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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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ARKANSAS
Baptist

FEBRUARY 20, 1958



FIRST CHURCH, Searcy, has purchased this home for their pastor, William J. Sewell, the church's new pastor, and his family moved in Jan. 1. About 150 attended the Feb. 3 open house at the home which contains approximately 1,900 square feet, three bedrooms, two baths, den with wood-burning fireplace and a large living-dining room. Under the leadership of Mr. Sewell, the church received 22 additions during January.

Conway-Perry News

J. PAUL Lewis, Ouachita student, has accepted the call to Bigelow Church, and C. D. Johnson, Little, has accepted the Casa Church call in a full-time capacity.

JANUARY BIBLE studies were held by the following churches: Plumerville, Morrilton, Perryville, Perry, Adona and Houston.

MRS. R. S. HAGOOD, Little Rock, was principal speaker at the workers conference in Bigelow Church. Pleasant Grove has won the attendance banner at the associational workers conference for the past three months.

PERRYVILLE'S NEW pastor, B. L. Gustavus, has moved into the church's new parsonage. The home is one of the most modern in the city, featuring an all-electric heating system.

DON HALLUM, Pleasant Grove pastor, will be ordained March 9 by 1st Church, Russellville, his home church.

MISS MARGARET Nixon, Huston, Miss., has been added to the faculty of Southern College, Walnut Ridge, as head of the department of business administration. Miss Nixon has a B.S. degree from Mississippi State College and a M.S. degree from the University of Indiana. She has had six years of high school teaching experience in Kansas, Illinois, and Mississippi. Also she has served as an executive secretary.



MISS NIXON

Ordinations

WILLIAM C. HUDDLESTON, former youth director of 1st Church, Newport, now in the seminary at Louisville, was ordained in the Newport Church Dec. 29. He is currently serving as pastor of Mt. Elmira Church, Brooks, Ky.



Ed F. McDonald, Jr., 1st Church pastor, served as moderator; Associational Missionary Cecil Guthrie was chairman of questioning; James O. Melton, Immanuel Church pastor, led the dedicatory prayer, and Charles F. Wilkins, former pastor of 1st Church now living in Little Rock, brought the sermon.

Mr. Huddleston, son of Mrs. William C. Huddleston and the late Mr. Huddleston, is a native of Newport and a graduate of Baylor. He is married to the former Miss Velva Nell Vest, Batesville. He will be at home in Newport during July and August and available for revival and supply work.

SAN ANTONIO — Baptists hope to establish a junior college here that will open to students in 1963 and be a branch of Mary Hardin-Baylor College. While Mary Hardin-Baylor College is a senior college for women, the San Antonio branch would probably be coeducational. Planners report it will have a physical plant worth \$1½ million.

Director Warren to Visit Little Rock

DR. C. C. WARREN, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, who recently resigned as pastor of 1st Church, Charlotte, N. C., to lead the Convention in its campaign to add 30,000 new preaching stations by 1964, will be in Little Rock Feb. 26 for a meeting with the Arkansas Committee on the 30,000 Movement, Dr. S. A. Whitlow, executive secretary of the Arkansas State Convention, has announced.

The Arkansas committee, headed by Dr. C. W. Caldwell, superintendent of the Missions department, will meet with Dr. Warren in the chapel of the Baptist Building, at 10:30 a. m.

● THREE HUNDRED AND sixty-one baptisms were reported by 30 churches in Black River Association for 1957. Although the ratio of baptisms to church members was slightly less than 1 to 12, Black River had the best of any association in the state. (CB)

● THE SUNDAY School of Harvey's Chapel, Central Association, has qualified as standard. (CB)

● FIRST CHURCH, Harrison, gave \$1,235.81 in the Lottie Moon Christmas offering, more than double the \$605 goal that the church had set. (CB)

● FIRST CHURCH, Fayetteville, has received notification that the Sunday School has been recognized as standard. (CB)

● J. LELAND HALL, pastor 1st Church, Clarksville, was the guest speaker at a Valentine Banquet at 1st Church, Paris, February 13.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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February 20, 1958

Volume 57, No. 8

Kilburns Back In Arkansas

CHAPLAIN AND MRS. John W. Kilburn have moved back to Arkansas from Baton Rouge, La., and are now located at Box 98, Rt. 2, Hot Springs.



MR. KILBURN ates have included Union Church, El Dorado; Bearden and Stephens.

He was on duty as an Army chaplain for 21 years, serving in North Africa and Italy, and later, in Korea. He is said to have the distinction of being the only chaplain to preach to prisoners of war in Korea.

Mr. Kilburn will be in a revival beginning April 6 with Pastor P. J. Crowder at Walnut Valley Church, north of Hot Springs. He is open for revivals and supply preaching. His telephone at Hot Springs is NA tional 3-7470.

● TWO QUEENS with scepter and one queen were among the 14 girls participating in the recent coronation service in Lee Memorial Church, Pine Bluff. Four were made princesses; three, ladies-in-waiting; and four, maidens. Mrs. J. K. Robinson and Mrs. Thomas McCarroll are counselors. Jeannie Ruffin, queen with scepter, is the author of an article in the February Tell, written as a project in her latest step.

● DR. WALTER L. Johnson, University Church, has been named chairman of a special committee of the Fayetteville Ministerial Association to conduct a city census March 16. About 600 census takers are being enlisted for the task.

Churches Add Baptist

THE FOLLOWING churches have added the Arkansas Baptist to the 1958 church budget:

Bigelow Church, Conway-Perry Association, J. Paul Lewis, pastor.

Glendale Church, Concord Association, A. D. Kent, pastor.

Taking the Baptist on the one-month trial offer are:

Grace Memorial Church, Belleville, Dardanelle-Russellville Association, T. D. Douglas, pastor.

Ward Church, Caroline Association, Meredith Wilfong, pastor.

THE FOLLOWING churches have added the Arkansas Baptist under the club plan:

Second Church, Searcy, Allen T. McCurry, pastor.

East Side Church, DeWitt, Allen Van Horn, pastor.

The Cover

Evangelism on Talking Books

IN THIS week's cover photograph, Dr. C. E. Autrey, professor of Evangelism, Southwestern Seminary, is seen recording soul-winning messages for the Talking Book ministry of **The Braille Evangel**, Fort Worth.

This month a 12-inch LP record carries the voice of Dr. Autrey in two messages, "What Will You Do With Jesus?" and "The Grace of God." At the beginning of each message is a hymn of Christian assurance, and at the close of each is a hymn of invitation by the Chapel Choir of Baylor University.

This is one of twelve records planned for the 1958 evangelistic emphasis of **The Braille Evangel** ministry. Since a large majority of the blind cannot read Braille, the recordings open a vast ministry, reports Edwin Wilson, editor of **The Braille Evangel**. Brother Wilson reports that during the year **The Braille Evangel** Talking Book ministry will be aimed at 25,000 blind people who await the light of



Christ's message of salvation.

Readers of this announcement are asked to forward the names and addresses of unsaved blind people in their community to: **The Braille Evangel**, Box 6999, Ft. Worth 15, Texas.

● JAMES BUCKNER, Ouachita student, has been called as minister of music by 1st Church, Malvern. He is the son of J. W. Buckner, pastor of Crossett's Temple Church.

● DR. TOM Logue, state BSU director, was the featured speaker at the Sweetheart Banquet of Baring Cross Church.

● WALTER JESSER, pastor of Providence Church, near Fayetteville, and Miss Wilmalien Field, daughter of Mrs. Arthur Field, Fayetteville, were married Feb. 2. They are making their home in Fayetteville. Mr. Jesser has been pastor of the church for eight years.

● WEST BATESVILLE Church had dedication services for its new educational building Feb. 16 at the morning worship service. Dr. Stanley Williamson, Sunday School Board, Nashville, was the guest speaker. (CB)

● A NEW mission has been established in the Wirth Community, about 18 miles north of Hardy. The mother church is 1st Church, Hardy, assisted by New Hope, No. 2. Ten professions of faith were recorded during a week's revival, Jan. 27-Feb. 1, with Simon Norris, New Hope, and Lendol Jackson, Hardy, preaching. A Sunday School was organized Feb. 2, with the assistance of Cecil Guthrey, Black River missionary. Attendance on the first Sunday totaled 34.

