed page to sustain the sentiment thus created. Any great orator can stir mightily the people with a program, but public sentiment is vaporious, and without a sustaining force soon vaporizes. Preaching the gospel is a marvelous force, but to sustain interest and develop Christian character and produce results, there must be the sustaining force found in the reading of Christian literature.

The denomination that is weak in its journalism is weak all along the line. If we would stabilize our work and sustain the interest of the mighty hosts of Baptists in God's cause, we must become readers of our religious journals. "Back door revivals" is a confession that our "Front door revivals" were not sustained. Our church rolls, burdened by names who are worth nothing to the cause of Christ, is proof positive of the fact that we failed to keep them growing in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord. The little light they had went out and great must be the darkness!

Guide of Human Thought

Literature is the guide of human thought. It is the compass which directs the journey of the mind. If it points and leads to the higher moral plane, the reader is lifted and blessed. It is to the mind what meat is to the stomach. If we feed our stomach on rotten meat, it will not be long until we will have an upset stomach, but wholesome food always means a normal body. If we feed our minds on foul thoughts and vulgar ideas, it will not be long until we are sick and ill mentally. We should resist foul literature as we would a malignant pestilence, fight it as a contagious disease and banish it from our homes and schools as a serpent with its poisonous fangs ready to strike death to our loved ones.

In our fierce combat against sin and Satan in high and low places, we must put on the whole armor of God—every possible fighting piece.

We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against powers and principalities, against spiritual hosts of darkness, against destructive thoughts clothed in robes of light, against a depraved and vitalized public mind trained to think without God, against disgraceful but approved social customs winked at and taken for granted and against a desecrating Lord's Day civilization. We must seek by every possible agency and means to present the truth found in Christ Jesus and clothe the truth in habiliments of glory that men may know God, whom to know is eternal life.

Let us get the spirit in our souls that John had in his on the isle of Patmos. He wrote that he heard as it were "The voice of a great multitude and the voice of many waters and the voice of mighty thunders saying, Hallelujah, for the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigneth." The last shout heard in the Book of Revelation is not the shout of defeat, but of victory. After the battle is over, after toil and labor, after the sorrow and weeping, the conquering hosts of God will "Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of All."

Woman's Missionary Union

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

MRS. J. E. SHORT
President

MISS LAVERNE ASHBY
Young People's Secretary

MRS. C. H. RAY
Executive Secretary and Treasurer

ALVIN HATTON
Royal Ambassador Secretary

Mrs. A. H. Reagan— Office Secretary

We take great pleasure in announcing that Mrs. A. H. Reagan of Little Rock has become associated with the Baptist Woman's Missionary Union as office secretary. Mrs. Reagan is already well-known to the Baptists of the state, having served in the office of the Arkansas Baptist for nine years.

Associational News

Liberty Association reports the best WMU rally of the year was held at Camden with 119 present from 17 churches. The entire program was presented and the Rev. L. A. Sparkman of Pine Bluff was the inspirational speaker.

Central Association reports a mission study institute held at Central Baptist Church, Hot Springs, with 38 present from six churches. Mrs. B. A. Gray of Pine Bluff was the guest teacher for this occasion.

Unique Mission Study Record

Mrs. A. G. Newman of Bentonville has served as mission study chairman of her society for many years. In addition to leading the women in the study of all current books, she has completed one and two and three continuation courses. She has organized two Missionary Round Tables. During the past 15 years Mrs. Newman has taught 30 books covering every phase of the work. The books used have been collected at the close of each year and placed in the church library. Mrs. Newman is serving as president of the WMU of her church the coming year.

Royal Ambassador Conclave Organized

A Royal Ambassador Conclave was recently organized at Judsonia in White County with Richard Johnson of Kensett as counselor. Fifty-six representatives of Royal Ambassadors Chapters from Judsonia, Kensett, Bald Knob and Searcy were in attendance. Alvin Hatton, State RA Secretary, was the guest speaker and also showed colored slides of the State RA Camp at Ferncliff last summer. The next meeting is scheduled to be held at Kensett in March.

Active New WMS

Mrs. Vance Neal is the president of the new missionary society organized at the Marsden church

near Hermitage with only five women present. This small group became active and 14 were present the second meeting. Linens valued at \$10 were sent the Baptist Orphanage and \$4.50 remitted for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions.

Announcing New Books For Study Now

The Home Mission Board announces that the 1947 graded series of Home Mission Books are now due from the press. This series is on world evangelism and are listed below, the price of each being 50c plus tax from the Baptist Book Store:

"Tell"—Virginia Wingo, for intermediates.

"Everywhere Preaching The Word"—Josephine R. Medlin, for juniors.

