The number of tithers increased from 4,130 to 5,416, or 31%. The number of pledgers increased from 6,523 to 8,768, or 34%. The amount pledged increased from $815,274 to $1,103,428, which is an increase of 35%.

The above figures are as of December 31 for both years. There will be additional gifts for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering. It will be noted that all mission giving experienced an increase in 1959 over that of 1958. Designated gifts were less in 1959 than in 1958.

Likewise the churches not contributing in 1958 through the Cooperative Program decreased by sixteen and the number of associations with 100 per cent giving increased 8. All of these things indicate a healthy trend in every phase of our giving.

We are especially grateful to the missionaries for their valuable assistance in enlisting our churches in mission giving. We hope a special effort may be put forth this year to enlist the 74 churches having a part in world missions through the Cooperative Program.

The 19 associations with a 100 per cent record in mission giving were: Boone, Buckville, Carey, Caroline, Carroll County, Centennial, Central, Clear Creek, Gainesville, Harmony, Hope, Independence, Little River, Mississippi, Newton, Pulaski, Red River, Washington-Madison, and White River.

S. A. Whitlow, Executive Secretary.
Pastoral Care Conference Schedule

"OLDER PEOPLE and the Church" will be the theme of the Pastoral Care Conference at Arkansas State Hospital, Little Rock, Feb. 1, Dr. Granville L. Jones, superintendent of the hospital, has announced.

Registration will be held from 8:30 to 9 a.m., with a devotional at 9 a.m. by Dr. Bernes K. Selph, pastor of 1st Baptist Church, Benton, and president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Official greetings will be brought to the group attending the conference, by Dr. Jones and Governor Orval E. Faubus.

Other parts of the program for the opening session will be: "Aging Problems in America," by Dr. Hayden H. Donahue, assistant superintendent of the Arkansas State Hospital; a "get-acquainted" break; and "The Christian Churches and the Aging Process," by Dr. Paul B. Maves, professor of Religious Education, Drew University.

At noon the Arkansas State Hospital Auxiliary will serve a dollar luncheon. In the afternoon session, beginning at 1 p.m., Dr. Robert Hood, staff physician at the Arkansas State Hospital, will speak on "Physiological Aspects of Aging." Other features on the afternoon program will include: "Psychological Aspects of Aging," by Daniel Taub, chief of Psychological Service, Arkansas State Hospital; "Social Factors of Aging," by Murray Henderson, chief of Social Service, Arkansas State Hospital; and a case presentation, featuring an interview of a patient whose case will have been used as a part of the three previous discussions and a discussion of the pastoral implications.

The evening session, beginning with a banquet at 6 p.m., at First Presbyterian Church, 5th and Scott, Little Rock, will feature two addresses, "Entertainment by Senior Citizens," by Miss Virginia Guffey, secretary to the Division on Aging, Little Rock Community Chest; and "Ministering to Older People," by Dr. Maves. Adjournment is scheduled for 8:30 p.m.

Other participants in the day's programs will include Rev. John V. Albright and Rev. James M. Conard, chaplains of the Arkansas State Hospital; and Superintendent Jones.

All ministers and other leaders interested are urged to attend. The registration fee is $2.50. For those staying for lunch there will be a $1 charge and those attending the banquet will pay $1.50. Persons planning to attend should make their reservations directly with the Arkansas State Hospital.

In Formosa

NEVER A DAY passes that we aren't impressed with the urgent need of the Taiwanese people for the gospel. Today I saw a mother teaching her little child how to "bai-bai" (worship) a god of wood. She took three smoking incense sticks and pushed them into his chubby, clumsy little fingers, and slowly waved his hands up and down three times before an angry-faced deity.

She then moved her little son over to the next god and this time let him go through the forms of worship alone as she coaxed him with the words, "bai-bai, bai-bai, bai-bai." With his head and shoulders lightly bowed and his little fists clenched tightly around the incense sticks, the tiny boy bowed toward the idol three times. Then standing on tiptoes, he placed, with the help of his mother, the sticks into a pot of sand on the altar table in front of the god.

The boy turned and smiled at his mother and she smiled back while patting his head. He had learned his lesson well.

Then the mother led him out of the temple and down the crowded street until they faded out of sight among the multitude of people—Richard E. Morris, missionary to Taiwan (Formosa)

MOST OF the things easier said than done are said by the boss.
Editorials

NO DOUBT much of the credit for the State Convention exceeding its 1959 budget (see back page of last week's Arkansas Baptist), should go to our churches which have taken advantage of the Bible stewardship direction found in the Forward Program of Church Finance. We call the attention of our readers to the interesting table of Forward Program figures carried on page 2 of this issue, revealing detailed statistics for 22 typical churches of the state reporting on use of the Program in 1959, showing a 35% increase.

Dr. Ralph Douglas, associate executive secretary of the Executive Committee of the State Convention Board, who has the primary assignment of promoting stewardship, reports that 95 churches of the state used the Forward Program in some form during 1959. Among those churches using the Program only in part, the most common error was taking an apologetic approach to the Loyalty Day Dinner, Dr. Douglas states. When the Loyalty Day Dinner is not held according to the recommendation of the Forward Program plans, churches do not have nearly as many pledging as they would have had, he reports.

Operating a church is not quite the same thing as operating an ordinary business, but many of the principles of promotion that work in business will pay big dividends in the business of the church. The Loyalty Dinner, given for all church members at no charge, often is regarded by the frugal as a great extravagance. But experience shows that it really does not cost the church a penny. By having the free dinner the church is able to enlist additional financial support that usually makes up for the dinner many times over. In church promotion as in other types of promotion, often "you have to spend money to raise money."

It also takes money to compile the telling church statistics called for by the Forward Program plan book, and to get them out to the members in printed form. But if you forego this and save money on office help and printing cost, you keep down expenses but you do not come near the total budget possibility.

The churches which show the most phenomenal increases through the use of the Forward Program materials are the ones which follow the plans right down the line, all the way through. There are no short-cuts or short-circuits without concomitant shortages in the overall pledges.

Forward Program Making Impact

BEGINNING in this issue, the Arkansas Baptist newsmagazine is carrying a new series, "Looking toward Marriage" (see pages 8, 9, 10), through the courtesy of the Sunday School Board, Nashville. Mindful that more than two-thirds of our readers are women and young people, and not overlooking the fact that older men as well as the young men are interested in the theme, we trust this will be a welcome feature. If you appreciate the series, we shall be happy to hear from you. If for any reason you do not like it, let us hear from you regardless.

The first of the series, "What Is Love?", was prepared by Winnie R. Pearce, wife of Dr. Winston Pearce, pastor of 1st Baptist Church, DeLand, Fla., and well known and widely loved in her own right among Southern Baptists as a writer, speaker and young peoples' leader.

Next week the second in the series, "Looking for Someone?", by Ray F. Koonce, will be presented. Others in the series include: "Maturity for Marriage," by Dr. W. Payton Kolb, well known psychiatrist and Baptist layman of Little Rock; "My Polka's Don't Understand," by Jack Watson; "Marriage and Money," by Ruben Herring; "Religion and Marriage," by Dr. Joe W. Burton, editor of Home Life Magazine; "When Faith Is Not Shared," by Vernon B. Richardson; "What Does the Bible Say?", by Claude U. Broach.

In granting our paper permission to reproduce the series, Dr. Clifton J. Allen writes:

"I am happy to give the Board's permission... We are eager to have as wide circulation as possible, and we feel that persons would be helped to have the entire series in a form that can easily be preserved."

'Looking Toward Marriage' Featured

Personally Speaking...

'Buymen, beware

"TIME DON'T mean nothing to a hog," argued the old farmer who was not interested in feeding his pigs scientifically in order to have them ready for the market several weeks quicker.

Well, the meat packer's sworn statement that the sausage is "pure pork" does not mean too much to the fellow who knows what all a hog includes.

We heard the other day that part of that hog is a kiln and well known and widely loved in her own right among Southern Baptists as a writer, speaker and young peoples' leader.

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ARKANSAS BAPTIST
The United Nations Observer

IN NOVEMBER I visited the United Nations, substituting for Brooks Hays, the observer appointed by the Christian Life Commission to represent the Southern Baptist Convention. Of course, the position of “Observer” does not imply any official relationship. The United Nations recognizes “Non-Government Organizations” comprising large groups of citizens and provides access to information that will be of interest to their members.

Mr. Hays and I had visited the United Nations early in 1959 when the Peace Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention was preparing its report. Because of Mr. Hays’ personal acquaintance as a former delegate to the United Nations, we had interesting conferences with Dag Hammarskjold, Henry Cabot Lodge, Ralph Bunche and other officials.

On this second visit, I witnessed two debates which illustrate the serious world problems that confront the United Nations. One was the debate between Mr. Lodge, United States delegate, and Mr. Kuznetsof, delegate of the Soviet Union, as to whether the agenda of the next meeting of the General Assembly should include a discussion of the recent revolution in Hungary. The other was an equally bitter debate between MuSa Naser, Foreign Minister of Jordan, and Michael Comay, delegate from Israel, over the issues between the Jews and Arabs.

These are but two of the many political problems that threaten the peace of the world. There are equally serious economic, racial, and educational problems. The United Nations endeavors to deal with these by providing a forum for international discussion which expresses the moral judgment of the nations on political issues and also by providing practical aid in the needy places of the world through its Food and Agricultural Organization, World Health Organization, Children’s Emergency Fund, Educational Scientific Cultural Organization and other agencies.

The United Nations is the best instrument of international understanding and reconciliation now available. Its success is partly dependent upon the support of patriotic and Christian groups who study its work and interpret it to the public. Southern Baptists can make an important contribution in this field. They are fortunate to have in Mr. Brooks Hays an experienced and highly intelligent observer and interpreter.

—Walter Pope Blinn, Liberty, Mo.

Writers Organize

YOU HAVE been so kind to so many of us whose ambition it is to write for the glory of God, we know you will be glad to hear of a movement which got under way last spring at the Southern Baptist Convention.