● MT. PINE Church is erecting a building, with kitchen and dining facilities, to be used as a youth center. (CB)

Southern College Professor Honored by Students

W. K. WHARTON, professor of English and journalism at Southern College, Walnut Ridge, for the past 10 years is receiving many tokens of appreciation from former students.



MR. WHARTON when students have requested it or he felt they needed it.

One of his most popular courses has been religious journalism, designed to give ministerial students and religious workers the knowledge needed in preparation of church bulletins, advertisement and press releases.

Mr. Wharton has sponsored the Baptist Student Union, Press Club, The Scroll, the school newspaper, the College Annual, has served as the secretary to the Faculty Club, and other academic clubs. He has served as mayor of College City and pastor of the College City Baptist Church.

Why Not a Cooperative Program of Service?

Should our Cooperative Program deal only with finances? Is there not a need of working out a program in which there is cooperation in service rendered, in organizations set up, and in meetings held?

The number of departments and agencies of the denomination has greatly increased year by year. Each may have a distinct type of service to render, but the field is the same for all. And in many cases the individuals with whom they work are the same. These departments and agencies feel that they must set up organizations in the associations, districts and state if they are to render efficient service. Then meetings of various kinds — clinics, conferences and conventions — are held to train the officers, inspire the people, and reach certain objectives. But should the organizations be set up and meetings be planned by departments and agencies independent of each other and following the idea that "the early bird gets the worm"? If all departments and agencies can be financed equally and successfully through the Cooperative Program, why cannot their services be projected equally and successfully through a Cooperative Program?

In some respects the present methods the departments and agencies are following in their work is similar to the old way the denominational agencies and institutions pursued in financing their programs. They were out on their own, visiting the churches at a time they chose, making their own appeal in their own way. Such a plan could not assure equality of support according to the worthiness of the cause. Besides, the special offerings began to come too often in the churches. Hence, the Cooperative Program was set up to enable each cause to share fairly in the total receipts. It is a better plan.

Why cannot the Cooperative Program function in the realms of organizations, meetings, objectives, calendar of activities, and in every phase of service? Should one agency select all its officers and leaders ahead of all others, thus getting the best qualified? Should one department or agency set dates for its meetings far in advance of others in order to secure for itself the most choice time? Should several departments have so many meetings scheduled that there is no time left on the calendar for meetings sponsored by other departments? Should each department be free to sponsor just as many meetings as it desires?

These questions should remind us of the need for real cooperation. The multiplicity of organizations and meetings we are now experiencing will ultimately force us to it, just as the increase of special offerings in churches turned us to the Cooperative Program of finances. It will not be sufficient just to cooperate to the extent that there are no conflicts on the calendar. Cooperation in service goes deeper. The members of the human body cooperate with each other, but all of them work together in the interest of the whole body. So it must be with our denominational agencies; the concern and purpose of each should be for the good of the whole.

Has the point been reached in our denominational progress that necessitates cooperation in service as well as in finances? If so, somebody should initiate a study along this line. Some things which seem needful at present are:

1. The work and service of each department and agency should be clearly defined and the realm in which each is to function should be prescribed.
2. Organizational needs should be determined and a plan set up whereby all officers of all departments of work be elected at the same time to insure proper distribution of leadership.
3. The meetings of each department or agency should be allocated according to the needs for a successful program, and also according to the total meetings to be held.
4. The schedule of all meetings of all departments should be determined at the same time to keep a balanced emphasis and a balanced calendar.

These suggestions apply to our Southern Convention agencies and departments as well as to the State Convention and district associations. —C. W. Caldwell, in *The Baptist Program*.

* * *

IMMANENCE

By RICHARD HOVEY

Enthroned above the world although he sit,
Still is the world in him and he in it;

The self-same power in yonder sunset glows
That kindled in the words of Holy Writ.

Heaven from a Husetop

HOUSETOPS USED to serve more useful purposes than merely to keep out the elements, down on Bunker Hill.



MR. McDONALD and surest curing process, but it tended to keep away contaminating swarms of hungry flies.

During the late summer and early fall, we used to cut up peaches and apples and spread them out on the husetop to dry. Getting the fruit off the ground level and into the direct rays of the sun not only assured the quickest process, but it tended to keep away contaminating swarms of hungry flies.

There was another use of the husetop that appealed to me as a boy. That was cloud gazing. With no television or radio, with few books and magazines, and with not many places to go or sights to see, you could climb the leaning ladder to the shingle-roof top of the house and amuse yourself by the hour, watching the clouds fly over on a lazy summer's day.

Of course, the clouds could be watched from the ground. But you seemed to have a more direct contact from the husetop.

"Pearly White City" was a song that was being heard a lot in those days. This, along with the influence of a large, illustrated family Bible, helped me to visualize "the New Jerusalem" in some of the colorful clouds.

Something one of the speakers at the recent evangelistic conference said brought my long-ago, husetop experience back afresh. He said that Christians are no longer living in daily expectation of the coming again of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We have developed varying attitudes about the second coming of Christ. Some, the plain teachings of the Scriptures to the contrary notwithstanding, claim they can tell you the day and the hour this great event is to occur. But the most of us, it seems, are just not thinking much about it, if at all.

Is it not something greatly to be deplored if we find in searching our hearts that heaven and the coming again of the Lord seemed much more imminent when we were children than now that we are mature men and women?

What greater encouragement can Christians have to help them "stand in the evil day" of this present generation than the knowledge of the fact that Christ is most assuredly coming again, and that he may come today?

"... why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner..." (Acts 1:11)

Erwin L. McDonald

THE PEOPLE SPEAK

The Magpie Story

Dear Erwin:
You scoundrel, you thief, you cheater, and you perjurer. You have ruined my whole life. "The Magpie Story" is my favorite story. I never speak without telling either "The Magpie Story" or the story of the woman who objected to a chandelier in the church. You see the magpie fits our story very well for there is many a preacher who is like the Starling, the Blackbird, the Thrush, or the Owl. Few of them stick with the study that is essential to developing a good preacher.

Since I wrote the first sentence of this letter, I have changed my mind. Thank you very much for giving us in writing this great old story . . . Lee Gallman, Director, Seminary Extension Department, Jackson, Miss.

Editor's Reply: Where could we lay our Editorial hands on your chandelier story?

Typographically Speaking

Dear Editor:
Your treatment of the evangelistic conference and the reports of the addresses was, I think, the very best. The style used in reporting and the breaking of the articles in separate stories with independent headlines I like very much.

Maybe, I am prejudiced because that is the way I like to handle conventions from both the writing end and in the typographical convenience.—E. L. Whitaker, Arkansas Baptist Camp, Ferndale.

Paper as Promoter

Dear Brother McDonald:
May I express to you again the complete satisfaction we have gained from using the front page of the Arkansas Baptist for our associational news and promotion. It is meeting with the favor of all our churches and doing a great deal to coordinate the work of the Association. We feel that it is worth the added financial expenditure for promotional purposes alone.

Thank you for using news items from our association so regularly in the paper. We feel that you are giving us a real fine paper. Keep up the good work.—Tommie Hinson, Superintendent of Mission, Washington-Madison Association, Fayetteville.

"Us, Too"

Dear Erwin:
After reading the article relative to the 2nd Church, Little Rock, I almost sat down and wrote a letter, but didn't. However, after reading the current issue of the Arkansas Baptist and especially the letters to the editor, I was compelled to write to you and say "us, too."

Yes, we have a kindergarten at the 1st Church. This is its first year and there are 23 boys and girls enrolled. My wife is director of the school and has one assistant teacher. My wife, by the way, was elementary director at the Cherokee Baptist Church in Memphis prior to our marriage in 1955.

Of course, I know that you have no way of finding these things out unless we write to you and tell you. This we should have done when it first started. Regret that I did not get to attend the Evangelistic Conference . . . but enjoyed your excellent coverage of same.—James F. Yates, pastor, 1st Church, Paragould.

Thanks a Million!