"Katie of The Canyon"—Una Roberts Lawrence, for sunbeams.

Close Out The Old— Bring In The New

There is always a challenge in the beginning of a new year. May faith, hope and love be our guiding stars and master us daily in every realm or life. May we invest our best in His service every day in the year 1947.

The records for the past year closed with December 31. Just how faithfully the work was promoted will be revealed as reports come in to the State office and are tabulated. Let every missionary organization in the state make a complete and accurate report of all work and gifts for the last quarter and send on time.

Lottie Moon Offering For Foreign Missions

It is with great joy that we are able to report a total of \$24,065.18 received as of December 31, 1946, for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions.

We want to express our sincere gratitude for every gift, large or small, and urge each organization to glean and reglean and remit same to the WMU treasurer at the earliest possible date.

Dixie Jacson Offering For State Missions

The latest report on the Dixie Jackson Offering for State Missions brings added joy. We have surpassed our State goal of \$12,500 by \$1,375.49, the total received as of December 31 being \$13,-

875.49. If any organization still has any funds on hand for this cause, please remit at once. The entire offering with the exception of printing the programs and mailing the literature is remitted to Dr. B. L. Bridges, general secretary, to assist in the challenging state mission program for the coming year.

Large Number Observed Season of Prayer

Good news comes from many sections of the state concerning the splendid observance of the Season of Prayer for Foreign Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. We have received several attractive programs showing that a large number observed the hour's program each day. We wish we could give in detail the reports of the meetings but lack of space forbids.

McGraws Observe 60th Anniversary

Rev. and Mrs. C. P. McGraw, Little Rock, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in December. They were married in Brocktown, Pike County. Mrs. McGraw is the former Miss Alice Mansfield.

Mr. McGraw was ordained to the ministry by the Three Creeks Baptist Church, Union County, in August 1898. For several years he served country churches in south Arkansas and northern Louisiana, and since then has held pastorates throughout the state. He retired in 1929 but still preaches in mission points sponsored by Immanuel Church, Little Rock.

Mr. and Mrs. McGraw have five children, 13 grandchildren, and 12 great grandchildren.

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SPEAKER



Dr. Harry Rimmer

Announcing . . .

Arkansas Baptist Assembly July 1-9, 1947

July 1-9, inclusive, is the date of the 1947 Arkansas Baptist Assembly to be held on the Assembly grounds near Siloam Springs. The first service will be held on Thursday night, July 1; the last service will be that of Wednesday night, July 9.

Every effort will be made to have the grounds and buildings in the best possible condition.

Program

Again it will be an all-Baptist program for all Arkansas Baptists. International, Southwide and state preachers and leaders will appear on the program. We have the definite promise of Dr. HARRY RIMMER of California, that he will attend the Assembly to speak at both the morning and night hours. Dr. Rimmer is one of the most sought after speakers on Bible and science that there is in the world. He has an attractive personality, is a brilliant speaker, and has a keen sense of humor. While his appeal is to all ages, young people find him especially attractive and interesting.

For the 11:30 general assembly hours, REV. J. B. MAXWELL, pastor of the First Church, Bentonville, will be the principal speaker. Bro. Maxwell is especially adept in the use of objects and other materials used in visual education. He has been one of the principal speakers at the Mandeville Encampment in Louisiana for several years. We are indeed fortunate to have him for the 1947 Assembly. Again we predict a 100 per cent attendance for each day at the general assembly hour under the leadership of Bro. Maxwell.

MR. VOLUS NORSWORTHY, educational and music director for the Capitol Hill Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, will direct the song services. MRS. B. N. NININGER, state church music director, will have charge of the choir and direct the special music features.

Classes in Sunday School, Training Union, Woman's Missionary Union, Brotherhood and Student Union work will be provided for each age group during the morning hours. These courses will be under the supervision of those in charge of the different phases of the work in the state.

In addition to the regular class work there will be special evangelistic conferences for associational missionaries and pastors. These conferences will be under the direction of the State Mission Department Secretary.

Recreation

A bigger and better recreational program will be provided for this year's Assembly. MRS. SEIBERT HALEY of Parkin will supervise the special features and REV. RALPH DOUGLAS, pastor of First Church, Dumas, will direct the recreational activities, such as baseball, swimming, tennis, badminton, etc. There will also be the regular features such as the election and coronation of the king and queen. This should be the best year yet for recreation.

1947 Rates

Read the rates carefully and make reservations as soon as possible. Assembly-owned dormitor-

ies and cottages are limited. Approximately 750 can be cared for in Assembly-owned space. This is 250 more than in 1946. Another 500 can be cared for in the different church-owned dormitories and cabins. This is the total equipment capacity of the Assembly.

Cottages will be reserved for married couples and families only—no exceptions.