A dozen or fifteen of us men and women who free-lance for the denominational press had a conference to discuss the problems we face.

Our basic need seems to be a sense of comradeship in our efforts—we admitted the lack of an esprit de corps. We believe we can improve our craftsmanship if we can share ideas, techniques, books, and the news of our failures and triumphs.

To meet our needs as writers, we talked about the possibility of forming a fraternity or fellowship. We would keep the organization of it simple, with the minimum of detail, limit our meetings to one a year, and engage in an informal exchange of tips.

No group in all the denominations will be more pleased to hear of this effort toward better writing than the men and women who depend upon what we produce, even when it is mediocre. We truly want to earn the space we get in Christian publications, and the honorarium we receive when it is available. Our sole purpose in proposing an organization is to become better religious journalists.

Any suggestions you care to make to us will be heartily welcome.—David E. Mason, R. Lofton Hudson, Marjorie Moore Armstrong.

REPLY: We wish you well. Perhaps other free-lance writers who read this will want to get in touch with you by writing to you in care of our paper.

ELM

Churches, Note

A STORY on Southern Baptists is being prepared for presentation in a March issue of Life Magazine. Information is needed on

1. First worship services of new missions,
2. The formal constituting of churches, and
3. Dedication services of churches moving into their first buildings which occur during the period, January 24-31, 1960.

All churches or missions having such events during the stated period are asked to notify (as to what, when, who, and when) Dr. W. C. Fields, Public Relations, Secretary, Executive Committee, Southern Baptist Convention, 127 Ninth Ave. North, Nashville 3, Tenn.

—Theo Sommerkamp, Baptist Press

RIO DELEGATES

I HAVE your letter relaying a question concerning the number of official delegates to which each church is entitled for the Baptist World Congress. The Baptist World Alliance Constitution, Article IX, states “Each body represented in the Alliance may appoint messengers to the General Meeting on a basis to be determined by the Executive Committee.”

The By-Laws, Article VII, state: (a) “Unless otherwise determined by the Executive Committee, each constituent Union, Convention or Conference may certify as a messenger any Baptist belonging to a church in fellowship with such Union, Convention, or Conference. Such messengers shall then ordinarily be entitled to a card of membership, issued by the General Secretary of the Alliance.” (b) “All sessions of the General Meeting shall be open to the Press unless otherwise determined by the General Meeting itself or by the body-inviting.”

We interpret this to mean that any church is allowed to send as many delegates or messengers or representatives to the meeting as it chooses. This provision has been limited only at certain congresses where space in hotels and meeting halls was limited. There is no such limitation imposed at the meeting in Rio.—Cyril E. Bryant, Baptist World Alliance, 1628 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington 9, D. C.
Central Association

By Hugh Owen

REV. JIM LANE has been called as the new pastor of Old Union. He lives in Benton and is a student at Ouachita College.

The Bauxite Church has called Rev. Robert Feazel as pastor. Rev. Feazel is a student at Ouachita College. He is married and has two children.

The church recently voted to build another

The Bauxite Church started a mission between Bauxite and Benton, November 15. They have an average of around 90 in Sunday School. The church recently voted to build another unit to the mission building 35 feet by 75 feet by 47 feet. This will give the mission room to continue to grow.

The Walnut Valley Church is in the process of building an additional Educational Building. It is 30 feet by 39 feet and will house Beginner, Primary, and Adult departments, and have two rest rooms. Plans are to occupy this building by February 1. Rev. Jerry McMichael is the pastor. The Sunday School has increased 40 per cent in enrollment since he became pastor less than a year ago.

The "M" Night attendance in Central Association was 632. There were 30 churches represented, and 28 pastors present. The Attendance Banner was won by Second Church, Hot Springs; the Contenders Banner, by Faith Church, Benton; and the Efficiency Banner, by Leonard Street Church, Hot Springs.

Concord Notes

By Jay W. C. Moore

DR. RICHARD R. FORD, Chaplain of the North Carolina Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem, will be the main speaker in a mental health seminar in Ft. Smith, Monday, March 28.

Young and his work in spiritual therapy are the subject of a book, Spiritual Therapy, Modern Medicine's Newest Ally, by Clarence Hall, which was condensed in last September's Reader's Digest.

The seminar is being sponsored by the Sebastian County Mental Health Association. The meeting is open to all ministers. Baptist pastors in the Ft. Smith area are urged to attend.

1ST CHURCH, Ft. Smith, recently ordained John Henry, Kenneth Boley and Tom Craft as deacons. Pastor Newman E. McLarty served as moderator of the council. Missionary Jay W. C. Moore delivered the sermon. A. C. Jaggers, chairman of the deacons, introduced the men to the church and council. Deacon Myers Richardson offered the ordination prayer. Other deacons in the church assisted in the service.

TWO CHILDREN, Linda Marie, age 12, and her eight-month-old brother, Gary, were killed recently in a car wreck in Blisbee, Ariz. They were the children of Master Sergeant and Mrs. James H. Jones who were active members in East Side Church, Ft. Smith, eight years before Jones was sent to Arizona from Ft. Chaffee.

Jones served as Brotherhood president and Extension worker in the Ft. Smith Church and Mrs. Jones was active in WMU.

The parents, the father of Jones, and their other two children, Wanda 9, and Nancy, 6, were seriously injured. Burial for the two children was in Fordyce.

A WEEK'S REVIVAL was conducted in the Glendale Church, Ray-Kesner, pastor, recently by William McIver of 1st Church, Warner, Okla. There were seven additions by baptism and four by letter.

West Memphis 1st in New Unit

FIRST CHURCH, West Memphis, had the formal opening of its new George Lehr Memorial Educational Building recently. Rev. Greer Garrett, pastor of Richland Church, Memphis, Tenn., brought the address. He is a former member of 1st Church.

The new building is 113 feet by 46 feet and is constructed of brick and light-weight concrete blocks. It provides for six Sunday School departments and contains 26 rooms. There is dining space for 300, a modern equipped kitchen, and a church parlor. The pastor was furnished by Mrs. George Lehr in memory of her late husband, a former deacon of the church. The building is air-conditioned throughout.

The opening of the new building was also the occasion for the observance of the fifth anniversary of the pastor, Walter Yeldell. During his pastorate there have been approximately 1,000 additions to the church, more than 400 of these by baptism. A new parsonage valued at $50,000 has been built, and additional property has been purchased for future expansion. The church is operating two missions, Coleman Mission, Proctor; and Second Mission, West Memphis.

At the close of the services, the chairman of the deacons, Lee McGinnis, presented the pastor with a piece of luggage with this note inside: "A trip to the Holy Land in 1960 from the members of 1st Baptist Church. Accept this piece of luggage as the first step in the preparation for the trip."

HAROLD ELMORE has resigned as pastor of Rison Church to accept the pastorate of 1st Church, Mountain Home.

JIMMY KARAM, layman of Immanuel Church, Little Rock, spoke at the January Men's Meeting of 1st Church, Pine Bluff.

IMMANUEL CHURCH, PINE BLUFF, has called Bill Nimmons as education and music director. He comes from 1st Church, Bridgeport, Tex., where he has served for two years in the same capacity. Mr. Nimmons is a graduate of Baylor University and Southwestern Seminary. Mrs. Nimmons also attended the seminary. They have a four-week-old daughter, Rhonda.
McRae Calls
Boyd as Pastor

REV. HORACE R. BOYD has been called to the pastorate of First Baptist Church, McRae. He and Mrs. Boyd will be moving to the McRae parsonage from Cabot in January.

Mr. Boyd formerly served as pastor of the Wattenaw Church for a total of eleven years, his third and most recent pastorate there totaling five years. During his service as pastor there he helped build two different church buildings, established a church budget, and received about sixty into the church by baptism.

A graduate of Ouachita College, Mr. Boyd has done graduate work at Arkansas State Teachers College and the University of Arkansas. He is in his seventh year as a member of the faculty of the Cabot school system, serving currently as principal of the Ward Elementary School.

PASTOR REESE S. HOWARD recently completed his seventh year as pastor of 1st Church, Beebe, and entered upon his eighth year.

During the past year the church received 34 new members, 22 by baptism. The total contributions for the year were $11,509.87. Property for the site of a pastor's home adjacent to the church property was purchased three years ago. This was recently paid for in full, two years ahead of the original goal for its purchase.

CALVARY CHURCH, Rose City, had the services of Clifton W. Brannon as evangelist recently in a revival. Alfred Cullum led the singing. There were 37 by profession of faith, one by statement, six by letter, and many rededications. William V. Philiber is pastor.

Baptists Named to Foundation

THESE Baptist leaders of Arkansas were elected at the annual meeting of the Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas as members of the Foundation Board at large:

Edward Maddox, Harrisburg; Jack Crouch, Beebe; Don Hook, Malvern; W. Harry Hunt, North Little Rock; J. C. Melton, Hot Springs; Wayne Stark, Heber Springs; Lehman F. Webb, El Dorado; Andrew Hall, Fayetteville; W. O. Vaught, Little Rock; Reuben L. Smith, North Little Rock; Paul Meers, Dardanelle; W. C. Blevst, Magnolia; Mrs. A. C. Kolb, Little Rock; Miss Nancy Cooper, Little Rock; Emili Williams, Russellville; Rhine McMurry, Lewisville; G. B. Hickem, Crossett.

The following were elected to the Board by the Arkansas Baptist Convention last November: Tom F. Digby, North Little Rock; Darrell S. Ross, Little Rock; Erwin L. McDonald, Little Rock; S. A. Whitlow, Little Rock; Delbert L. Garrott, Yellville; Andy Heskett, DeWitt; Dale Barnett, Cotter; Dale Cowling, Little Rock; Harold Bennett, Texarkana; Hugh Oman, Malvern; Amos Greer, Pine Bluff; William J. Sewell, Searcy; E. Clay Polk, Piggott; Carl Bunch, Jonesboro; and Lee Dance, Little Rock.