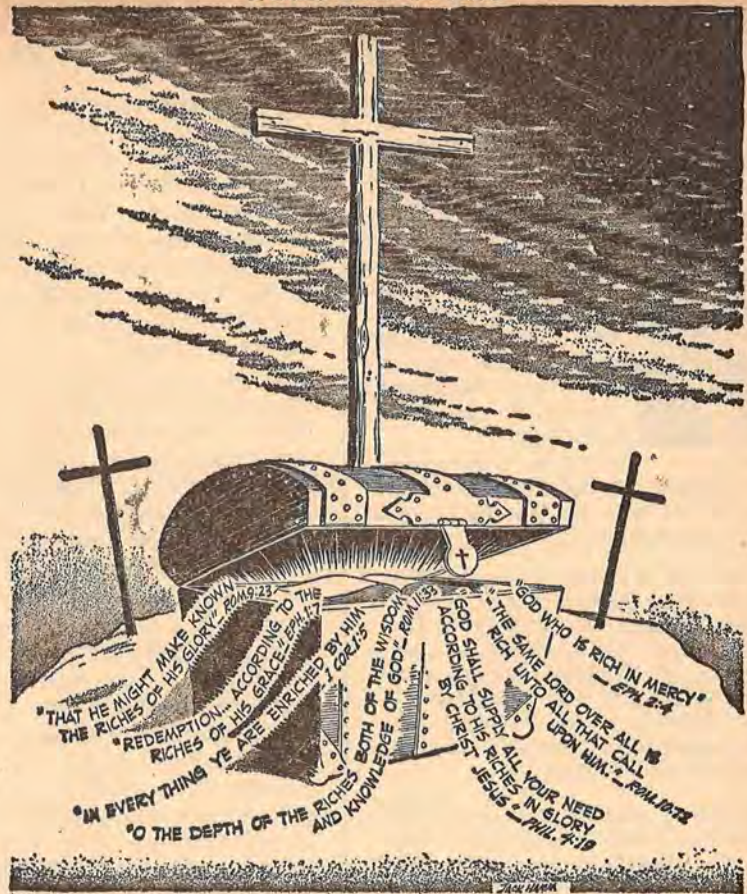
Dear Bro. McDonald:
I enjoyed the present issue of the Arkansas Baptist (Feb. 6) very much. Your coverage of the Conference was superb. I could tell that you were there, and took in every word. The information is such that I will file it, and put it to use later on. That is the kind of a paper I like . . . J. Leland Hall, Pastor, 1st Church, Clarksville.

For Facing Issues

UPON ATTEMPTING to purchase at the local Baptist Book Store the widely-advertised book *The Long Bridge*, by Mrs. J. A. Sapp, we were informed that it had been "withdrawn" and all copies had been called back from the outlet stores. We received a statement by Courts Redford, Executive Secretary, Treasurer of the Home Mission Board, explaining the withdrawal of this book. The reasons given for the recall raise some serious questions concerning Baptist principles.

It is said that "this is an undesirable time to study a subject that . . . may be an occasion for bitter disagreements and for harmful divisions." It seems more reasonable

A CROSS MARKS THE PLACE



to say that the time to give careful, prayerful attention to problems is while they are problems. Must we let the other institutions of our time decide the problems and then simply follow their conclusions, or should we, members of Christ's Church, seek to learn the mind of our Master and bring our beliefs to bear upon the issue?

A study of the Home Mission Program of work with Negroes at this time is said to be "fought with the possibility of harmful debate and divisive discussion." Historically, Baptists have not considered debate and discussion "harmful" but rather essential to integrity and loyalty to the Lord. We have no pope or ecclesiastical council to whom we refer, no authoritative creed which gives us ready answers. This has never excused Baptists from taking responsible positions on current issues — the avoiding of issues has been characteristic of monasteries, not of Baptist churches. The will of God is made known to us through the Holy Scriptures within the divine community, the Church.

There is an expression of concern for harmony and co-operation in Dr. Redford's statement. This is a valid concern. Our Baptist fellowship is based upon our unity in Christ. If we are not faithful to Him we have no ground for fellowship. We are not banded together simply to promote an organization or to perpetuate mutual feelings. We are held together by the constraining power of Christ's love and any "harmony" that ignores Him and His will for us is essentially meaningless.

The purpose of Baptists studying together, as in a study course, is not so that we can be indoctrinated with truth handed down from some official, neither is it merely to promote some program, rather is it to understand better what is the truth of God; indeed, it is to have created in us "the mind of Christ." We have not made it a practice to meet together and wait for the Spirit of God to give "the truth" to some one person, who can in turn authoritatively pass it on to the congregation. Rather, we have made it a practice to let men who are free under God express their views, which views can then be tested by discussion. True Christian love does not merely allow, it demands such discussion. Discussion with and in Christian love lets us see clearly where we as Christians disagree and thus lets us work toward a solution of our problems. This kind of discussion

is not arguing, it is not contentious, it is real brotherhood. To admit that we can not discuss differences in this manner is to deny that God has the power to work in us to reveal His mind to us. James and Paul met with the church at Jerusalem in this spirit and aired their differences. Thus we have the statement that the Gospel is for all men. (Acts 15)

That the book was withdrawn so that the people of the convention were not even permitted to choose to study our work among Negroes is sad if not tragic. That we cannot talk about current issues while they are issues is a devastating indictment. May God restore to us a confidence in one another and in His grace that we may seek through open discussion and the searching of hearts to know "what is the mind of the Spirit." (Rom. 8:27)—James L. Rhoads and James M. Green, Southern Seminary, Louisville.

Pastoral Changes

DR. RICHARD S. Brannon, 1st Church, Batesville, resigned Feb. 9 to accept the call of Huffman Church, Birmingham, Ala., effective March 3.



During Dr. Brannon's two years at Batesville approximately 150 members have been added to the church. Total contributions amounted to more than \$96,000, with \$32,000 going to missions. Within the last two years plans were inaugurated and property purchased for expansion of 1st church.

Dies at Age 88

DR. EVERETT GILL, Sr., 88, of Wake Forest, N. C., emeritus Southern Baptist missionary to Europe, died at



Mary Elizabeth Hospital, Raleigh, N. C., February 5, after seven weeks of illness. He was the father of the late Dr. Everett Gill, Jr., who was secretary for Latin America for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

DR. GILL Funeral services were held at the Wake Forest Church, February 7. Burial was in the Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond.

A native of Randolph County, Mo., Dr. Gill received the bachelor of arts degree from William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., and the bachelor, master, and doctor of theology degrees from Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky. He received honorary doctor-of-divinity degrees from Georgetown (Ky.) College and Wake Forest College.

He pastored churches in Louisville, Wake Forest, Danville, Ky., Kansas City, Mo., and Chattanooga, Tenn., and taught at Wake Forest College, William Jewell College, Southern Seminary, and at several Baptist theological seminaries in Europe.

In 1904 he was appointed a missionary to Italy, where he served as superintendent of Southern Baptist mission work in the northern section of the country for eight years. Later he served 18 years as Southern Baptist representative to Europe, living at various times in Rome, Italy; Barcelona, Spain; Lausanne, Switzerland; Edinburgh, Scotland; Budapest, Hungary; and Bucharest, Romania.

During World War I, Dr. Gill served as hospital inspector with the American Red Cross in Italy. He was awarded the Royal Abruzzi Medal by Victory Emmanuel II for relief work during an earthquake in Italy. He retired from overseas mission work in 1939.

Dr. Gill wrote many articles for the religious press and several books, including *Europe and the Gospel* (Foreign Mission Board, Southern Baptist Convention, 1931), *Europe—Christ or Chaos* (Foreign Mission Board, SBC), *A. T. Robertson—Biography* (MacMillan, 1943). He was a member of Sons of the Revolution, Knights Templar, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S., and Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

He is survived by his widow, the former Emma Geraldine Williams, native of Staunton, Va.; a sister, Mrs. Emma Agee, Oklahoma; a son, Col. Harrison Williams Gill, Tennessee; a daughter, Mrs. John Byron Sims, Idaho.