Reservations will be accepted only for those who send name or names, with a \$2.00 reservation fee for each name. There will be no exceptions to this requirement and, if accepted, no reservation fees will be returned. Those whose reservation requests have been accepted and to whom registration fee receipts have been issued, will be guaranteed space reserved.

Reservation fees will be credited to the account of those for whom reservation is made. Please do not ask for reservations unless name and fee are attached. Send all requests for reservations, with reservation fees to Dr. Edgar Wil-

liamson, 203 Radio Center, Little Rock, Ark.

Reservations will be held only until 9:00 p. m., Tuesday, July 2, unless otherwise arranged. All reservations unclaimed at this time will be reassigned.

All reservations are accepted on a "first come, first serve" basis. While more reservations can be accepted than last year, those planning to attend the Assembly are urged to send in requests for reservations, with reservation fees, as soon as possible.

Be one of the 1200 to attend the Assembly this year—make your reservation NOW.

1947 ASSEMBLY RATES

FULL-TIME RATES:

Registration	\$ 1.00
Cot and Mattress in Dormitory and All Meals:	
Individuals in Assembly-owned Dormitories	14.00
Individuals in Church-owned Dormitories	13.00
Individuals in Church-owned Dormitories providing own cots and mattresses	12.00
Children 5 to 10 years, Inclusive	12.00
Cot and Mattress in Dormitory Room and All Meals:	
Individuals	15.00
Children 5 to 10 years, Inclusive	13.00
Cot and Mattress in Cottage and All Meals:	
Individuals	16.00
Children, 5 to 10 Years, Inclusive	14.00
Note: All individuals staying with churches serving meals will pay an assembly maintenance fee of \$3.00.	

PART-TIME RATES:

Registration, Per Day	\$ 0.25
Meals: Breakfast	\$0.50
Dinner	.65
Supper	.50
Per Day	1.50
Cot, Per Day	.25
Mattress, Per Day	.25
Dormitory Space, Per Day	.25
Cabin Space, Per Day	.75
Miscellaneous Charges (without meals)	
Cottages, Single (2 cots and mats.)	\$ 7.50
Tent Space—Campers	2.50
Tent Space—Churches	5.00
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Electric Fan	2.00
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Dr. J. M. Dawson Summarizes Religion In 1946: "Mingled Darkness and Light"

Taking for his text Isaiah's anxious question, (Chapter 21:11) "Watchman, what of the night?" Dr. J. M. Dawson, Executive Secretary on Public Relations for the Baptists of the United States, preached in the Washington D. C. First Baptist Church, Sunday morning, December 29, on "How Christianity Fared in 1946."

He declared the picture presented mingled darkness and light.

The Dark Side

On the dark side were to be seen:

The distressing failure of the churches to cope adequately with the sinister forces of evil unloosed in the aftermath of war such as drink-debauchery, broken homes, venereal disease, juvenile delinquency, suicide and crime.

The deeply disturbing theological tensions in a number of the major denominations, notably the Baptist, Episcopalian, Presbyterian, and Disciples.

Divided strategy of Protestants and Catholics toward Russia, which intensified the clamor for war in an hour when patience as well as firmness was needed to stabilize the United Nations for enduring peace.

The Bright Side

On the bright side he hailed: A vigorous renewal of evangelism to increase the number and quality of Christians.

The swing of theology in intellectual circles toward the center for reassurance in Christian faith in spite of some radical tendencies to the extreme right on the part of the emotional masses.

The universally generous response of the churches to world need which reacted on givers to warm them and draw them closer to each other in the fellowship of a common undertaking too stupendous for a single group.

The happy union of the Evangelical and United Brethren Churches creating the Evangelical United Brethren Church with a membership of 700,000 and assets of over \$100,000,000, thus emphasizing the growing unity among the total denominations, which comprise less than a dozen major ones, the rest of the much-lamented 300 being infinitesimally small, though rendering a possible essential testimony.

The developing sense of religion applied to social life as well as to individual conduct as seen in the addition of three new public relations office to those existing in Washington, namely: by the Baptists, Evangelical United Brethren and the Lutherans.

The vast and vital service rendered by the Federal Council of Churches and others not included

in the Council to the promotion of the United Nations.

The unprecedented seizure of the opportunity for world evangelization on the part of all the churches, as observed in their campaigns and crusades for funds for rehabilitation of missions, schools, hospitals and other ministries in foreign lands and in the extraordinary number of new missionaries sent out.

The Outlook

Referring to what he called the divided strategy of Christendom in respect to Russia, Dr. Dawson said: "Our Protestant churches were loyal to Western democracy and abhorred Communism, but believed East and West have met and must now seek to find a way to live together even though their ideologies differ. Apparently our Catholic brothers would go to war with Russia in order to drive Communism from the earth."