Ouachita Riflemen First in Match

OUACHITA COLLEGE rifle team walked off with first place in the Fourth Army ROTC Small Bore Championship Matches at Fort Sill, Okla., Dec. 5. In phase I of the matches there were 36 colleges, universities, and military academies from five states competing. Ouachita had 3,784 points out of a possible 4,000.

The team has been selected to compete in phase II of the matches at Fort Hood, Tex., Feb. 20-21. Scheduled to fire at Fort Hood, and their phase I scores are: Ouachita College, 3,754; Oklahoma State University, 3,741; University of Arkansas, 3,723; University of Oklahoma, 3,701; Northwestern State College of Louisiana, 3,651; Loyola University, 3,634; Texas Christian University, 3,612; A&M College of Texas, 3,599; Texas College of Arts and Industries, 3,636; Texas Technological College, 3,745; Oklahoma Military Academy, 3,598; New Mexico State University, 3,700; and Arlington State College, 3,753.

In the Intercollegiate Army-Navy-Air Force Match last year, the Ouachita rifle team placed second in the nation.

HAROLD B. RAY, of Blytheville, received the Bachelor of Divinity degree at New Orleans Seminary, Jan. 19.

Mr. Ray is pastor of Clear Lake Church, Mississippi County Association. For the past four years the church has granted him permission to attend the seminary. He has driven up to and from New Orleans each weekend, for a total of 108,000 miles, to obtain this degree.

MICHAEL CAROZZA has resigned as director of public relations at Ouachita College to accept the pastorate of 1st Baptist Church, Nashville, according to President Ralph A. Phelps Jr.

Mr. Carozza will continue his work at Ouachita for the remainder of the current semester before moving to Nashville.

ANDERSON CHURCH, Hope Association, has called Charles Baskin as pastor. He and his family have moved on the church field. The Baskins have a daughter, Kathy, and a son, Randy.

JACK PARCHMAN, pastor of 2nd Church, West Helena, was the evangelist for a recent revival in the church.

There were 11 for baptism, 17 by letter and nine professions of faith. Since Mr. Parchman became pastor of the church Nov. 15, there have been 51 additions.

CONWAY SAWYERS, pastor of 1st Church, Marked Tree, reports an outstanding revival in their church Nov. 29-Dec. 6. There were 66 decisions, 54 of which were professions of faith.

The evangelist was Larry Taylor of Ouachita. Sawyers recommends him very highly.

Page Seven
WHAT IS LOVE?

Looking Toward Marriage

First in a Series

By Winnie R. Pearce

LOVE too often is regarded as an ingredient of life which lends flavor but which is not absolutely essential. Today we are seeing perhaps more vividly than at any other time what happens in the lives of nations as well as individuals when love does not hold sway. And the love of one man for one woman is the sure foundation upon which are built a happy marriage and a Christian home.

Friendship, courtship, engagement, and marriage have changed radically in the last few generations. Fifty years ago boys and girls met at church. Their parents had been friends, they grew up in the same community, they went to the same school, their social life was on the same level. Travel beyond a small radius was practically unknown and friends were limited. The choice of a marriage partner was confined to a small group.

Today young people fly from Washington to California and return the next day. They meet from all walks of life and are free to choose a life companion from a wide range of people. Because the world has narrowed geographically, friendship circles are wider and regional differences less pronounced. This also means there is a greater difference in family backgrounds, culture, and outlook than when Grandpa was “keeping company” with Grandma.

Friendships Grow

Fortunate is a young woman who has been prepared by her parents for the important business of growing up, building friendships, and one day falling in love with one man for life. Blessed is the boy whose father and mother have made glad the path of learning through wholesome experiences, counseling, and guidance so that he may know what to search for in a life companion.

No matter how different or alike backgrounds are, when two people fall in love and marry there are adjustments to be made. The quality of their love depends on all the characteristics they bring to their marriage. Past habits, emotional responses, and manner of thinking affect this new relationship.

There is a notion that if two people love each other enough, any problem can be met. Only within certain bounds can this be true.

What Is Love?

The question, “Just what is love?” has always been intriguing, especially for young people. A tiny child loves himself. Then he becomes aware of his parents and those who feed and care for him, and they become the center of his affection. As horizons expand, other members of the family and friends are drawn into this circle of love.

As the growth pattern continues young people become aware of their interest in the opposite sex. Not until they have matured enough physically, mentally, socially, and spiritually to know the kind of love that sustains marriage should this sacred vow be considered.

Behind the Desire to Be in Love

Many have such a romantic, sentimental concept of love that they fall in love with love. In love they see the opportunity for a thrilling, exhilarating experience, an exciting adventure.

For others love is only an avenue of escape. An unhappy home life, an undesirable neighborhood, poverty, lack of culture—love may offer release from these unpleasant conditions. A person may easily fall in love with anyone who will remove him from a drab, lonely existence. Love built on such a foundation is anything but stable.

In a group of young people who were close friends, one couple was suddenly married. Another couple promptly followed their example. The idea began to snowball. Soon “everybody was getting married.”

Fear of being left out may be great enough to force some into hasty, ill-advised marriages. Others picture themselves as the one “left over,” without a chance to marry and rush to the altar prematurely. Falling in love with the wrong person, or getting married to keep from being left out, can be infinitely worse than no marriage at all.

The desire “to have my own home” proves too strong for some. To have a home and children is wonderful, provided the marriage partners are ready for the step and are making it with the right person. Permanent abode, a meal ticket, and economic security are an inadequate basis for marriage. Those who marry for money or security generally find nothing more, and sometimes not even that.

But there are those who recognize that genuine love
should bring together two people who find in each other the qualities they admire and whose personalities bring out the best responses from others. Their lives complement each other, and their love is motivated by constant concern for the welfare of the other.

Marriage built on such love draws the two together in sustaining hope and trust under the leadership of God. When Christ has no place in love, all is naught. The spiritual fitness of two people is of tremendous importance if marriage is to be the holy estate God intended it to be.

In friendship, love, and courtship two wholly different personalities must learn to adjust to each other. This is much more than the adjustment of two different sexes. It is the adjustment of two different sexes with all the varying shades of difference in human personality. This involves the physical, but far more the habits, tastes, aspirations, ideas, and attitudes of a man and a woman.

This adjustment does not mean that one person is made to conform to the mold of the other, but that each strives for the best use of all his abilities and capacities. Neither will be changing to suit the fancy of the other, but there is a desire by each marriage partner to understand the other and to encourage the mutual growth and development of both.

Two people often are drawn together because of similar interests—vocations, hobbies, intellectual or cultural pursuits. In friendship these mutual interests are important, yet they alone do not provide an adequate foundation for growing love and marriage.

Sometimes a couple are so badly mismatched that parents, teachers, and friends become alarmed and attempt to show them why they should not fall in love and marry. These objections may only make the couple more determined to marry. Often the marriage is consummated just to prove that they are capable of deciding with whom they will fall in love.

Tests of Love

"It would be a simple thing if there were sets of rules and gauges by which we might get all the correct answers to questions about love. But because every person is so intricate in makeup, so different in design, that is an impossibility. People are interesting, but two people who think they are in love must be not only interesting to each other, but worthy of being understood better. Let us look at a few tests for the validity of love.

Love Is Thoughtful

One of the important elements in the personality of a boy or a girl is the inner attitude of concern for the well-being of the other. Lack of consideration for others may become a handicap to successful adjustment later. It is wise to ask the pertinent question, "Does he, or she, inspire me to be thoughtful?"

One girl may beam and remind her friends that her date sent her a ten dollar orchid for Easter. "Therefore," she says, "he must be very thoughtful." This is no way to judge whether he is really thoughtful. He may have been motivated by fear—afraid of what she would think if he sent a three dollar carnation corsage, though the latter may have been more in the price range of his budget.

Spending money or putting on a show is not the behavior of a thoughtful person. Real consideration springs from genuine kindness, the brand of kindness that is revealed in thought, word, desire, and action.

Love Is Active

Love is not static. It has not yet attained the pinnacle. The growth process must be given an opportunity to have its way. To "fall in love" is the business of emotions, but to "grow in love" means that brains are required. To get entangled emotionally only means that effective work may be impaired and studies may fall off. General efficiency may be decreased. But heart and head may recognize that this experience should lead to greater achievement and finer accomplishments. Hopes and dreams now take on new meaning, and the creative force of love stimulates the whole personality.

Mutual Liking Must Be Present

At times the facets of personality are so varied that an individual will feel strangely attracted to certain aspects of the other individual, yet abhor certain traits of character that he has. Many times the emotional reaction is so strong that the belief is genuine that he can be reformed through the strength of love. It is rarely possible to reform an individual after marriage.

Love must be able to measure up to the test of mutual liking. No one of us can always be proud of all that we are, nor can we be proud of all we do at all times. Neither will we always be able to hold in esteem all things that the beloved one does or says. Yet we must have genuine appreciation and regard for the other.

A young bride recently said of her husband, "I liked him for a long time before I ever fell in love with him." She had a very important foundation stone in the building of a home. There are many experiences in life when liking is of tremendous importance.

A Feeling of Oneness

No couple can be really in love if they continue to think in terms only of "I." A growing dividend of being in love is an enlarging sense of common values and the discovery that it is wonderful to think in terms of what "we want, we hold dear, we believe, we wish." Individuals are separate and must remain so. But a deep kind of oneness will grow as the love of the couple matures. The joy of adventure in togetherness is a happy and healthy indication of love.

Time Is Also a Test

Can your love emerge triumphantly against the test of time? The hasty romance of a quick vacation often does not look well against the backdrop of winter's rain, and snow and ice. Given a certain background of moonlight and roses, a young man and woman might have certain romantic reactions. It is important to know that the curtain will not always be pulled back on such scenery. When you have been through experiences that have led you to face each other in varying situations over a period of time, you can
better evaluate the reality of your love. Can your affection weather the different emotional climates that you must face? Love that is vital must be able to pass the test of time.

High school notebooks will continue to have girls' names written above boys' names, and letters will be crossed out. Flowers will continue to lose their petals to the softly spoken words, "He loves me; he loves me not." Soda straws will be gently crooked between fingers as girls repeat hopefully, "He does love me; he does not." Many other happy little love games will be played, but they are so fleeting—and girls know it. The enduring kind of love they really seek takes the kind of reliable evidence we find in 1 Corinthians 13.