Love Greatest Need of Children

Modern psychology has probed deeply into the emotional life of children, and its findings are revolutionizing the handling of children, and compelling tremendous shifts in educational procedure. Frances Cole McLester declares: "It is unfortunate that . . . adults are usually far more interested in what children and young people do than in how they feel. We tend to pay much attention to their behavior but often ignore their attitudes and emotions. This is a grave oversight on our part, for how the individual learns to feel about situations will finally determine what he will do about them."

As a child comes to Sunday Church school he is charged with emotions. How the teacher deals with these emotions will largely determine what the child learns. Hate, love, joy, fear, jealousy, tenderness, guilt, hope, and many other emotions are the determiners of actions. The child psychologist has discovered, moreover, that the repression or bungled handling of a child's emotions pushes them into the unconscious, where they simmer and seethe, and finally erupt in some fashion or other.

Assured love seems to be the strongest factor in the emotional health of a child. Parents and teachers need to let children know that they are secure in love. Gone are the utterly rigid schedules for babies. You can really pick them up and love them—within limits of course—says the child psychologist. On the reverse side of the picture, essential rejection of a child is the most devastating possible blow to his being. One of the most terrible verses in the Psalms is that which begins with the words, "When my father and my mother forsake me . . ." To me the most terrible moment in Handel's *Messiah* comes with the singing of the word, "Rejected!" "Despised"—one could possibly take that. Even crucifixion could be endured, but rejection—! A common element in most delinquency cases is a feeling of rejection—nobody cares.—Wilfred T. Packer, in *Bulletin of Crozier Seminary*

What! Outside Denominational Circles?

While we would advise the exercise of great care in supporting evangelistic movements outside of denominational circles, we would by no means deny the right of church people to give where in their studied opinion such may be justified.

While we believe that Baptists should go all out for Baptist causes, allowing no other interest to supplant these causes in their hearts, we would by no means say that all other efforts are of the devil, that converts are insincere, and that the projects are not in many instances producing real Christians.

Our denominational allegiance has been too long established to need defense. While we have no hesitancy in insisting that the safest and soundest way for Baptists to support missions, stewardship, and evangelism is through our own churches, we would by no means offer a blanket criticism of the successful Christian in the other camp.

We seem to note a subsiding of criticism, on the part of our leadership, against revival efforts not labeled "Baptists." Convinced that we are more nearly tracking God's plan of promotion than are others, we should be too busy with this plan to sink to the lower level of discrediting all others. We know that it isn't easy to keep balanced in an age so highly competitive, nevertheless, we should consistently be just that and never less than patiently tolerant. Of course we aren't talking of tolerance toward evil. No such "trigger" charges have ever been directed toward this paper. That sort of talk is cheap twaddle and a tool used only by those lacking resourcefulness.

Those who have got some unhappiness out of the fact that we have said "God bless all sincere efforts to save souls" should know that this has not made our paper less denominational, nor less effective in its denominational work.—*Baptist New Mexican*

DEALING WITH DIVORCE

By C. W. Scudder

Associate Professor of Christian Ethics
Southwestern Seminary



MAN has departed far from the ways of God in many respects, but no such departure is more clearly apparent nor more damagingly felt by the cause of Christ than in the matter of marriage and the home.

The modern concept of marriage seems to be a composite of the accumulation of man's compromises and customs down through the years. In the thinking of many people today marriage is simply a contract designed to control or regulate this relationship in society. If this view is held, it is easy to conclude that society will not be too greatly affected by the breaking of the marriage contract as long as it is done in an orderly way. Such a view does not make the breaking of the contract a matter of morality at all.

Marriage, however, is much more than a mere contract. It is written into the very nature of man and involves a union of two people. Not only is it a physical union, it is also a union of personality and purpose. It is a union planned and formed by God himself and with which God has instructed man not to tamper. Contemporary conditions, however, bear witness to the fact that this relationship, which is so meaningful and purposeful in the plan of God, has been so tampered with and put asunder by men that the Christian minister today is faced with the baffling and conscience-troubling problem of just how God would have him deal with the people who have already been deeply affected by and are deeply involved in the problem of the broken marriage.

The breaking up of a marriage is not just the breaking of vows which have been taken but the breaking of an essential union made by God himself. To sever such a union is to oppose God and His will and purpose. To oppose God in such a way is a serious matter

and brings serious and tragic consequences. People need to be reminded of this today.

Divorce is a problem which arose and continues to arise today either out of man's misunderstanding of the meaning and nature of marriage or his disregard of the understood teaching of God concerning the relationship. In dealing with distressing contemporary conditions the primary need is not the focusing of attention on the problems created by divorce but rather upon the basic teachings of God concerning marriage.

Some Pharisees came to Jesus one day and asked him a question about divorce. They were not really seeking the truth but, rather, seeking to discredit Jesus. However, the question occasioned an answer, and in it is found the clearest biblical teaching concerning marriage. Instead of giving a direct

answer concerning divorce Jesus focused their attention upon Genesis 1:27 and Genesis 2:24. Rather than allowing himself to be ensnared by their plotting, he caused the Pharisees to focus their attention upon themselves and their ignorance of the Word of God concerning the basic meaning of marriage.

He said to them, "Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?" (Matthew 19:4, 5)

When questions begin to arise concerning the matter of divorce today, the attention needs to be taken from divorce and focused upon marriage. The Pharisees wanted Jesus' interpretation of Deuteronomy 24:1-4, but he indicated that what they really needed was an understanding of Genesis 1:27 and 2:24. The ministers of Christ might well use this same strategy and follow this same procedure today.

Where, then, is the beginning place in dealing with the serious and acute problem of divorce and broken homes? It must be quickly acknowledged that there is no way of undoing the wrong which has already been done. It is possible, however, to begin teaching and preaching not to defend the status quo but to declare the truth of God concerning marriage. It seems logical to believe that people will not as quickly nor as lightly enter into the marriage relationship if they understand the true meaning and nature of marriage, nor will they so lightly put asunder the marriage union when the true teachings of God are understood. The ideal of God for marriage may not be attained, but the obligation rests upon every minister of Christ to declare the whole truth of God concerning that ideal.

So God Created Man . . .

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them . . .

Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh (Genesis 1:27; 2:24).

Blessed is every one that feareth the Lord; that walketh in his ways.

For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee.

Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: thy children like olive plants round about thy table.

Behold, that thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the Lord (Psalm 128:14).

EIGHT DISTRICT CONVE

Meeting Places

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT — WEST BATESVILLE — MARCH 10

NORTHEAST DISTRICT — FIRST, PARAGOULD — MARCH 11

EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT — FIRST, FORREST CITY — MARCH 13

CENTRAL DISTRICT — FIRST, NORTH LITTLE ROCK — MARCH 14

SOUTHEAST DISTRICT — FIRST, WARREN — MARCH 17

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT — FIRST, HOPE — MARCH 18

NORTHWEST DISTRICT — FIRST, ROGERS — MARCH 20

WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT — FIRST, PARIS — MARCH 21

Program — Afternoon Session

- 3:00 Worship
 Song Service
 Scripture Reading and Prayer
 Special Music
- 3:30 "Planning for Sunday Evening"
 General Officers — Ralph Davis
 Adults and Young People — R. V. Haygood
 Intermediate Leaders — Mrs. Ruth Tolleson
 Junior Leaders — Mrs. F. F. Hicks and Mrs. Early Kinard
 Primary Leaders — Mrs. Faber Tyler
 Beginner Leaders — Mrs. C. E. McGlothlin, Mrs. Fred Carter
 and Miss Ruth Bridges
 Nursery Leaders — Mrs. Merle Basden, Mrs. Charles Davis
 and Mrs. Ray Owens
- (All conference leaders in the afternoon and night conferences will be assisted by workers in the districts.)
 Junior Boys and Girls — District Workers
 Intermediate Boys and Girls — District Workers
 Children below Junior age — Host Church
- 4:30 Junior Memory-Sword Drill — Ralph W. Davis
 4:50 District Speakers' Tournament (17-18 Years) — R. V. Haygood
 5:10 Adjourn
 (Pictures taken of Junior Memory-Sword Drill Winners)
- 5:30 Supper furnished free at following conventions: West Batesville, Paragould, Forrest City
- 6:30 Meeting of Nominating Committee, consisting of associational Directors of the associations of the District.