As to the outlook, he said "Nothing but a new birth of spiritual religion with a great new leadership possessed of dynamic power can grapple with the one world now forming."

100 Prisoners Are Converted

By HARLEY SMITH
Porto Alegre, Brazil

December 1 was without doubt one of the best days in God's work in the Central, Calvary, and Tabernacle Churches of Porto Alegre, Brazil, including the various points of preaching which these three churches maintain. The above churches were all organized since our arrival in 1924, but in-so-far as I remember, we have had no such day as yesterday, December 1.

There were five conversions and one decision for special service at the morning hour in Central Church. There were more than 100 men who stood in the state penitentiary where we have been holding services for more than a year, saying that they wanted to follow their Lord. It's a great step for such men to take—to leave their football game voluntarily and file into the large hall to hear the word of God with such interest and then deliberately stand for Him before their fellows. God is giving us some marvelous services in this institution.

There were many who held up their hands for prayer in the Cal-

vary Church at the evening hour but no count was made of them.

Dr. Albert Bagby preached at the Tabernacle Church in the evening service. Dr. W. C. Harrison spent the day across the river from Porto Alegre, at the city of Guahba or White Rocks.

The pastor of the Central Church took four candidates from this church to the Tabernacle Church for baptism after the evening service. The evangelistic fires burn. Don't forget to pray for us and our work in these parts of the world.

Figures to Inspire

December 29, 1946

	Addns.	S.S.	T.U.
Camden, First	400	114	
Conway, First	4	267	64
Cullendale, First	—	215	61
El Dorado Churches:			
First	577	155	
Second	1	310	73
Fordyce, First	3	261	140
Fort Smith, Immanuel	1	410	119
Hamburg, First	—	230	117
Hot Springs Churches:			
Park Place	1	347	105
Second	—	403	105
Walnut Valley	—	64	38
Little Rock, Tabernacle	1	319	76
Norphet, First	4	199	104
Paris, First	—	234	111
Pine Bluff Churches:			
First	9	569	196
Including Mission	—	615	240
Second	—	192	51
Springdale, First	—	182	91
Including Mission	—	211	—
West Memphis, First	2	252	155

Evangelist Louis Wunneburger, Austin, Tex., has conducted 21 revivals in the past 10½ months since he has been released from the Army chaplaincy. The last one was with the San Jacinto Baptist Church, Amarillo, Tex., Dr. Leon M. Hill, pastor. There were 63 additions, 46 for baptism, and 14 people made a public surrender to the call for special service as missionaries or for the ministry. He is interested in serving Arkansas churches and may be contacted at P. O. Box 510, Austin, Tex.

900 Missionaries Sail in December

The greatest mass sailing of missionaries in the history of the Protestant Church in America took place in December when the S. S. Marine Lynx and the S. S. Marine Falcon departed from San Francisco with approximately 900 missionaries on board. The sailings were arranged under the auspices of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America and the American President Lines.

The Marine Lynx is scheduled to leave the Pacific Coast city on December 15, carrying approximately 670 missionaries destined for Manila, Shanghai, and Hong Kong. An emergency class, non-reconverted troop ship, the Lynx, transported 400 missionaries to the same ports of call last October.

A third sailing is planned for the Marine Lynx early in 1947, according to the Foreign Missions Conference.

Officers of the American President Lines commended "the universally fine spirit" of the missionaries who sailed on the first voyage of the Lynx.

"The way in which they met the unavoidable problems arising out of the emergency character of the accommodations provided for them was unique in the history of our country," they declared.



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You, Too, Can Be a Soul-Winner

By NELSON F. TULL

(Reprinted From Southern Baptist Brotherhood Journal)

Matthew 4:17-20; 28:18-20;
Proverbs 11:30.

Men, do you have in your heart the desire to win lost people to Christ? Are you soul-winners? You ought to be, if you bear the name of Christ. You can be, if you are willing to learn. You must be, if you live in obedience to the Lord's command. You will be, if you are wise. For soul-winning is the chief obligation of every Christian; the first objective of every phase of Christian service; the pre-eminent activity of every Christian church. Soul-winning is that which Jesus came into the world to do; that for which He died and rose again; that which He commissioned His churches to do. Soul-winning is also the first desire of every new-born soul.

Do you know how to lead a lost person to the Saviour? Have you developed your own method in soul-winning? The purpose of this discussion is to set before you a simple soul-winning method which has been tried in the crucible of experience, and which has been signally blessed of the Lord. Use it as you develop your own method.