Power of Personal Purity

Nothing can take the place of personal purity in love. The dictionary defines purity as "free from harmful matter or that which weakens, impairs, or pollutes." One whose thoughts are low, base, and impure soon finds his character level with his thinking. There can be no lasting greatness of character. Among Christian couples there can be no infringements that tear down. The inner springs of imagination, thought, and feeling must be guarded well.

Security of Self-Respect

A young couple blessed with happy, healthy personalities who discover that they are in love must maintain standards that build self-respect. As each contributes to the other, appreciation of his worth as an individual is heightened.

The inner resources of each marriage partner must merit the high regard of the other. Qualities of character inspire respect, and distinguish their love with dignity and worth. Each must be proud of the other; therefore, each must have respect for self in order to merit the respect of the other.

The Habit of Happiness

When a couple begins to love, there should be established outlooks and vistas of joyful experience which give flavor to the new-found relationship. Cheerfully anticipating and planning for the days ahead will add to the growth of the relationship.

A happy outlook and an intelligent approach to the problems that arise will help any man and woman in creating a well-ordered home. They will not only have a wonderful time together, but they can share the happiness of their home with those who touch their lives. There is a contagion about happiness, and blessed is he who radiates this rare gift.

Giving or Getting

A person in love gradually realizes that the true measure of affection is not in how much he receives but rather in the deeper gratification of giving his love unreservedly. One who cultivates those qualities that command love soon discovers that they have not gone unnoticed.

In a group of recent college graduates were girls of widely different personalities. Many of those who were engaged were not beautiful, but they were kind; they were not brilliant, but they were unselfish. Those who were sought after were the ones most interested in giving in rich measure.

Avoid Self-Centered Possession

A boy and girl in love often find it easy to ignore the rest of the world and bask only in the warmth of their relationship. Even the deepest love will grow stale, however, if it is kept out of the main stream of life. There are experiences in everyday contacts that are meaningful to everyone, and it is a mistake for a couple to be too selfish, to be thoughtless to each other.

Jealousy or sensitiveness because the person loved maintains normal association with others is out of place. Selfishness does not have a place in love.

Happiness in love does not demand freedom from problems. Nor does it ask for perfection to the person loved. There will be problems and shortcomings. Both are a part of the sum total of human experience. Adjustment to these problems and shortcomings, small or large, is the important factor.

There will be traits in the girl that irritate and disturb the young man. She should do her utmost to eliminate or correct them. The same will be true of the boy. He will also need to strive for self-improvement.

The rapture of love's dawn is never self-sustaining. This first ecstasy is like a beautiful bud. Later the flower blossoms, then comes the fruit. Development does not occur, however, unless the plant is nourished and tended. Couples in love need to be constantly learning, changing, growing.

There found in God is love fulfilled. It becomes stronger, surer with the passing years. Any life will know storms, heartaches, disappointments, sorrows come, but the bond of love is strengthened as life's enriching experiences are shared.

There is unifying power in life when the grace and love of God direct a couple in love. Life then becomes not a routine but a revelation. This great love of one man for one woman is not given by God just for their enjoyment. Its significance and deeper meaning come from being rooted deep in the heart of God. Wise people recognize that their love is a part of the fulfillment of the very purpose of God.

The experience of falling in love for life should help young couples to walk with inner dignity and power through life together. They are under the law of endless growth, and they may speak with the overtones of God as they walk the common paths of life in company with him.

(Reprinted by permission of Sunday School Board, Southern Baptist Convention. Available at Baptist Book Store at 10 cents.)
Revival Plan Book

IF YOU want a “do-it-yourself” kit on evangelism you have it in the 1960 Revival Plan Book. It is indeed a gold mine of helpful suggestions in planning, publicizing and conducting a revival. The ideas are practical, already proven successful in many churches. Never have we seen a book packed so full of helpful material for a pastor as he plans to use all the organizations in the evangelistic progress of the church. Don’t let this valuable book be cast aside without first devoting the contents.

Televangelism

We regret that none of the TV Channels in Little Rock will carry the Tele­ evangelism programs, “The Answer”; at least they will not be carried in January. It may be that some channel will carry them later this year.

Last Call for Conference

Next week is our Evangelistic Conference! It is a meeting the pastors look forward to. I’m afraid the pastors fail to urge their laymen and women to attend. An evangelistic conference is for all our members. Large groups of men could arrange to attend the evening services. A group from Jonesboro will sing in Monday evening’s service and another from Sackover on Tuesday evening.

Women might attend the day services if they cannot stay for the entire conference. Mrs. J. P. Hampton, Lake

Church Chuckles:

“My minister thinks lack of faith is all that’s silling me, but personally I think it’s a vitamin deficiency!”

In safeguarding our health, doctors used to believe a proper diet was the main essential. They are coming to realize, however, that what we THINK is more important than what we EAT. The state of our emotions determines the state of our health.

Dr. Caldwell

Attendance Report

January 10, 1960

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church</th>
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<th>Training Additions</th>
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<tr>
<td>West Memphis, Calvary</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Village, and Mrs. A. C. Brazell, Dermott, have been regular attendants for years. They are always present for the entire conference. Perhaps many other women over the State would like to do the same. A pastor can help his evangelistic program by getting many of his members to attend.

A New Mission

“Lift up your eyes and look,” there is a plan somewhere. Your church could start a new Mission. Don’t wait until another group does it. Don’t wait for your successor to do it. Lead your church to do it now.—C. W. Caldwell

CHARLEY HUGHES, treasurer of Sulphur Springs Church, Caddo River Association, reports that their church has voted to put the Arkansas Baptist in the budget after a one-month free trial.

Music

State Primary Festival Information

Date: March 12, 1960
Place: First Baptist Church, Benton
Director: Mrs. Haskell Boyter
Schedule: 9:45 Registration & Assignment
10:00 Adjudication of Choirs
10:30 Combined Choirs Rehearsal
11:15 Adjudication of Choirs
12:00 Bring-Sack Lunch
12:30 Small Ensemble Rehearsal
1:00 Festival Program

Rules and Regulations:
1. All Primary Choirs may enter state festival. No registration fee.
2. Robes or vestsments not necessary but will add to uniformity of group.
3. All choirs should memorize all selections in list A.
4. Selections in list B should be taught to four select voices each choir. A small ensemble will be formed using these voices. Small ensemble will memorize all selections.
5. Each choir will sing one or two selections for adjudication.
6. Bring sack lunch. Drinks will be available for five cents.

JERRY McMICHAEL, pastor of Walnut Valley Church, Central Association, was the guest speaker at the monthly Brotherhood meeting of 2nd Church, Hot Springs. The subject of his message was, “The Stewardship of Life.”

CENTRAL Association’s Workers’ Conference was held Thursday, Jan. 14 at Park Place Church, Hot Springs. The general theme of the conference was “Visitation.” Hugh Owen, Association missionary, conducted a Question and Answer period on visitation. J. W. Royal, pastor of Calvary Church, Benton, brought the message, “And Ye Visited Me.” Lunch was served by the host church. The afternoon session was devoted to business.

JIMMY KARAM, a layman, spoke in the evening service Jan. 10 at Immanuel Church, Little Rock, his home church.

ROSA CHURCH, Mississippi Association, has asked to receive the Arkansas Baptist on the one month free trial offer. Bert Thomas is pastor.
Baptist Crosscurrents

Expect a Smear Campaign

ANYONE who opposes John Kennedy or any other Roman Catholic for President of the United States can expect a smear campaign to be directed against him. He will be labeled a “religious bigot” and probably a good many other things. This applies to Baptist preachers, just like anyone else.

What appears to be a concerted drive on radio and television has been made in recent weeks against the organization known as Protestants and Other Americans United and its executive director, Glenn L. Archer. The organization has raised questions concerning Kennedy’s candidacy and is reaping the consequences.

At their recent state convention in Tulsa the messengers from Oklahoma Baptist churches adopted a mildly worded resolution as follows, “We go on record as opposing the election to any governmental office in state or nation of any person whose first allegiance is to any other power . . .”

The reaction was swift and violent. A banner headline in the Oklahoma City Times for Nov. 20 over letters from readers read: “Baptist Position Called Bigotry.” The original resolution did not even get mention in the headlines when passed, but the pro-Catholic reaction to it was played up under boxcar size letters. One writer said, “It seems un-American for a religious body to pass bigoted resolutions against another church organization.”

No resolution was passed against any church organization. But to raise questions concerning the double allegiance which any loyal Catholic has to his country and to the Pope at Rome has suddenly become “un-American” and “bigoted.”

— Editor Jack L. Gritz, The Baptist Messenger (Oklahoma)

The Scientist Without God

A FEW days ago one of England’s most noted scientists, Sir Julian Huxley, spoke at the convocation exercises of the University of Chicago. The occasion was also a part of the Darwin centennial celebration in this country which had attracted 2,000 scientists from the United States and abroad to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the publication of Charles Darwin’s book propounding the hypothesis of evolution by natural selection.

Huxley used the occasion in an address on “The Evolutionary Vision” to declare that mankind would eventually evolve beyond the need for religion or even the idea of God.

Ironically this pronouncement came from the platform of a university that the good Baptist people of the north established through sacrifice giving many years ago and to which a loyal Baptist layman, John D. Rockefeller, gave millions of dollars. Unfortunately the school slipped from Baptist control and into the hands of the liberals long ago. It should be a warning concerning all Baptist schools.

Huxley declared man will cease “creeping for shelter into the arms of a divinized father-figure whom he has himself created and trying to escape responsibility by sheltering under the umbrella of divine authority.”

Fortunately his atheistic speculations represent only a small segment of scientific thought in modern times. Actually modern science is more sensitive to the life of the spirit than ever before.