Ralph W. Davis
Secretary



Lehman Webb
President,
Southeast Dist.



Ken Green
President,
Southwest Dist.



Leslie Riherd
President,
N. Central Dist.

TRAINING UNION TIONS

Items Of Interest

No Registration Fee or Offering

District Speakers' Tournament (for 17-18 year group) at 4:50 P.M.

Tournament (for 19-24 plus college students) at 8:25 P.M.

District Sword Drill at 7:05 P.M. (Participants must use Bible B100)

Junior-Memory-Sword Drill at 4:30 P.M. (Juniors must use Bible B100)

Participants in Intermediate Sword Drill and 19-24 years Speakers' Tournament will meet Mr. Haygood and Mrs. Tolleson in Church auditorium at 6:30 P.M.

Participants in Junior Memory-Sword Drill and 17-18 year Speakers' Tournament will meet District President in main auditorium at 4:15 P.M.

Program — Evening Session

- 6:45 Worship
 Song Service
 Scripture Reading and Prayer
 Special Music
- 7:05 District Intermediate Sword Drill — Mrs. Ruth Tolleson
- 7:20 "A Good Sunday Evening"
 General Officers — Ralph W. Davis
 Adults and Young People — R. V. Haygood
 Intermediate Leaders — Mrs. Ruth Tolleson
 Junior Leaders — Mrs. F. F. Hicks
 Primary Leaders — Mrs. Faber Tyler
 Beginner Leaders — Mrs. C. E. McGlothlin, Mrs. Fred Carter
 and Miss Ruth Bridges
 Nursery Leaders — Mrs. Merle Basden, Mrs. Charles Davis
 and Mrs. Ray Owens
 Junior Boys and Girls — District Workers
 Intermediate Boys and Girls — District Workers
 Children below Junior age — Host Church
- 8:20 Song and Announcements
- 8:25 District Speakers' Tournament (19-24 plus college students)
 — R. V. Haygood
 Special Music
- 8:40 Message, "Let's Grow Up" — Roy Lambert — First Week; four
 pastors — Second Week
- 9:00 Report of Judges
 Adjourn



Marlin Gennings
 President,
 Northeast Dist.



Nolan Finney
 President,
 West Central Dist.



R. V. Haygood
 Associate



Rev. D. Hoyle Haire
 President,
 East Central Dist.



THE PROMOTION Committee of the 30,000 Movement is composed of the executive secretaries of the various boards and agencies of the SBC and the chairman of three other committees of the movement. C. C. Warren, director of the movement, is chairman of the committee. Left to right are: L. O. Griffith, Home Mission Board, chairman, Publicity and Literature Committee; W. L. Howse, Sunday School Board, chairman, Personnel and Training Committee; Courts Redford, executive secretary, Home Mission Board; C. C. Warren; James Sullivan, executive secretary, Sunday School Board; Alma Hunt, executive secretary, Woman's Missionary Union; S. F. Dowis, Home Mission Board, chairman, Survey Committee. Not pictured: George Schroeder, executive secretary, Brotherhood Commission, and Forrest Feezor, executive secretary, Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Editors Propose North American Press Group

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M. —(BP)—Two Baptist editors have proposed formation of a North American Baptist Press Association. The association, as proposed, would include editors of publications of all Baptist groups on the continent.

The first editor to propose such an organization was Erwin McDonald, Little Rock, editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*. He said it would aid 19 million Baptists in North America in their joint Baptist Jubilee Advance.

Later, W. Barry Garrett, associate director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Washington, said that perhaps editors of the various Baptist groups could meet together in Washington Sept. 16. Many of the editors will be in Washington at that time for a Conference on Religious Liberty, he added.

Both McDonald and Garrett were in Albuquerque for the mid-winter meeting of the Southern Baptist Press Association. The Southern Baptist Press Association includes editors of 25 state Baptist newspapers and of several other Southern Baptist Convention periodicals.

McDonald proposed that if a North American Baptist Press Association were formed, it should have a broader purpose than participation in the Baptist Jubilee Advance. It should "certainly meet now and possibly after that," he declared.

McDonald said that such a meeting of the editors of various Baptist groups would "help us see what we can do to further the cause of Christ in our several ways."

The Baptist Jubilee Advance climaxes in 1964, the 150th anniversary of organized Baptist work on a national scale in North America. The participating Baptist conventions have set goals in evangelism, church extension, and other areas to be reached by that year.

Revival Reports

TWENTY-THREE additions by baptism and five by letter were reported by Pastor Luther Dorsey, Forrest Park Church, Pine Bluff, in the Jan. 19-26 revival held by Clift Brannon, Longview, Tex. There were 11 other professions.

Golden Gate Seminary Excavations Underway

EXCAVATIONS FOR buildings of the academic area of Golden Gate Seminary's new campus at Strawberry Point are now in progress, according to Dr. Harold K. Graves, president of the Berkeley, Calif., school. These structures include four classroom buildings, administration building and cafeteria.

Cahill Construction Company of San Francisco was recently awarded a contract of \$1,500,000.

Academic buildings are to be built of concrete and steel, with walls of glass and porcelain panels and with mission tile roof.

Indiana Church Shows Missionary Spirit

SIX-YEAR-old East Gary Church, E. Gary, Ind., during the last year has enrolled almost 1,000 persons in mission Sunday Schools.

To launch the project, 250 members of the 674 in the mother church scattered into 12 chapels over the area, where 150,000 people live. These Sunday Schools now have an enrollment of 1,300, according to G. C. Rowe, pastor, and five now have their own property.

Of the 674 to join the East Gary Church in the last six years, 297 have come on profession of faith. Mr. Rowe, a graduate of Southern Seminary, has been at the church since his graduation about five years ago.

THE BOOKSHELF

"WHAT IS wrong with the human race? Many intellectual physicians have come up with their ideas. The Bible tells us that man has a disease. That disease is called sin. There is evidence all about us that man has a moral disease that erupts in lying, cheating, hating, fighting, murder and war . . . The Bible teaches that human nature is wrong side up; man is morally and spiritually sick. No one wants war, but we have it. Few want an arms race, but we have it. Most people do not want to commit the sins they do, but they do."

Thus does Billy Graham diagnose man's disease of sin as he presents Christ as the sure-cure prescription, in one of his sermons quoted in *Billy Graham and the New York Crusade*, by George Burnham and Lee Fisher, published 1957 by Zondervan at \$2.50.

The blessings of the New York crusade are being greatly extended and magnified through this book.

After Death, What Then? is a compilation of sermon outlines by Evangelist Paul E. Wilhelm, of Lamar, Ark., printed privately by the author and available from him or the Baptist Book Store at 65 cents a copy.

Other books received:

Life Is the Healer, by Eileen J. Garrett, published by Dorrance & Company, 1957, \$3.75.

Communism's Prophet, by J. F. Barrett, Greenwich, 1957, \$3.

Gold from Golgotha, by Russell Bradley Jones, Baker, 1957, \$1.75.

My Pastor, a biography of William Asa Duncan, Baptist Executive, Minister, Teacher, and Traveler, by Donie Leone Branan, Foote & Davies, Inc., Atlanta, 1957, \$2.50.

The Gamblers at Golgotha and Other Sermons, by G. Hall Todd, Baker, 1957, \$2.75.

Judas, the Betrayer, by Albert Nicole, Baker, 1957, \$1.50.

Fairchild Installed as Pastor 1st Church, Hot Springs

JAMES H. Fairchild, new pastor of 1st Church, Hot Springs, was installed at a special installation service Sunday Feb. 2 during the morning worship hour.



MR. FAIRCHILD

Mr. Fairchild, formerly pastor of the 1st Church, Louisville, Miss., holds the BA degree from Mississippi College and the Th. M. from the Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky. While at the seminary he was twice elected president of the Mississippi student body.

Following his graduation from Mississippi College, he served for two years as Bible instructor and B. S. U. secretary at Copiah-Lincoln Junior College, Wesson, Miss. He was named secretary of Royal Ambassador work for the states of Mississippi and Alabama following his graduation from the seminary.