Show Him That He Is A Sinner

Since the Holy Spirit uses God's Word to convict a lost sinner "of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment" (John 16:8), use the Bible throughout your soul-winning effort. Ask the person with whom you are dealing to read certain passages aloud as you point them out.

Develop in the mind of the lost person a proper concept of sin. To do this, use the story of Adam and Eve, showing how God made them in His own image (Genesis 1:27), with the power of choice, and free in the exercise of their own wills. Tell of God's loving warning (Genesis 2:16-17), and of their temptation and fall into sin (Genesis 3:1-7).

Now ask your lost friend to give a definition of sin. Help him to understand clearly that sin is disobeying God; that sin is breaking God's commandments; that sin is transgressing God's law. Next, use Romans 3:23 and Isaiah 53:6 to show him that all people are sinners. When he comprehends this truth, ask him the question, "Are you a sinner?" Stay on this point until he admits the presence of sin in his life. Show him that by breaking God's law anywhere he has broken it everywhere (James 2:10). Get from him a clear-cut, unequivocal acknowledgement that he is a sinner. He must come through with an unqualified admission of sin before you can go further in your soul-winning ef-

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NELSON F. TULL
Secretary

212 Radio Center
Little Rock

fort. Use 1 John 1:8-10, if necessary. When you secure the admission, then proceed to the next step.

Show Him That He Is Lost And On His Way To Hell

After your friend has acknowledged that he is a sinner, he should next be made to know full well the consequences of sin. Show him that "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23), and that "the soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:4). Drive home the awful certainty that sin brings death to the sinner.

Now ask him where death takes the guilty sinner. When he answers, "To hell," turn to Luke 16 and read verses 19-22. Let your friend then read verses 23-24. Point out that hell is a place of consciousness, of torment, of no mercy, of no water, a place of fire. Verse 26 reveals that there is no exit from hell. And Revelation 14:11 tells the awful truth that the torments of hell are eternal.

At this point it will be well to review the progress you have made. Ask again such questions as these:

- What is sin? Disobeying God.
- What part of the people are sinners? All.
- Are you a sinner? Yes.
- Sin brings what? Death.
- Death takes the guilty sinner where? To hell.
- Hell lasts how long? Forever.
- Ask your lost friend if he believes that these things are true. If he agrees then ask the question, "Where would you go if you should die right now?" Hold on at this

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Marshall, Texas

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H. D. BRUCE, PRESIDENT

point until he admits that he is on his way to hell. If he sincerely makes this admission he is under conviction of sin. Continue now with the next step.

Tell Him The Story Of Jesus

When a person is brought by the Holy Spirit into a full realization of the ghastly truth that he is lost and on his way to hell, his soul is stirred to its very depths. It is at this time that he should be enlightened with the good news of what God has done to save him from his sin.

Tell him how, on the very day when Adam and Eve sinned in the garden, God promised a Saviour who would be virgin-born, who would give Satan his deathblow, but who would suffer in so doing (Genesis 3:15). In answer to this promise and other similar promises, and in the fullness of God's time, Jesus, the promised Christ, was born into the world (Matthew 1:18-23). He was, and is, the only begotten Son of God (Luke 1:35). He grew to be a man, and lived a perfect life, keeping all of God's laws (Hebrews 4:15) which every sinner has broken.

The Bible reveals these glorious truths:

Jesus came to save sinners (I Timothy 1:15).

Jesus worked on earth to save sinners (Matthew 9:1-2).

Jesus died on the cross to save sinners (I Peter 2:24; I Corinthians 15:3-4).

Jesus lives forever to save sinners (Hebrews 7:25).

Now ask your lost friend the question: "Do you need Jesus as your own personal Saviour?" Help him to confess that he does. Now tell him of your own experience

with the Lord. Then move on to the final step.

Show Him That He Must Repent Of Sin And Trust Jesus

The final instruction in your soul-winning effort will be to reveal to your lost friend the steps which he must take before God can make the death of Jesus answer for his sin. He must repent, and believe on Jesus.

Luke 13:3 says, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Repentance is a change of mind and heart and attitude toward God and towards self. The lost sinner has gone away from God, following his own way into sin. He must repent.

Read John 3-16, Whosoever believes in Jesus shall not perish, but have everlasting life. When a person believes in Jesus he entrusts his eternal soul into His keeping. To repent of sin and trust Jesus means unconditional surrender to Him. Lead your lost friend to admit that he ought to repent of sin and trust Jesus.

Now have a prayer. Get your lost friend on his knees if possible. Press for a decision then and there. Call upon your friend to do what he knows he must do, repent of sin and trust Jesus.

Answer any difficulty as best you can with God's word. Use Proverbs 27:1 and II Corinthians 6:2 to impress upon your friend the urgency of saying, "Yes," to Jesus now.