— Editor Jack L. Gritz, The Baptist Messenger

THE BOOKSHELF

The Saturday Review Gallery, edited by Jerome Beaty, Jr., and the editors of The Saturday Review, Simon and Schuster, 1959, $6

Here is a valuable mine of literature, the bookworm and the casual reader alike will want to have at fingertip. Whether the reading time is a day or ten minutes, something appropriate and to the reader’s liking is always available.

As those familiar with The Saturday Review would suppose, this collection includes the work of some of the outstanding writers of recent years. It is especially rich in reminiscences and biographical portraits of important and statesmen, and is peppered on or near the literary scene over the past century. Included are approximately sixty portraits “of men and women of varying degrees of importance in the field of letters—most of them near contemporaries, some of them actual contemporaries—and the portraits have been sketched, in all but a few instances, by men and women who were acquainted with the subjects, or even related to them, and in three instances by the subjects themselves.”

Pastor Niemoller, by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Doubleday, 1958, $3.95

This is the story of one of the Christian heroes of our time—the U-boat commander of World War I who led German Protestant resistance to Hitler and broke with the “Establishment” in the interests of world peace. Controversy and paradox have characterized his life.

Charges were brought against him through the personal enmity of the Fuhrer, charges so flimsy that even Hitler’s tribunal refused to indict, leaving it to Hitler himself to put Niemoller in a concentration camp. After his liberation by the American Army he became a leading spokesman for Protestantism. His integrity has gained him enemies as well as admirers as he has spoken out on many controversial issues. Author Schmidt, author of the first authoritative biography of Niemoller, has been in close association with the pastor over the last ten years. Seeing beyond the apparent contradictions in the actions of the man, he has drawn here a frank portrait.

Babies by Choice or by Chance, by Alan F. Guttmacher, M.D., Doubleday, 1959, $3.95

Particularly timely, in view of the current world concern over the “population explosion,” is this frank treatment of methods of birth control. The author is chief of Obstetrics and Gynecology at New York’s Mount Sinai Hospital and Clinical Professor at Columbia Medical School. For more than 30 years he has been active in the Planned Parenthood Federation and is now chairman of its medical committee. He is also Vice president of the American Eugenics Society. He is the author of Life in the Making, Into This Universe, and Pregnancy and Birth.
The five-member World Council delegation to Moscow predicts "closer relations" between churches in the USSR and the World Council of Churches.

Dr. W. A. Visser't Hooft told reporters at the Geneva airport upon his return that there had been no official "negotiations" with the Moscow Patriarchate of the Russian Orthodox Church or with the Lutherans, Armenians and Baptists, with whom the delegation also talked. But he said the future of their contacts was always the main subject of discussion.

He predicted that the "get acquainted" process begun at a meeting of representatives of the WCC and the Moscow Church at Utrecht, Netherlands, in August, 1958, would lead to more visits and exchanges of information.

"We are still in a period of getting to understand each other better," Dr. Visser't Hooft said. The secretary told reporters that the delegation had been everywhere "with great cordiality."

Seminary in Costa Rica

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (EP) — Graduates representing 12 countries and 25 different classes participated in dedication ceremonies for the new modern plant of the Latin American Bible Seminary here Dec. 18, 1959. A five-day pastors' institute was held simultaneously with the 35th graduation exercises of the school.

Help Asian Christians

HONG KONG (EP) — The East Asia Christian Conference recently sponsored a leadership training institute for youth and lay leaders of member churches. The 29-day Institute, patterned after the Ecumenical Institute of the World Council of Churches at Bossey, near Geneva, Switzerland, opened Dec. 1. It is directed by Dr. Hendrik Kraemer, and is designed to sharpen for Asians their roles in the mission of the Church.

Orthodox Leader to Visit

ROME (EP) — Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras in Istanbul, top spiritual leader of the world's more than 250 million Eastern Orthodox believers, says he will visit Rome shortly as the guest of the Pope. Roman Catholic circles hailed the visit as of extraordinary significance, especially in view of the fact that the Council summoned by Pope John at which Christian unity will be a major topic.

Hays One of Ten


Sutcliffe's list of the 10 outstanding religious leaders of the 1950s follows:

John, Evangelist Billy Graham; Martin Luther King, Jr., of Montgomery, Ala.; Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, president, of the United Lutheran Church in America and of the Lutheran World Federation and chairman of the World Council of Churches' Central Committee; and Archbishop Makarios, head of the Greek Orthodox Church of Cyprus; Bishop Otto Dibelius of Berlin, head of the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKID); Protestant Episcopal Bishop James Pike of California; Bishop Sheen; Brooks Hays, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention and former Congressman from Little Rock, Ark.; and Pope Pius XII.

POAU Opens Chicago Office

CHICAGO, III. (EP) — Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State (POAU) opened an office in Chicago, Jan. 1. Director of the Chicago POAU office is the Rev. James M. Windham, pastor of 1st Baptist Church of Maryville, Tenn. Windham is a member of the executive committee of the Southern Baptist Convention and has served on the POAU national advisory council for more than 10 years.

Why Church Workers Fail

DALLAS, Tex. (EP) — "When church workers fail at their jobs, it's usually because they can't get along with people." So says A. Donald Bell of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Bell bases his opinion on studies by Carney and other sociologists which have shown that 90 per cent of all working people fail in their life's vocation for the same reason.

"Church workers may know the gospel," says Bell, "they may have mastered new methods of leadership, and be dedicated to their church offices but yet be unable to get across to people in an acceptable way."

How can church workers learn to get along with people and thus become more successful in their church offices? Bell offers this solution: they can do it by studying the way Jesus dealt with people during his earthly ministry. Jesus did not browbeat his hearers. Instead he time after time he won them by the method with which he appealed to them. From studying the way Jesus worked with people, Bell says, we have learned certain rules of human relations. This art of getting along with people forms a part of the field of applied psychology. On the other hand, "resistance and contrary ideas will result from coercion, according to Bell's study."

Good salesmanship provides a third avenue of help to the church worker striving to have better dealings with other people. And in conclusion, Bell states: "Every Christian, as a part of his stewardship, has an obligation to improve his art of getting along with others. Only as he improves can he really be a channel of blessing."

Teens Stress Spiritual Revolution


Speakers for the meeting, held in the National Armory, stressed the need for spiritual power to overcome the threat of communism, as they developed the themes of the convention: "You and Your Country," "You and Your World," and "You and Your Tomorrow."

Teen-Age Merit Program

BELLOIT, Ohio (EP) — The Rev. Clarence R. Sekerak of the East Goshen Friends Church announced Dec. 30, 1959, a highly detailed youth merit program developed by a committee of teen-agers in his church. It works like this: from Jan. to May, 1960, teens of the East Goshen Friends Church will earn merit points based on attendance, attitude, participation, memorization of Bible verses and the reading of missionary books. Complete memory work is rewarded by a sight-seeing trip to Cleveland. Teens reading the most missionary literature will be rewarded by a trip to the State capitol in Columbus. Prizes for other work include a clock radio, a three-speed record player, a transistorized pocket radio and five missionery books.

"We hope the merit program will continue," says Pastor Sekerak. "We hope eventually to give the highest winners a two-weeks missionary experience with the American Indians in Arizona and possibly a tour of Mexico and Cuba."

Betting Legalized

HARRISBURG, Pa. (EP) — Pennsylvania's Governor David L. Lawrence has signed into law a measure permitting betting at harness races in the state, despite strong Protestant church opposition. The bill sets a precedent in the Keystone State's long history of laws banning legalized gambling. The Director of POAU's newest branch of Churches, representing 47 church bodies with a constituency of 3,000,000 people, had argued that once the principle of preventing legalized gambling was broken, the door would be open "to extend pari-mutuel betting and other forms of betting."

The new law provides for an election at the spring primary when votes may decide whether to permit harness racing with pari-mutuel betting in their respective counties. The measure imposes a limit of four tracks.

Assemblies Name Superintendent

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (EP) — The Rev. Thomas F. Zimmerman, 47, has assumed duties as general superintendent of the Assemblies of God.

JANUARY 21, 1960

Page Thirteen
**GEORGE O’NEEL**

GEORGE O’NEEL, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eepy L. O’Neel, Ft. Smith, is Baptist Student Union president at Ozark College. George is a senior history major and plans to attend the seminary after graduation. He now works week-ends with Trinity Baptist Church, Ft. Smith.

**BRUCE CARTER**

BRUCE CARTER, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin M. Carter, of New Edinburg, is Baptist Student Union president at Little Rock University. Bruce is a sophomore psychology major and upon graduation plans to enter student or public relations work.

**DR. JOHN CAYLOR**

DR. JOHN CAYLOR was the speaker for the Brotherhood meeting of South Highland Church, Little Rock, Jan. 11. He is associate pastor and director of activities at 1st Church, Little Rock.

**Free Church Jubilee**

The Evangelical Free Church of America, winding up its 75th anniversary year, completed ten of its eleven diamond jubilee goals and saw its stewardship phase succeed by more than 700 per cent.

Dr. Arnold T. Olson, president of the denomination which has its headquarters in Minneapolis, announced also that the extension (stewardship) phase of the jubilee has proved so successful that it will spill over into 1960.

The original financial goal of $300,000 has long since been lost in the dust as the total now stands at $2,255,000. The original goal also was extended by a subsequent national conference to $2,500,000, and this goal is within a quarter million of realization. (EP)

**Missionary Career at 52**

PASADENA, Calif. (EP) — On New Year’s Day, 1960, Mrs. Alyce Brooks laid aside her secretarial pen at a Pasadena mission office and began her own foreign missionary career at the age of 52.

She arrived on the balmy West Indian Island of Trinidad, Jan. 2. After a period of orientation under her missionary mentors, Kaare and Jean Wilhelmsen, a Dutch couple with the Go Ye Fellowship mission agency in Trinidad, Mrs. Brooks will begin her own work in the San Fernando area of Trinidad—an island which lies just off the coast of Venezuela.

W. A. GINN has accepted the call of Corder’s Chapel Church, Arkansas Valley Association. He has been pastoring Jeffersonville and Petty’s Chapel, both in the same association.