His Mississippi pastorates include his home church, the Wesson Church, 1st Church, Collins, and the 1st Church, Louisville.

During the time that he served in Louisville, the church built a new sanctuary with a seating capacity of 1,000, at a cost of \$350,000. Last year the Louisville church was one of the leading churches in Mississippi in baptisms.

He has served on important committees and boards, including the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and the State Executive Committee.

In 1955 he attended the Baptist World Alliance in London and has twice served in preaching missions to South America. Eight years ago he and Mrs. Fairchild lived in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil while he served with the Foreign Mission Board.

A reception for the Fairchild family was held in the church Tuesday, Feb. 4.

ARKANSAS STATE BAPTIST BROTHERHOOD CONVENTION

SOUTH HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH, LITTLE ROCK
February 24 & 25, 1958

Theme: "CONQUERING AND TO CONQUER"

- 3:00 **MONDAY AFTERNOON:** — G. C. Hilton, Presiding
BROTHERHOOD Emphasis: — "Planning for Victory"
Song Service..... Jack Riley
Scripture and Prayer..... Monroe Drye
Special Music
"THE SCOPE AND RANGE OF BROTHERHOOD"
—The Brotherhood Commission..... Fred Carter
—The State Brotherhood Convention..... Thel Smith
—The Regional Brotherhood..... Bob Parker
—The Associational Brotherhood..... Carl Goolsby
—The Church Brotherhood..... Nelson Tull
—The Brotherhood and Royal Ambassadors..... C. H. Seaton
- Song
"BROTHERHOOD ACTIVITIES" — New Filmstrip
Special Music
MESSAGE: "Formula for Attainment"..... G. A. Ratterree
Benediction
- 6:50 **MONDAY EVENING:** — Thel Smith, Presiding
PERSONAL Emphasis: — "Growing in Achievement"
Song Service..... Dick Maple
Scripture and Prayer..... Lloyd Duck
KEY-NOTE (President's Message): "Overcoming the World"..... Thel Smith
Special Music
COUNSEL: "Victory is Personal"..... G. A. Ratterree
Song
DEMONSTRATION (R. A. Boys): "A Generation of Victors"..... C. H. Seaton
Special Music
ADMONITION: "My Reasonable Service"..... Carey Selph
Song
Business
Special Music — Plate Offering
ADDRESS: "Conquerors All"..... S. A. Whitlow
Benediction
- 9:00 **TUESDAY MORNING:** — Thel Smith Presiding
CHURCH AND DENOMINATIONAL Emphasis: —
"Conquering Together"
Song Service..... Bob Glenn
Scripture and Prayer..... Jack Riley
Special Music
CHALLENGE: "Evangelism — A Personal-Church-Denominational Must"..... Thel Smith
PANORAMA
PROSPECT: "Winning a State to Christ"..... Jesse Reed
Song
Film Strip: "30,000 NEW PREACHING STATIONS"
Special Music
MESSAGE: "Laborers Together with God"..... G. A. Ratterree
Adjournment

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BOONEVILLE, ARKANSAS

Sunday School Board Approves Expansion

NASHVILLE —(BP)— The Baptist Sunday School Board will soon start construction here on a \$4 million building. The building, two blocks long, will house its extensive operations departments.

Executive Secretary James L. Sullivan, Nashville, said construction will begin after bids have been evaluated.

The new building is immediately west of the Sunday School Board's present cluster of buildings at 127 Ninth Ave., No.

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MISSIONS

C. W. Caldwell, Superintendent

New Mission Stations

WE ARE OFF to a good start in establishing mission stations in Arkansas. We now have approximately one hundred church-sponsored mission stations throughout the state.

Sunday, February 2, Alzheimer Church, under the leadership of Pastor Louis Clark, opened a mission in the Cornerstone Community, eleven miles south of Alzheimer. There were 62 present, three additions by letter, one profession of faith and one baptism.

Also on February 2, a mission was begun at Wirth in Sharp County. The Hardy and New Hope Churches, with their pastors, Lendol Jackson and Si-



DR. CALDWELL

WMU

Reporting: Board Action

By Mrs. R. L. Mathis, President of Woman's Missionary Union, S.B.C.

At its recent meeting in Birmingham, Ala., the Executive Board of Woman's Missionary Union, S. B. C., committed itself to the task of reaching the goal of \$2,000,000 for the Annie Armstrong offering, March 3-7, 1958, during the Week of Prayer for Home Missions.

So strong was their faith that additional allocations for home mission causes brought by Dr. Courts Redford were adopted.

And then we prayed. We prayed that people everywhere would respond as never before—for we have never given \$2,000,000 for our home mission offering.

We prayed that people would meet to study, to pray. We prayed that our young people would dedicate their lives to tell the story here at home and to the uttermost parts of the earth.

If We Are To Have Peace

This, then, can be said: If we want a peaceful world, we must recognize that the love of Christ must be in the hearts of men. We must work to give freedom to those who do not have it. We must show the world that we are to demonstrate the belief in a commitment to our task here in America.

This task faces each in his own sphere, faces all who seek to work together for the peace of the world, faces Woman's Missionary Union as we approach the Week of Prayer and the

mon Norris, sponsored a revival meeting which resulted in ten professions of faith. The schoolhouse has been secured as a place of meeting and a permanent mission opened to be sponsored by the Hardy church. There were 33 in Sunday School and prospects for a thriving mission. Space will not permit to give a report on all new missions.

We want to call attention to some good news in regard to the new missions and churches being established. The Sunday School Board, in addition to giving free Sunday School and Training Union literature for the first quarter, is now proposing to give 25 copies of the Baptist Hymnal to any new mission or church organized between February 1, 1958 and December 31, 1963, under certain conditions. We suggest that all requests for song books be made through our state music director, Mr. Leroy McClard. Write to him in regard to conditions under which free song books may be secured. In securing Sunday School and Training Union literature, it would be well to contact your state Sunday School and Training Union Secretaries, Dr. Edgar Williamson and Mr. Ralph Davis.

Annie Armstrong offering.

So let us support Board Action with a real observance of the Week of Prayer for Home Missions, March 3-7, and worthy contribution through the Annie Armstrong offering.

Nine From Mainland In Hawaii Crusade

NINE BAPTIST ministers from the mainland will participate in a simultaneous evangelistic crusade in the Hawaiian Islands during the Easter season. Meetings will be held in the Baptist churches in Honolulu April 6-13 and in those of neighboring islands and of rural communities on Oahu April 13-20.

The nine ministers are Earl B. Edgington, St. Petersburg, Fla.; L. T. Daniel, Dallas, Tex.; Ramsey Pollard, Knoxville, Tenn.; Charles C. Bowles, Birmingham, Ala.; Earl Stallings, Ocala, Fla.; Wayne Dehoney, Jackson, Tenn.; E. B. Bowles, Floydada, Tex.; E. V. Appling, Haynesville, La.; and H. Gerald Walker, Pensacola, Fla.

Centennial Church Begins Building

GROUNDBREAKING SERVICES for a proposed new building of Centennial Church, Pine Bluff, were held Jan. 26, on the third anniversary of the pastor, Lex H. Eaker.

Begun as a mission by 1st Church in 1954, Centennial has shown a continued growth.

WITH THE close of registration for the spring semester, a record of 384 students had enrolled for the 1957-58 session of Golden Gate Seminary, an increase of more than nine per cent over the highest previously recorded.

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CHURCH MUSIC

LeRoy McClard, Director

Graded Choir Workshop

ARKANSAS BAPTIST musicians will be led in a Graded Choir Workshop by Mrs. Haskell Boyter, March 13-14, in 2nd Church, Little Rock.



McCLARD

leader of children choir demonstrations. Knowledge of childrens materials and methods, sincerity, boundless energy and enthusiasm, artist, musician, vivaciousness, personality, are some of the terms that could be used to describe Mrs. Boyter.

Through lectures, material displays, and choir demonstrations, emphasis will be given to the entire graded choir program. The daily schedule will be as follows: Thursday, 9:30 a.m., registration; 10 a.m., music education: purpose, program, procedure; 12—lunch; 1:30 p.m., music education through the workbook materials (Mrs. Boyter has some wonderful new features to present to her Arkansas friends); 3, recess; 4, primary choir demonstration; 8 p.m., lecture: "Music Education for Children in the Church."