If he accepts Christ, have a prayer of thanksgiving. Then urge him without delay to follow the Lord in baptism, and to go to work as a Christian and church member in God's harvest field.

Now go after somebody else!

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LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

Sharp County Is Ripe Mission Field

By H. D. PALMER, Missionary
Black River Association

The December 19 issue of the Arkansas Baptist gave on page two some things that were heard at the Convention. I have read all of them with interest and took note of the saying by Rev. C. W. Caldwell that "Arkansas has one county without a single resident Baptist preacher and another without a single Baptist church which cooperates with the Arkansas Baptist State Convention."

Certainly this is alarming as we think of this existing in our state with the great mission program that we are carrying on. However, this statement only covers two counties of the great field of Arkansas. I wish to bring a few words about another field that will come close to being included in a statement of this kind.

I speak of Sharp County. A portion of this county is now in Black River Association, a portion in Rocky Bayou Association, and one church in Big Creek Association. As I write this there are only two resident pastors and one non-resident pastor in the county. Up until Saturday night there was only one resident pastor in this great county.

The leading church of the county—Hardy—has had a non-resident pastor for the past eight or nine years. They are now without a pastor and we hope they will soon have a man on the field for he is certainly needed as Hardy is in the midst of this destitute field. We only have one church building within the county and it only has a basement in which to worship. Pilgrims' Home Church and New Hope Church No. 2 worship in school houses.

A new church was organized last Sunday. Its home shall be in a small school house nestled in the valley close to Martins Creek, about 15 miles northeast of Hardy. The other church worships in the Methodist Church building.

It's about impossible to reach these little places in a car and it's impossible to expect them to come to a meeting of any kind other than a few miles from them. Sharp County is filled with people and they are cordial to the Gospel. The great need now is to build church houses in which these people can worship God.

The school house was never intended for a place of worship for it has a great drawback as to the full work of our program. The people of the community demand a union Sunday School when the school house is used. Other denominations say they have as much use of the schoolhouse as the Baptists and take a part of their Sundays to preach. They do have a right to the building and be-

cause of this fact it's hard to carry on.

Several churches have a desire to build. Buildings would be very low in cost as the native stone could be used, but the people are poor and cannot give enough to do

this alone. I believe the time is ripe, if we as Baptists desire to go forth in fields of this nature, to get a pioneer missionary on the field and let him bring this county together in every way and build some houses to worship in and to

carry on a full-time work. I hope that under our new setup in mission work, adopted at the Convention, this county will be included in the services of a full-time pioneer missionary. The fields are ripe unto harvest.

Looking Into 1947, We See

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HELPING BUILD ARKANSAS

Jesus' First Demonstration of Power Manifest in Simple Home

By R. PAUL CAUDILL

The period covering the early ministry of Jesus is sometimes referred to as the year of obscurity. Only in the fourth gospel do we find an account of this opening period in the public ministry of our Lord which must have lasted several months.

Following the three temptations in the wilderness of Judea, Jesus made His first disciples at Bethany beyond Jordan (John 1:35-51). Previously He had been identified by John as the Messiah at Bethany beyond the Jordan (John 1:29-34). Soon thereafter, Jesus worked His first miracle at Cana in Galilee (John 2:1-11).

His Miraculous Power

The miracle at the Cana wedding constitutes the first demonstration by Jesus of His miracle-working power.

The town of Cana is usually located at Kefr Kenna which is some three and one-half miles from Nazareth. Some think that the event took place on Wednesday afternoon, the fourth day of the week, which was the usual day for the marriage of virgins. At any rate Mary, the mother of Jesus, was there when He arrived. John does not mention her name probably for the reason that she is already well known in the synoptics.

It is assumed that Joseph was already dead and that Mary may have been kin to the family where the wedding was taking place. Certainly she must have been an intimate friend or else she would not have been so well informed and ready to help remedy an unfortunate and embarrassing situation that had arisen.

John tells that when "the wine failed" the mother of Jesus said unto Him, "They have no wine," evidently in the hope that He, by His miraculous power, might save the family from the embarrassment of the condition that was about to prevail.

His answer, "Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet, come," suggests, says Dr. A. T. Robertson, that Jesus is getting across to His mother a lesson that is very difficult for most mothers and fathers to learn, with reference to their children. The use of the word "woman" (gr. gynaie) instead of the usual word for mother (gr. meter) "does show her she can no longer exercise maternal authority and not at all in His Messianic work."

(The average father and mother let go of their children, even when they have reached maturity, with great difficulty. Some of them do not want to let go at all. They do not want them to marry; they do not want them to go out into the world and establish themselves in-

Sunday School Lesson For January 12

John 2:1-16

dependently. A foolish position for any parent to assume!)