**Sunday School**

**Ft. Worth Convention**


The State Sunday School Department has arranged for a special excursion for interested workers. A commercial charter bus and Hilton Hotel reservations have been secured for your convenience. Rates and reservation information are offered below.

Of special interest will be the general program held each evening at the Will Rogers Auditorium. Special speakers will include James L. Sullivan, Ramsey Pollard, Chester Swor, W. A. Criswell, Kearlie Keegan, J. N. Barnette, A. V. Washburn and Billy Cannon.

Meeting in four other locations in morning and afternoon sessions will be conferences for Vacation Bible School at the Gambrell Street Baptist Church; Administration, Cradle Roll, Extension conferences at Southwestern Seminary; Intermediate, Young People and Adult conferences at Travis Avenue Baptist Church; Junior conferences at the Evans Avenue Baptist Church; and Children’s workers will meet for conference at the Broadway Baptist Church.

Noon lunches will be catered to the crowds at each of these locations by expert catering service.

A goal of 20,000 in attendance at this special and largest of all Sunday School Conventions is expected. The State Conventions of Texas and Oklahoma are foregoing their Sunday School Conventions this year in favor of the nation-wide convention. People from every direction will be pouring into Ft. Worth for this convention by the plane loads, train loads, bus loads and car loads. Don’t you want to go too?

“The Sunday School Department has arranged for good accommodations. Here is an estimate of the cost for the trip:

- Round trip charter bus from Little Rock, $12.00; Hilton Hotel, based on two people to each room for three days, $15.00; Meals for four days based on four dollars per day, $16.00; or a total of $43.00. This does not include transportation (street bus or taxi) while in Ft. Worth.—Lawson Hatfield, Secretary.
Why A Christian Cannot Be A Communist
By H. H. Barnette
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

COMMUNISM is one of the greatest challenges to the Church of this century. With its emphasis upon justice, peace, equality, brotherhood, many intellectuals are attracted to the movement hoping to find a more adequate way to express their social passion and concern. Even Christian thinkers are attracted by these ideals and look upon Communism as a sort of “Christian heresy.”

Below is a tabular comparison of Christianity and Communism with a decalogue of reasons why a Christian cannot be a Communist.

### The Communist Faith

1. Communism is atheistic.
2. Communism de-humanizes the individual.
3. Communism denounces private property as original sin.
4. Communism is totalitarian.
5. Communism uses revolutionary methods involving force, brutality, and deception.
6. Communism denies religious freedom.
7. Communist morality is relative.
8. Communism is materialistic in its view of reality.
9. Communism lays emphasis upon a social utopia here on earth.
10. Communism is inspired by hate.

There is no way that these fundamental principles of Communism and Christianity can be reconciled. Karl Marx, V. I. Lenin, Joseph Stalin, and Nikita Khrushchev have asserted that religion is “superstition” and that God is a “myth.” These are a few of the reasons why no Christian can be a thoroughgoing Communist.

### The Christian Faith

1. Christianity is theistic.
2. Christianity lays emphasis on the dignity and worth of the individual.
3. Christianity says that private property is a trust from God and should be used for His glory and for the welfare of mankind.
4. Christianity is more in harmony with democratic principles.
5. Christianity proceeds along the line of peaceful methods.
6. Christianity (evangelical) emphasizes religious freedom.
7. Christian morality is absolute and grounded in God.
8. Christianity teaches that God is the creator of the universe.
9. Christianity lays emphasis upon the kingdom of God which is both present and future.
10. Christianity is inspired by love.

On Student Loyalty Oath

Recently nation-wide publicity has been given to the refusal of certain universities to support the student loyalty oath which has been requested by the National Defense Education Loan authorities.

Speaking for himself and on behalf of the students at Wheaton College where he is president, Dr. V. Raymond Edman issued this statement:

“We at Wheaton do not see why any one should hesitate to stand up and declare himself to be a loyal American. Since the Government is making loans available to students under the National Defense Education Act, it has the right to stipulate the conditions under which the loan is made. If the student is a thoroughgoing American, fully committed to our form of government and way of life, he should not hesitate to stand up and be counted. If not, he should likewise have the courage of his convictions. For colleges to refuse participation in the Federal Student Loan program is to be like the Pharisees of old, of whom the Lord said that they strain at a gnat and swallow a camel. Apparently there are colleges that admit a Communist to their faculty and indeed thus swallow a camel, and take a stand against Americanism by encouraging their students not to commit themselves.

“I have heard the argument that the oath is meaningless since a Communist has no hesitation in lying. However, it has been shown that perjury is one of the greatest fears that the Communist has, since that makes him liable to the law.

“We believe that the Federal Government should keep out of the field of education, which is the province of state and local governments and of private citizens. However, if loans are made available, then Wheaton students should be granted this opportunity. We find no hesitancy in requiring their signing the oath, or their doing so.” (EP)

Visit the Holy Land via Maupintour in 1960

Middle East

Travel on a conducted tour to Egypt and Luxor, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan (Dead Sea, Jericho, Bethlehem, Old Jerusalem), Israel (Gallilee, Nazareth, Haifa, Greece, Italy, Plus Oberammergau Passion Play, Greek Isle Cruise, and Russia extensions. Monthly departures. 26 days. Only $1557, all expenses paid from New York. Flying Boeing 707 Jet, Saba Airlines. For descriptive folder write Harriet Louise H. Patterson, tour planner and director.

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**Time for Christians To Be Good Citizens**

By FRITZ E. GOODBAR

IN A FEW weeks candidates for various political offices will begin to announce their intention to ask for your votes in the summer primary. Among others will be those who desire to represent you in our state legislature—both house and senate. Too many of our citizens do not seem to recognize that these are extremely important offices. Yet it should be remembered that those who are elected will enact legislation by their votes which will affect every phase of our lives.

Surely as Christians we would like to see men and women elected who have proven by their daily living that they will enact legislation which will further the cause of righteousness, rather than being favorable to legislation which will enrich the selfish, ungodly interests who prey upon the weaknesses of our people. In this respect we are “our brother’s keeper,” as well as our own.

Many perhaps do not know that these selfish, ungodly interests will promote the candidacy of men who will do their bidding and in many instances they will contribute large sums of money to help secure their election.

Some of those who served in our last legislature and in other previous sessions will be candidates again. The record of each of you on all proposed legislation is a public one and could easily be taken as a criterion for their future votes. We may be sure that the liquor and gambling interests will examine the records and they will not support those who voted against them. In a like manner Christian people should examine these records and should support those who voted for the best moral interests in our state, and at the same time declare to those who didn’t that they do not deserve our support and will not get it.

We owe it to ourselves to protect our state, our institutions, our fellow citizens, our homes and ourselves from the devastating effects of bad legislation.

The writer recognizes that there are many important questions before our legislature which do not affect the moral conditions in the state and as voters we are interested in them. A danger lies here of which we should take note. Many shrewd and unscrupulous politicians will find the popular side of these questions and will promote their own candidacy on these issues, when they are far more interested in furthering the interests of those who are furnishing campaign funds and who expect to be repaid by favorable legislation.

I earnestly suggest that we encourage good men or women to offer for these legislative posts and then support them at the polls. When we do we will disprove the statement that many good Christians are poor citizens.

**Cedar Heights Pastor**

REV. HERBERT Blanton has recently accepted the call of the Cedar Heights Church of Pulaski Baptist Association to become their pastor.

Pastor Blanton is a graduate of Stetson University, DeLand, Fla., and New Orleans Seminary with B.D. and Master of Religious Education degrees. His wife is the former Betty Lou Steely of Arkansas. She is a graduate of Ouachita College and New Orleans Seminary. They have two children, ages three and six weeks.

Mr. Blanton is the first pastor to make his home on the church field. Their work has already begun with two conversions and a renewed interest in the total church program.

**Seattle Included**

ATLANTA, Ga. (BP)—Seattle became the fourth major city to be included in Southern Baptists’ “Big Cities” program when the denomination’s Home Mission Board voted to spend $100,000 there.

Chicago, San Francisco, and New York City have received a total of $400,000 in a stepped up advance some have termed “Operation: Big Cities.” All but $120,000 of these funds have been spent for sites or in other “ways that will best develop the work.”

Seattle, a metropolitan area of nearly a million, has only 17 Southern Baptist churches.

**John Brown Holds Heritage Seminar**

IN A two-day series of sessions, “Christian American Heritage Seminar,” recently, on the campus of John Brown University, students, faculty members, and friends of the institution were brought face to face with facts on a menacing threat to the freedoms in the United States.

The sessions emphasized facts previously known, and to bring out new facts, as the institution pursued its theme, “A Christian college explores a problem in international understanding.” The focal point of this exploration was the impact of communism as a world force today.

Visiting speakers included Dr. H. E. Williams, president of Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge; and O. K. Armstrong, a Christian layman and former legislator and Congressman, from Springfield, Mo. In addition to the visiting speakers, members of the JBU faculty and student body participated in the various presentations and discussion periods.

In the opening address, “America’s Point of No Return,” Dr. Williams drew sharp contrasts between the respective economies of the United States and the USSR, but warned that “we will have passed the point of no return on the road to a world dominated by communism when we become so dull of insight that we cannot see the evil of government monopoly in the different areas of our national life.”

Continuing, he declared that “we must be good stewards of the powers of free enterprise and immediately solve the problems of modern man. If we do not solve these problems now in the light of a Judeo-Christian civilization, I am sure that they will be solved by the Communist in the next generation by the standards of materialism.”

Commenting at the conclusion of the seminar, President John E. Brown, Jr., observed that the general feeling of the faculty members and students seemed to indicate much satisfaction with the program. “We sincerely hope to have a similar, but even better, such occasion next year,” he said.

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Praying or Soliloquizing?

HE WAS not praying. He was merely soliloquizing. For that is the force of Luke 18:11: "The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself." It may as aptly be translated "to himself." In either case the meaning is the same.

Having heard the preacher suggest a moment of silent prayer, my five-year-old daughter asked, "What does that mean, Daddy, to pray to yourself?"