Friday Schedule: 10 a.m., Presentation of rehearsal plans and techniques; 12—lunch; 1:30, Presentation of music for each age group; 3, recess; 4, junior choir demonstration.

Who Should Attend the Workshop? Everyone who works with children, especially those who serve in graded choirs, Sunday School, Training Union, and W.M.U. Auxiliaries, or other children groups. We welcome our musician friends from other denominations.

We are charging \$1 advance registration fee in order that we may know how many people will be in attendance. The fee will be applied to materials that workshopppers will receive from Mrs. Boyter.

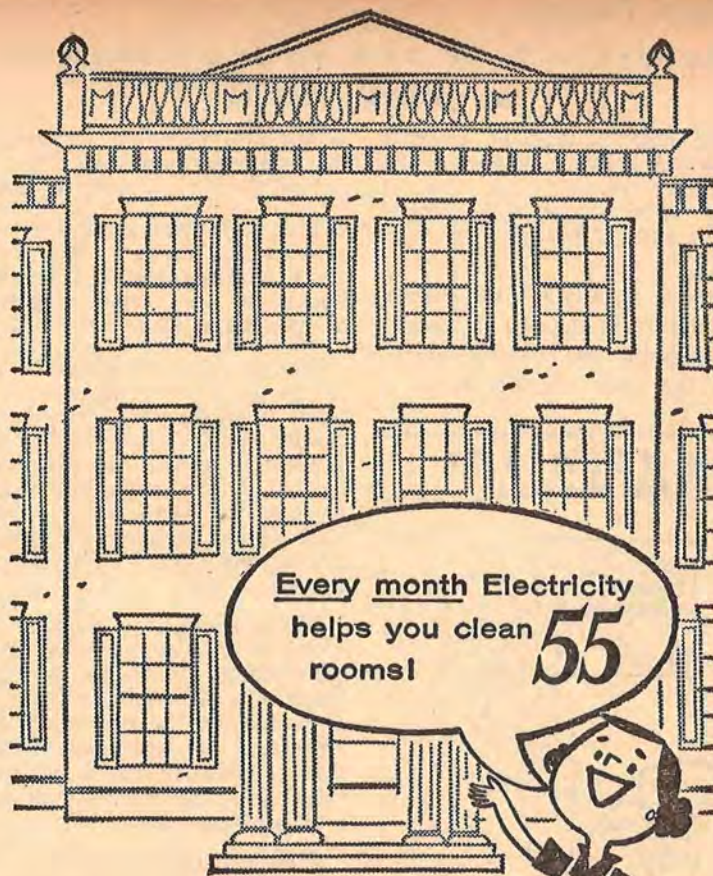
Mrs. Boyter will give materials and methods for each age group that will cover an entire year of work. These materials will be useful to the director who is just beginning a choir program as well as to those who have had a great deal of experience in the field of music education.

Today is the time to send your registration fee of \$1.

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HELPING BUILD ARKANSAS

Nature's Salt and Pepper Shakers

By **THELMA C. CARTER**

IMAGINE FOR a moment gigantic salt and pepper shakers showering the earth with the rainfall and dust of spring, the warmth and moistness of summer, the chill of fall, and the cold of winter.

Although this is only a make-believe picture of Nature in the act of seasoning and nourishing our beautiful earth, it is true that our natural world is

salted and peppered at intervals with the elements necessary for plant and animal life. It is a never-ending process.

The Scriptures remind us of God's care of the earth. "Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it . . . thou preparest them corn" (Psalm 65:9).

We see the great design of our Creator in the millions of tons of fine particles of dust, clay, fine sand, organic matter, and metallic substances that are hurled up into the atmosphere and carried by the winds and rains to the ends of the earth. It is Nature's plan that our soil be balanced, lush, and fertile so that it will be productive for the benefit of all.

Think about it a moment. Here on earth we have everything needed to sustain human life, animal life, plant life, insect life, fish, and on and on. It is only through the perfect blending and sprinkling of atmospheric substances that we have our valleys, prairies, mountains, and hills covered with great trees and rich vegetation.

Nothing could be plainer than the fact that God is continually conditioning our earth, as we condition our flower and garden plots. Wonderful, isn't it, to think that the seasoning and blending is his plan that all living things might flower into usefulness and beauty.

(Sunday School Board Syndicate, all rights reserved)

A Smile or Two

A BANK president, extremely sensitive about his baldness, wore his hat much of the time inside and out. One day while the porter, an employee of long standing, was sweeping out his office the president asked jokingly, "Sam, why is it that after all these years you don't have an account with us?"

"Because, Boss, you always look like you're about to go somewhere!"

"ITCHES IS something that when you're jammed tight in a bus your nose always!"

TWO OLD coon hunters were swapping tall stories about their dogs. "Why," said one of them, "I had a yaller hound oncet and every time just before I went hunting I'd whittle out a board in the shape of a coon hide stretcher, just to show him the size of the one I wanted, then I'd set it outside where he could see it. Well, sir, one day my wife set the ironin' board outside and that critter ain't come back yet!"

TWO GOLFERS, strangers to each other, happened to meet on the golf links. "See that girl over there?" said one. "Imagine her parents allowing her to appear in clothes like that — just copying men's clothes!" "That, sir," said the second golfer, "is my daughter." "Oh, pardon me; I'm sorry I didn't know you were her father." "I'm not; I'm her mother."

ROBERT Q. LEWIS tells of the worldwide firm with branches everywhere, including one in the Sahara Desert. One day the manager received a letter from the Sahara branch, complaining that the employees were out of water . . . The complaint was discussed with the president, who shrugged: "Oh, those Sahara people are always complaining they're out of water." . . . "I think this time they mean it," said the manager. "The stamp is attached with a pin."—Baptist and Reflector

Closed For Repairs

A THEOLOGICAL student was sent one Sunday to supply a vacant pulpit in a certain town. Later he received a copy of the weekly paper from the town in which this item appeared. "Rev. So-and-so of the senior class of Yale Seminary supplied the pulpit at the Congregational Church last Sunday. The church will now be closed three weeks for repairs."—The Baptist Observer

Safe Margin

SOMEBODY TOOK a religious census in a Texas jail and made this report: "Here, as elsewhere, the Baptists are in the majority."—Perry Webb

THE TEEN AGE

by **Judy McDonald**



"THAT NEW exchange student from Moon may not be much to look at, but he sure does have a super flying saucer!"

A Puzzling Diagonal

By **W. P. KEASBEY**

USE THE definitions given below to select eight four-letter words to place in the spaces provided. If you choose

the proper words, the letters falling in the long diagonal from upper left to lower right will spell the name of one of the major prophets of the Old Testament.

1				
2				
3				
4				

1. Right, fair
2. One fourth of a bushel
3. A weed found in wheat fields
4. Central or most important part
5. Think in a dreamy way
6. A piece of paper money
7. Think out beforehand
8. A legend or story

ANSWERS

The prophet: Jeremiah.

1. JUST
2. CHECK
3. TARE
4. CORE
5. MUSE
6. BILL
7. PLAN
8. MATH

(Sunday School Board Syndicate, all rights reserved)

The Church Worship

February 23

Matt. 18:19-20; John 4:23-24;

Acts 1:12-14; Col. 3:16-17

By DR. J. F. QUEEN

(Southern Baptist College)



Pilgrims Going to Church

—Wilde's Bible Pictures

DURING FEBRUARY we have had for study the privileges of church members; the church as a teaching and preaching agency; and now we see what God said in His word about church worship. One definition of worship is "The act of paying divine honors to a deity; religious reverence and homage; adoration, or reverence, paid to God, a being viewed as God, or something held as sacred from a reputed connection with God." The word worship comes from two words, **worth** and **ship**. When we worship we should be doing something valuable that we should share with others. It is selfish for a church to enjoy fellowship with one another and God for personal joy only. True worship in its fullness sends a church out to the "white harvest fields" to support orphanages, hospitals, schools, and the mission fields of the world. "Worth" is not worth much unless it "ships" its value to others.