Jesus immediately takes over the embarrassing situation. He commands them to fill the six stone water pots with water. John tells us they "filled them up to the brim." Then He gave the command to draw out and "bear unto the ruler of the feast." This they did, and when the ruler of the feast tasted the water he found that it had become wine.

John interprets this "the beginning of his signs" in Cana of Galilee as a manifestation of His glory and adds that "His disciples believed on him" (v. 11). Manifestly, Jesus' disciples realized that He was no ordinary man. No ordinary person could have performed the miraculous deed which they had just witnessed. Gradually the words of John, in their deeper significance, must have begun to unfold before them: "Behold, the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:30f.).

His Zeal For God's House

After the miracle at Cana Jesus went down to Capernaum along with His mother and His brethren and His disciples and abode there "not many days."

The passover of the Jews being at hand, Jesus then went up to Jerusalem and there, to His amazement, found in the temple "those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting" (v. 13f.).

The scene that follows tells its own story. Jesus "made a scourge of cords, and cast all out of the temple, both the sheep and the oxen; and he poured out the changer's money, overthrew their tables; and to them that sold the doves he said, "Take these things hence; make not my Father's house a house of merchandise." And John adds: "His disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house shall eat me up" (see Psalm 69:9).

Christ manifested through the act of the cleansing of the temple, a consuming zeal for God's house. "He could not stand by and wash His hands of other men's sins. It was this which brought Him to the world and to the cross. He had to interfere." (Dods).

The Curse of Convenience

In the above scene one beholds more than the zeal of our Lord for the house of God. He sees also the sinister curse of convenience. In the olden days the penitents

came to the temple with voluntary offerings of what they knew and cherished most—animals, for instance, that they valued because they had been watched from birth and tested in farm work. There was a charm to that form of sacrifice which could never be had through the offering of an object purchased over the sales counter.

Of course, it was convenient for worshippers to be able, on the grounds, to obtain the requisites for sacrifice. Moreover, it was possible that some of them might not be familiar with the type of sacrifice required for the particular offense. There was also the risk that the examiner in the temple might reject as unfit the animal they brought. Those for sale on the spot had doubtless already been approved by the temple examiners and there was no danger of a misdeal.

But a tyranny had developed and monopoly that brought about exorbitant charges. All of this came to make temple worship less meaningful to the people. Temple service had become actually a hardship and "an offense to the people of God."

It is so easy in modern day Christianity for one to follow the course of expediency and to lose the simple joys of fellowship in Christ. The tendency on the part of many is to listen to the radio on Sunday morning rather than to go to the trouble of attending formal worship in the house of the Lord. Others satisfy their conscience by sending their offering rather than taking them in person to the house of the Lord.

Christians may well ponder John's description of the first cleansing of the temple with a view to setting aright their own relation to Christ and to His church.

Alabama Methodists Also Pay Moral Debt

The Alabama Methodist Conference is paying off a "moral debt" of \$386,406 on the defunct Montgomery Memorial Hospital and has collected \$20,295.23 in the last nine months for this purpose, it was revealed at the group's annual meeting in Mobile.

Attempts to operate the hospital, which was built as a memorial to World War I soldiers, ended in financial disaster.

News of Buckner Churches Told

Clark's Chapel Church was organized December 8. There is good prospect for Baptist work in that community. This new church is a product of the efforts of the missionary and Rev. L. L. Gilliam.

Dayton Church has called Dan Berry, South Fort Smith, as pastor. His ordination will be held at the earliest convenient date.

Buckner Association feels they have sustained a loss in giving up Bro. L. L. Gilliam, who has resigned his work in the churches of Dayton and Ione to accept the call of Rye Hill Church, Concord Association.

Bro. W. A. Bishop, one of Arkansas' greatest rural preachers, is retiring. The gap made in our ranks by his retirement will be one difficult to fill.

Midland Church, under the fine leadership of Pastor W. W. Kersh, is experiencing unusual growth. In the few months that the church has been under Pastor Kersh's leadership there have been 47 additions.

The fifth Sunday meeting of Buckner Association will meet with the Midland Church.

L. P. Thomas has recently been called to Hartford Church.

Arkansan Edmond Walker, now pastor of First Church, Modesto, Calif., sends in his subscription to the Arkansas Baptist.

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A

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The Cooperative Program

We are launching out upon the greatest year of Baptist history. Our program is, first, make disciples; second, baptize them; and, third, teach and train them. It is true that we have many methods and many organizations in our churches and in our denominational life, but all of them are designed to reach this one objective. The Great Commission is the Magna Charta and the walking orders of the Baptist churches everywhere.