Prayer, of course, is communication with God, not with one's self, nor with the congregation. It will do us little good to scorn the Pharisee. Neither will it help to praise the publican. Yet it may be of personal benefit to face seriously the question, "Do you merely soliloquize, or do you pray?"

Sees Concern Over Emphasizing Quantity

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP) — Southern Baptists are becoming concerned over the emphasis they are putting on quantity instead of quality of members. William Jarvis, an Australian Baptist minister touring this country, reports.

Southern Baptists have begun to see the danger of accepting people into the church who do not realize the importance of a genuine acceptance of Christ, he said.

Jarvis has been touring Southern Baptist Convention states since August, conducting evangelistic teaching missions in churches and seminaries. He is also visiting convention agencies, including the Brotherhood Commission, Sunday School Board, and Foreign Mission Board. He has visited this country four times since 1950.

"Many Southern Baptists also are telling me they feel it's getting too easy for a person to become a member of their church," said Jarvis, pastor emeritus of Central Baptist Church, Sydney, and a former vice president of the Baptist World Alliance. "That's one of the reasons we have so many seemingly sincere Christian people who never share Christ with anyone else."

"What we Baptists need most is a trained church membership. We need to teach prospective members that being a Baptist is something more than just belonging to a Baptist church.

"It is a tragic thing that many Southern Baptist congregations are building sanctuaries that will hold less than half of their membership. They aren't making arrangements for those groups I know as the 'never comes, stay away, and too tired.'"

Jarvis said he tries to practice in his church what he preaches. "We give our members instructions on what being a Baptist really means before we permit them to be baptized. And we are building our churches large enough to seat every member."
NOTED CHURCH BUILDING AUTHORITY
FROM NEW YORK TO SPEAK FEB. 3

You are cordially invited to hear America’s dean of church construction speak on modern planning to meet church building needs.

Dr. Atkinson will appear as the featured speaker of the 2nd Annual Arkansas Builders’ Forum dedicated to studying and seeking better means of construction through the imaginative use of wood.

Ministers and laymen are urged to attend this important panel presentation which will be at 11:15 a.m., Wednesday, February 5, in the Ball Room of the Marion Hotel. Beginning at 9:30 a.m., the first panel will present eight architects and eight school superintendents who will present facts and figures on the low cost of wood construction. Following this, Dr. Atkinson will be presented.

The Rev. C. Harry Atkinson is editor of Protestant Church, a magazine devoted to all phases of church building. During the past 15 years, Dr. Atkinson has been the building advisor on more than 3,000 churches in the United States. He serves as a member of the Executive Committee of the Church Architectural Guild of America.

Following this church panel, those in attendance are asked to be the luncheon guest of the Arkansas Soft Pine Bureau. Ministers and laymen interested in new church construction are urged to fill in the coupon below to assure their reservation.

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2ND ANNUAL ARKANSAS BUILDERS’ FORUM
FEBRUARY 3, 1960
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The Cranberry Hassle

MUCH ADO has been made about the danger of eating cranberries that might contain traces of the weed killer which researchers have said can cause cancer to rats. This editor is not qualified to determine whether the danger of eating such cranberries is as great as the publicity given the matter would imply.

We do, however, wonder why the public and the press get so worked up over cranberries and at the same time evidence such complete indifference toward the dangers connected with the use of beverage alcohol.

If the eating of cranberries had produced throughout America some 8,015,000 cranberry addicts who could not work regularly, who experienced blackouts and who were a burden to their families-and the community because of their cranberry addiction-we would expect a shocked public to react quickly upon learning such news.

And, if the eating of cranberries would so affect the skills of auto drivers that such drivers would be involved in 9,000 fatal auto accidents each year, we would agree government agencies and safety groups should campaign against continued use of the little red berries.

And, if the eating of cranberries would cause those who partake to forget responsibility, to ignore the rights of others and to commit nuisances on the street near the restaurants where the cranberries were eaten, we would certainly expect newspapers to warn of the danger.

Come to think of it, beverage alcohol does all these things and more. When will the public, the government, the safety councils and the newspapers warn about the dangers connected with the use of drug ed alcohol?

Of course the tax on alcoholic beverages annually provides about four billion dollars in revenue for federal, state and local governments, and four billion dollars can give a great many people a severe case of lockjaw—From The Temperance League of New Jersey

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Of Huguenot ancestry are the Sampseys. Just back of John are Methodist stewards, preachers. His father circuit rides in Ala., where John is born Sept. 27.

Father encounters aggressive Baptists who win him. One of John's first memories is his parents baptism. Father becomes a Baptist preacher instead.

John is converted at 14, tells as volunteer janitor for church. He is S. S. Supt. at 15, ordained at 16. He also enters Howard College at the age of 16.

He finishes Howard in 3 yrs., first in his class. He is full graduate of Southern Seminary at 22. Expects to be a missionary. God has other plans for him.

On graduation, Sampey is asked to teach Hebrew, Greek, Homiletics. In 1892 he becomes head of the Old Testament Dept. He teaches for sixty years.

He is also pastor of a country church 27 yrs. Marries Annie Renfree 1886. They have 4 children. She dies in 1925. He marries Ellen Wood a year later.

Translating the Am. Stand. Version, he works on Old Testament, beginning 1892. He is also an Old Testament translator of the Revised Standard Version.

In his day he is perhaps the most traveled Baptist: Europe, Bible lands, Asia, South America—everywhere preaching effective evangelistic messages.

Membrar International Sunday School Committee 46 years. As Chairman Sub-Com., he has large hand in shaping Sunday school lesson-planning policies.

Adding administration to teaching, he serves as President of Southern Seminary 1929-1942 and President of the Southern Baptist Conv. 1936-1938.

His admiration for General Robert E. Lee is well known. His lectures on this hero charm his audiences. He is an interesting speaker and teacher always.

Retiring as President in 1942, he continues to teach in the seminary. He writes the memoirs of his full, useful life and lies down to rest Aug. 18, 1946.
**Work Progressing on OBC Expansion**

THE STADIUM stands at Ouachita Baptist College’s A. U. Williams Field are being dismantled and moved to their new location.

The moving of the stands was necessitated by the need for additional space for the erection of a men’s dormitory. A federal loan of $625,000 has been approved for two new dormitories, one each for men and women, with construction to start immediately.

Despite inclement weather, work on the new athletic field is progressing satisfactorily, Dr. Ralph A. Phelps, Jr., president, said. The earth-moving was completed before the rainy weather set in. The rains have helped to settle the filled-in.

The Ouachita Tigers will play all of their 1960 home football games on the new A. U. Williams Field.

**Liquor Promotion in Movies**

WE HAVE always felt that many of the drinking scenes in movies and TV were deliberately planned by the liquor interest with the cooperation of the producers, to help advertise booze and to condition the public into accepting drinking as the natural thing to do. Now comes proof of the conspiracy from the trade journals of the industry itself.

The covers of the Brewer’s Journal for June, 1959, carried a picture of Bing Crosby, as a Broadway parish priest, fondly regarding a bottle of Benedictine wine as his friend Murray Alper looks on. The picture is a scene from the movie, “Say One for Me,” in which Benedictine plays a pivotal role. The caption under the picture adds that the “promotional tie-in was arranged by Julius Wile Sons & Company.” —From Alcohol Fax, published by the New Mexico Temperance League.

**Minister to Address Arkansas Builders’ Forum**

The Rev. C. W. Atkinson, of the Protestant Church Building Service Division, is an authority on all phases of church building, and he will be a featured speaker at the Second Annual Arkansas Builders’ Forum, to be held in Hot Springs at Hotel Marion February 3 under the auspices of the Arkansas Pine Bureau. Mr. Atkinson will address a seminar devoted exclusively to church building problems.

All ministers and church building committee members are cordially invited to attend this one-day forum.

Mr. Atkinson is well qualified to discuss church building problems. During his years as a pastor, he learned at first hand how to deal with building problems. In the past 15 years, he has been building advisor for over 3,000 churches in the United States. In 1956, he received the coveted Conover Award for promoting good church architecture. Mr. Atkinson is constantly in demand to interpret the procedures and facilities needed for the modern church. He serves as a member of the Executive Committee of the Church Architectural Guild of America.

The purpose of the Arkansas Builders’ Forum is to bring together all segments of the building industry — architects, school superintendents, school board members, ministers, church building committee members, building companies, financial leaders, state and federal government agency representatives, and representatives of the lumber industry, to discuss in informal work sessions all phases of building pertinent to the construction of schools, churches, residences, and commercial buildings.

At 9:30 a seminar will be held on school construction. At 11:15, the work session on church construction will begin, with Dr. Atkinson on hand to conduct it and to relate case histories pinpointing the economy, dramatic architectural treatment, and natural beauty of wood in modern church construction.

A third seminar will take place in the afternoon. It will be a roundtable work session with participation by builders, representatives and technical experts from the seven mills of the Arkansas Soft Pine Bureau, representatives of the National Oak Flooring Manufacturing Association, the Southern Pine Association, the Southern Pine Inspection Bureau, the FHA, and the Arkansas Inspection and Rating Bureau, members of the Arkansas Chapter of the A.I.A., and financial leaders.

All those attending the forum are invited to be the guests of the Arkansas Soft Pine Bureau at luncheon. In order to assure adequate facilities for visitors, reservations should be made by making use of the coupon in the advertisement on page 18.

The forum should be of particular interest to ministers and church building committees, since it will examine in detail how wood can best be utilized for church buildings for economy as well as beauty and structural strength, and thus take advantage of one of Arkansas’ greatest natural resources — Arkansas Soft Pine Bureau.

O. C. Wright has accepted the call of Walcott Church, Greene County Association.

NEW HOPE CHURCH, Greene County Association, has called Jimmy Cone as their pastor.

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Children's Nook

Holidays in Finland

By Kathryn W. Meals

The hardy Finns have a very strange and unusual way of bringing in the new year. Just before midnight on New Year's Eve, they pour melted tin into a bucket of cold water. The various forms taken by the hardening tin are supposed to forecast good or bad luck for the coming year. This is one of the oldest customs in Finland and is said to date back to medieval times.