First of all a church should not "forsake the assembling of ourselves together" (Heb. 10:25). According to Matt. 18:19-20 the most important part of a worship service is not the number present, but the presence of God. The way for God to come into a worship service is by prayer. The prayer should be definite and effectual. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (Jas. 5:16). But the effectual fervent prayer of two or three might avail more. Two or three might voice the same prayer but all three might not have the same interest and compassion for the one thing to be granted. Only heaven could record what a church would experience if all the members of a church in assembly should agree as touching any thing they ask. To lose the power of prayer in our churches is to reduce the churches to clubs only. Little Jane said, "Mother, you know that vase you said had been handed down from generation to generation?" "Yes, dear." "Well, Mother, I'm sorry, but this generation has dropped it." If this generation should drop the importance of prayer that some other generations have used to the glory of God it would be well pleasing to the devil.

Worship is not the following of a set program of ceremonies, prayers, talks, or sermons for "the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him" (John 4:23). This is because God is a Spirit. Programs, ceremonies, prayers and sermons are essential in the most effective worship but unless the Spirit of God possesses them they are unmotivated as an engine without fuel. The following illustration from the **Moody Monthly** is an example at this point: "The late Dr. George S. McCune, who for many years was engaged in missionary work in Korea, made this statement, 'A Korean said, "We have had a code of morals. We have known what we ought to do, and what we ought not to do, but we have had no power to do what we knew to be right. But when Jesus Christ came into our lives we had power to do right."'" The power of Christ comes into the life of a church when the Spirit of God becomes the center of its worship.

According to Acts 1:12-14 a ten-days prayer meeting was had in an upper room in Jerusalem. It was just after the risen Lord had ascended to heaven. He asked his disciples to wait for the coming fullness of the Holy Spirit. This 120 men and women did as He requested. Perhaps they met in the same room where the last passover supper was had, the washing of the disciples' feet, and the Lord's Supper. They spent the time in prayer. They did take time to elect Matthias to take the place of Judas as an apostle.

This is the last time the names of the apostles are recorded, and the last time Mary, the mother of Jesus, is mentioned in the New Testament. All of these were present in this great season of prayer. They were in one accord in heart and mind. The when and the how of the answer they did not know. They wanted to be ready to receive the answer in God's time and manner. Roger Babson, in an after-dinner speech, made the following statement: "Prayer

is the greatest unused power in the world, and faith is the greatest undiscovered resource." But that was not so with this church. They had both faith and power in this prayer meeting.

How to live after the answer to prayer is found in Col. 3:16-17. "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth" (Col. 3:2). "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he" (Prov. 23:7). Then the peace of God can rule in our hearts. This is the peace that unifies the body, the church, for which thanks to God should be given.

The Chinese have a proverb which says, "If there is righteousness in the heart, there will be beauty in the character. If there be beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home. If there be harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation. When there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world."

The peace that passes understanding is the peace that church assemblies should cultivate among themselves. Peaceful worship cannot be had separate from the word of Christ. When the soul is saturated with the spiritual understanding of the word of God it reaches its highest value in the right decisions in church worship. Then he who teaches will be at his best, and if he admonishes he will be understood. Paul had this opinion of the church at Rome: "And I myself also am persuaded of you, brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another" (Rom. 15:14). Singing has an important place in church worship. It unifies the hearts of the singers. Psalms and hymns have words of admonitions that apply to all church members.

After true worship in prayer in assembly with the presence of the Holy Spirit, with hearts united in "the word of Christ" and songs of admonitions, every member in his daily tasks should want to do everything in word or deed that would be pleasing to our Lord and Savior to His glory.

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

Economic Conditions Not the Determinant In Christian Giving for Missions

WE RECEIVED in our office this January \$6,406.08 more in undesignated funds than for January 1957. However, this did not meet our total budget needs. Our budget calls for \$125,000 per month. The above sum provided for the current or operating budget but only provided \$6,097.03 for the Capital needs division of the budget leaving a deficit of \$7,027.97.



DR. WHITLOW

My experience from this end of the line is too limited to make any worthwhile predictions about the remaining months of 1958. However, there is evidence in the above figures for a degree of optimism and much room for genuine gratitude. Perhaps the increase in undesignated receipts this year over

last January is due in a large measure to the Forward Program of Church Finance. The churches which have given this program an honest effort have experienced gratifying results.

What about the economic picture for 1958? Here again, I don't suppose I am qualified to cast a prediction of much value. However, it has been my contention and observation through the years that the economic conditions need not be the deciding factor in our giving. Honesty in stewardship is the controlling factor. This is a case in point. Our churches were giving more percentage-wise to the cause of world missions through the Cooperative Program back in the depression days than at present. If we face up to our responsibilities as stewards the ultimate results in giving will be amazing in any economic climate.

Our God is in the business of re-

demption unto eternity. He has granted us the privilege of serving as fellow-laborers with Him. Arkansas is rich in natural resources and abounds in opportunities of service. Our God is powerful to save. Perhaps our deepest need, then, as Baptists is to recognize the lordship of Jesus in every area of our life and dedicate ourselves and our substances to the achieving of His will.

Our neighboring convention to the south has set a challenging example for us. I heard the Executive Secretary of Texas Baptists state the other day that there were 3,800 churches in Texas. Only seven of that number failed to participate in world missions through the Cooperative Program last year. Texas is a big state. This demonstrates a big spirit. A great spirit need not be relegated to a great geographical area. I covet the Spirit of Christ for the Baptists of our state. It would be a wonderful thing if every pastor and every missionary in our ranks would put forth an extra effort to get every church to make weekly or monthly contributions to world missions through the Cooperative Program for 1958.—SAW

Arkansas Churches See Amazing Results With Forward Program

ABOUT FIVE per cent of the Baptist churches in Arkansas used the Forward Program of Church Finance last year. These churches set the pattern and the pace for all of our 1,160 churches. They proved that the plan works and that we need to do a better job in the teaching of stewardship. The campaigns also proved that every church can do a better job in 1958, if the people will adopt the Forward Program of Church Finance and then follow it.

According to the records, we find that the churches which followed the plan completely, without cutting corners, won the victories.

WOODLAWN CHURCH LITTLE ROCK

Horace L. Grigson, pastor

This church has a resident membership of 235. Last year the congregation adopted a budget of \$10,408 and

subscribed \$4,728 of it. This year the church adopted a budget of \$18,377 and pledged \$10,868. The budget goal was increased 76 per cent with an increase of 12 per cent in the amount pledged.

The real victory shows up in the increased number of members who signed pledge cards. Last year 33 people signed pledge cards and only 24 of them agreed to tithe. This year 116 individuals signed pledge cards and 73 of them agreed to tithe.

CALVARY CHURCH NORTH LITTLE ROCK

William H. Philliber, pastor

This church has a resident membership of 460. The adopted budget for 1957 was \$37,336, with \$31,200 subscribed. This year (1958) the budget goal is \$62,400 with \$45,776 of the goal pledged. The budget was increased 67 per cent and the amount pledged increases 46 per cent over last year.

Oh, but here is the real victory! Four hundred ten people responded by signing pledge cards. Two hundred seventy-two agreed to tithe.

Last year, without using the Forward

Program of Church Finance, only 181 individuals signed pledge cards and only 150 of them agreed to tithe.

IMMANUEL CHURCH, NEWPORT James O. Melton, Pastor

This church did not try to subscribe a budget for 1957, but a budget goal of \$11,007 was adopted. The 1958 budget goal is \$15,485 with \$13,260 of that amount pledged. One hundred sixty-one individuals signed pledge cards with 97 of these agreeing to tithe.

A SUMMARY:

	1957	1958	Increase
Amount Pledged	35,928	67,651	88%
Number Pledges	214	689	221%
Number Tithers	174	485	179%

We believe that each pastor, each deacon, and each finance committee member in each Baptist church would like to see the number of tithers increased 221 per cent and the amount pledged to the church increased 88 per cent.

These increases have become realities in the above named churches, but not without planning, praying, and working. When God's people follow Him, He always gives the increase. What God has done for other churches, He can do for yours.—RD

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