We, for the most part, have the expenses of this program outlined and bound up in the Cooperative Missionary Program. Out of this unified budget, distribution is made for all organizations and workers that are trying to bring to pass the accomplishment of our unified task. In 1946 we had a great financial support for the Cooperative Program, but it will take a much greater support in 1947. Start your church off right the very first week of the year.

The Whole Program

IF YOU WERE AN ORPHAN, or your children were orphans, would it not be a gloriously blessed thing for someone to adequately support and equip the Orphans' Home—**FOR YOU**.

IF YOU WERE YOUNG, with bright mind, plastic and ready for the molding hand of Christian teachers, would it not be a gloriously blessed thing for someone to support Christian schools and colleges—**FOR YOU**.

IF YOU WERE SICK, in need of medical aid and treatment, would it not be a gloriously blessed thing for someone to support our hospitals—**FOR YOU**.

IF YOU WERE OLD, having spent your strength as a preacher of the gospel, or the wife of a preacher, would it not be a gloriously blessed thing if someone provided adequate ministerial relief funds—**FOR YOU**.

IF YOU WERE LOST, unsaved, in some destitute part of the homeland, or in some foreign clime, would it not be a gloriously blessed thing if someone sent a missionary your way to preach Jesus—**FOR YOU**.

IF YOU MET CHRIST, walking your way, looking for those who will help Him bless and save the world, would it not be a gloriously blessed thing if you could say to Him: Master, all these things have I done—**FOR YOU**.

Widow's Supplemental Plan

In your workers' conference, please emphasize the Widows Supplemental Annuity Plan. We must have two-thirds of our eligible preachers making applications before this Plan can become operative. All preachers who are members of the Ministers Retirement Plan

A Great Church

First Church, Marianna, Rev. W. F. Couch, pastor, sends \$600 extra for Cooperative missions. This great church has given 60 per cent of its undesignated receipts for the Cooperative Program. The amount in 1946 was



Pastor Couch

\$10,257.27. The church has given a total for all missions in 1946 of \$11,731.27. The report says that the members of the church as a whole believe in missions now more than they did a year ago.

Pastor Couch says that his deacons have a fine attitude toward missions. J. G. Willis, chairman of the deacons, deserves a lot of credit for what the church is doing for missions. The names of the deacons are J. G. Willis, Malbrey Oglesby, W. P. Owen, V. H. Edwards, W. F. Curtis, P. F. Duke, R. R. Corkran, and C. B. Hogan.

This great church has also had a great year along other lines. It has baptized many people and has enjoyed a splendid attendance in the services and there is a fine spirit existing all the time.

and are up to date in their payments are eligible to join the Widows Supplemental Plan. Many of our preachers have made their plans to enlist but have neglected to send in their applications. A word from you to them at your monthly workers' conference might remind them to send in their applications. Brethren, this Plan is a good thing for you. Don't you want in?

Association Clerks And Treasurers

We often magnify the office of the moderator of an association, and we do well to magnify this office. The district association has been an important organization in the Southland through the years, and the moderator is the guiding star in the work of the association.

We sometimes neglect, however, to magnify the offices of the clerk and the treasurer in the association. There was a day when the work of either one of these officers was slight but it has taken on large proportions during the last few years.

Long drawn-out reports and statistics, and an abundance of "red tape" have characterized all clerical work in this nation during the last quarter of a century. During the last five years "red tape" in all clerical work has increased over and over again. When we say "red tape" we refer to reports, tabulations, requisitions, forms, minutes, etc. Much of this kind of work has been necessary all along but its increase has been so great that in many instances it has been a burden, and in some instances has been a source of annoyance to associational clerks and treasurers.

It is not only true with the officers of the associations, but it is true now in all denominational work and activities, and in local churches. The six point record system, the eight point record system in churches are illustrations.

The State Board is giving much financial help to the associations. This financial help is sometimes for one division or type or work in the association and sometimes it is for another type of work. There are so many angles to it that a treasurer needs a classified report and requisition at the end of each month in order to know how to keep books and to report to the organization for which the funds are handled.

The office of the State Board has the same ditches to hurdle with reference to making reports, giving information, etc., to all of our Southwide boards and agencies. Customs and good record-keeping and ability to give information have demanded that these long reports and requisitions be used. We know it takes time and work.

Our associational treasurers and clerks have been faithful and have spared neither time nor labor in endeavoring to supply organizations with the information needed. We want to express our deep appreciation to all the clerks and treasurers of the associations in Arkansas, as well as to the missionaries and moderators. Baptists work could not go forward as it does without this fine cooperation. Out-of-date mailing lists get us into confusion and cause misunderstandings. It is not so easy to give full cooperation in the complex work of Baptists, but it is glorious. Thank you, Brethren.