February 28 is Kalevala Day in Finland. It commemorates the publication of the first edition of the Kalevala, a great epic poem of Finland.

For many centuries the Kalevala - a folk tale mixture of myths, legends, and some history - was passed on from one generation to another by the Children's and spruce wreaths, lights, and attempts to put it into writing. The hardy Finns have a very strange way of bringing in the new year.

Ninety-six per cent of the Finnish people are Lutheran and quite religious. The second Sunday in May is Mother's Day.

May is important in Finland for three reasons. May Day heralds the return of summer. Students of the state university may don their white caps on this day, which they wear until September 30. Also May Day is the Finnish version of our Labor Day. The first International Workers' Festival was provided for by Finnish law, and workers parade and take part in demonstrations in public parks.

The second Sunday in May is Mother's Day.

Finland has two patriotic celebrations during the summer which compare with patriotic holidays in America. May 19 is Flag Day of the Army, which is similar to our Memorial Day on May 30. It is observed by military parades, memorial services, and the placing of wreaths on the graves of the war dead.

Flag Day, on June 24, is observed by displaying the Finnish flag, a white cross on a blue background.

June 24 is also Midsummer, one of Finland's most important traditional holidays, for it celebrates the longest day of the year. The longest day of the year in Finland, it must be remembered, is much longer than the longest day in America. In northern Finland near the Arctic Circle, Finns can see the sun at midnight on their longest day.

All over Finland Midsummer is celebrated by bonfires, games, and dances. The cities and towns are deserted. Everyone goes to the country for the Midsummer Festival.

Finnish Independence Day is not until December 6. Patriotic festivals, speeches, and concerts commemorate the anniversary of the Finnish Declaration of Independence in 1917 when the country was freed from Russian rule.

Christmas, of course, is important in any Christian land. The Finns call it the "Child's Day." Everybody goes to church at six o'clock in the morning.

After church the Finnish people spend the day enjoying family reunions, feasting, singing carols, and examining gifts brought by the Christmas elves.

As in many European countries, Christmas festivities in Finland last for twelve days, and as in any other land, the Christmas season is one of joyousness and good will toward others.

The hardy Finns have a very strange way of bringing in the new year.

Church Chuckles
by CARTWRIGHT

"I'm real proud of you, dear, for setting the children an example by attending church!"

"Example setting" can be a rather exhausting business at times. Children are very apt pupils, quick to imitate the things we grown-ups do. And the sum total of their characters will largely reflect the goodness or badness examples we have knowingly or unknowingly set.

A SPORTS CAR driver was puzzled when a friend whom he had given a lift asked: "What's this long wall we keep driving past? It's over 10 miles long."

The driver answered: "That's not a wall - it's a curb."

TWO BOYS were arguing about the strength and all around ability of their respective fathers.

"You know the Pacific Ocean?" said one. "Well, my father built the hole for it."

His pal paused for a moment, then said: "Have you ever heard of the Dead Sea?" Well, my father killed it."

FORMERLY a man wondered if he could afford to marry; now he wonders if he can get along without a working wife.

MCTAVIS: 'Tis a fine lad ye have here. A magnificent head and noble features. Could you lend me a couple of dollars?"

McINTOSH: I could not. 'Tis my wife's child by her first husband.

A FILM star spent a week-end in a New York hotel. On leaving, he presented the manager with a huge bouquet, saying, "These are for the telephone operators."

"What a nice compliment!" exclaimed the manager.

"Compliment? Don't be silly; I thought they were dead."

Kitchen Bulletin Board
By R. M. Woodbury

Reminders of special dates, favorite recipes, telephone numbers, and other needed information can be posted on a handy, easy-to-make kitchen bulletin board for all the family to use. Such a bulletin board can be made from a discarded, large-sized picture frame with the glass removed.

In place of the frame's picture and backing, fit a piece of fiberboard or similar building material. Secure it with a few brads. After wiping the frame clean, apply a coat of bright paint to match the surrounding colors of the room.

The bulletin board is ready to hang beside the kitchen table or in some other location where it will be easy for all the members of the family to see.

(Arkansas Baptist)
Sunday School Lesson

The Converting Power of the Gospel

January 24, 1960
Acts 16:16-26; Philippians 2:12-18
By Clifton J. Allen
in Points For Emphasis, 1959
(Copyright 1959 by Broadman Press).

Paul had won the great battle of Galilean liberty in the Jerusalem conference. He and Barnabas had returned to Antioch. Their thoughts now turned toward the mission field. As the missionaries projected their plans, sharp contention arose about taking John Mark, the issue being resolved by deciding to disagree and go their separate ways. Barnabas and John Mark went to Cyprus. Paul and Silas set out for Asia Minor. The book of Acts from this point on traces the work of the Apostle Paul. Our lesson tells of his being led by the Holy Spirit into Europe, of his labors in Philippi, and of the conversion of Lydia and the Philippian jailer. The work of the missionaries demonstrated the power of the gospel to change men and the adequacy of the Holy Spirit to guide and strengthen the messengers of the gospel. Paul’s entrance into Europe was one of the truly epochal events in all Christian history.

Luke seems to have joined Paul, Silas, and Timothy in Troas and to have accompanied them into Europe. He was a physician and became one of Paul’s noblest helpers.

The Conversion of Lydia (vv. 13-15)

There were few Jews in Philippi, and the missionaries found no synagogue. But they found a group of women on the sabbath day out by the side of a river, a customary place of prayer. Among them was a prominent business woman named Lydia: Paul’s message gripped her attention. She listened earnestly, and the Lord opened her heart to receive the gospel with comprehension and faith. She testified to her faith immediately by receiving baptism. Her decision probably exerted an influence over her household, who likewise were converted and baptized. These were probably employees in her business, though they may have been members of her family. Hospitality was the next expression of her faith. Christ had found a place in her heart, and she desired to give his ambassadors a place in her house.

The Conversion of the Jailer (vv. 25-34)

The preceding verses (16-24) tell how it came about that the rulers had Paul and Silas stripped, cruelly beaten with rods, and thrust into prison. In spite of their unjust and terrible suffering, Paul and Silas gave themselves to prayer and praise. Doubtless they sought divine strength and help, and they praised God for his grace and the honor of suffering for the name of Christ. Their heroic spirit made an impression on the prisoners around them. God intervened and sent an earthquake, which shook the foundations of the prison and opened the doors and loosed the bonds of the prisoners. The first impulse of the jailer was to commit suicide, which he would have done but for Paul’s dissuasion.

God used these events to bring the jailer to an overmastering sense of guilt. He rushed into the inner prison with a light, trembling with fear, fell down before Paul and Silas, and asked about the way of salvation. The answer given was the good news of the gospel: “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.” Faith, rightly understood, means trust in Christ as Saviour and commitment to Christ as Lord. The message of the gospel was accepted. The jailer and others in his house were converted.

In proof of his change of heart, his first thought was for the comfort of the missionaries, so that he brought them forth immediately and bathed the wounds made by the rods of the executioners. The new converts were then baptized, confessing their experience of conversion. Men hardened by sin, pagan unbelievers before that night, were changed by the simple story of Christ, by the gospel which is the power of God unto salvation.

Truths to Live By:

The gospel changes persons.—The gospel is more than a statement of doctrine. It is the dynamic of redemption. It liberates men from sin. It reconciles the enemies of Christ and makes them joyous enemies of death. It changes drunkards into persons of piety and strength. It transforms prostitutes into saints. It subdues raging men and brings their strength under the control of Christ. It changes skeptics and blasphemers into humble and steadfast witnesses of divine grace and love. Wherever the gospel has been preached faithfully and continually, lives have been reclaimed, homes have been saved, communities have been uplifted, and the fruits of righteousness and justice have borne testimony to the power of divine salvation in human experience.

The gospel calls for proclamation.—The cure for the cancer of sin is known. A light to dispel the world’s darkness has been found. A solution for the virus of hate has been discovered. A purifying force mightier than all the corruption in human hearts has been found. Christ is the answer to the needs of the whole world. Hope for the world, therefore, depends upon the proclamation of the gospel. It will be the power of God for salvation to the ends of the earth.

Christians ought to be living demonstrations of the power of the gospel.—We owe it to ourselves and we owe it to the world to let Christ capture us wholly. If we yield ourselves fully to him, he will make us convincing demonstrations of the abundant life. His goodness will be seen in our attitudes and service. His purpose and strength will be seen in our moral victory. His radiance and consecration will be seen in our loyalty to his church and our commitment to the will of God. When the people of the world see the evidence of the living Christ in us, they will believe in the converting power of the gospel.

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.—Acts 16:31

To believe in Christ means to trust him, to follow him, to obey him, and to live for him.
Baptism and Lord's Supper

BAPTISM AND the Lord's Supper have been debatable subjects among Baptists since the early days of their denominational life in England.

As far back as Bunyan and Kiffen, 1673, Baptists have discussed the ordinances. These leaders did not agree on the relationship of Baptism to the Lord's Supper.

Bunyan argued that immersion of believers was the New Testament form. He distinguished between the forms of baptism (immersion, pouring, sprinkling) and was sympathetic toward those who did not agree. He granted room for error but believed one should have the doctrine which the form signified. To him it should be immersion in water.

However, when one came to observe the Lord's Supper, Bunyan would not insist on water baptism. His argument was the "sufficiency of spiritual baptism" (that is, any Christian might partake).

Kiffen thought differently. He believed the true order of worship was water baptism and communion. The form and order were not to be ignored. The New Testament set this precedent. He felt that ignorance of the form or failure to conform was no argument for open communion. Such argument has introduced infant and clinie baptism. To him God's word set the order. It was not to be changed.

Bunyan's church illustrated Kiffen's argument. Bunyan practiced immersion: "Upon his death, his church introduced infant baptism. Those following his views later practiced open communion.

Kiffen carried his point. Baptists, as a group, followed him. They have felt that the form and order of the two ordinances are set forth in the scriptures and are to be followed.

However, Baptists have never been in complete agreement on the relationship of the ordinances and still discuss them.

Dr. Selph

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