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Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

5-8-1947

May 8.1947

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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Arkansas Baptist State Convention, "May 8.1947" (1947). *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1945-1949*. 31.

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ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 46

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, MAY 8, 1947

NUMBER 19

God puts
important ideas
and purposes
into a
Mother's heart;
she puts
them into a
Baby's mind,
and then
God waits.

-M. RAY MCKAY
On Page Five.



-H. Armstrong Roberts.

★ TRENDS AND EVENTS ★

A condensed summary of trends and events taken from publications and original sources each week by Porter Routh, Secretary of the Department of Survey, Statistics and Information of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Facts of Interest

The 200-inch telescope on Mount Polomar in California, costing \$6,250,000, will be ready for final assembly this summer. The 530 ton telescope will project man's sight into the universe double what it has been before—to a distance of more than a 1,000 million light-years away.

Family trouble is the basic cause of child delinquency, a Connecticut survey shows, according to Bradley Buell.

There are now 8,312 weekly newspapers published in towns under 50,000 population with a total paid circulation of 12,513,483.

A new study of the South, "The Way of the South," has been published by Macmillan.

Profits of 340 major companies showed an average increase of 34 per cent over 1945, according to the Wall Street Journal. Textiles showed an increase of 219.9 per cent, pulp and paper 162.9 per cent, and distillers, 144.6 per cent.

The average age of the present U. S. Senate is 56. Joseph R. McCarthy, 37, Wisconsin, is the youngest. Arthur Capper, 81, Kansas, is the oldest.

A Federal Court in California has ruled the segregation of children of Mexican decent in separate schools unconstitutional.

In the World of Religion

The enrolment of 119 leading theological seminaries has increased from 9,746 in 1910 to 14,001 in 1947, with 3,437 veterans included.

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The International Uniform Lessons used throughout the United States and Canada was 75 years old on April 18. Adoption of the uniform lessons was made on April 18, 1872.

The meeting of the provisional committee of the World Council of Churches will be held at Buck Hill Falls, Pa., April 22-25.

The American Council on Education has published the findings of its committee on Religion and Education. The report, "The Relation of Religion to Public Education—The Basic Principles," can be ordered for \$1.00 from the Council at 744 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C.

A group of Cincinnati citizens has filed suit to enjoin the Board of Education from payment of tax funds to a parochial school.

The New York Presbytery has voted overwhelmingly to admit women as Presbyterian ministers. The matter will be finally decided at the General Assembly in Grand Rapids on May 22.

Baptist Highlights

R. Alton Reed has been named director of the new department of radio work for the Texas Baptist convention.

Baptist pastors planning to fly their own planes to the Convention at St. Louis have been asked to get in touch with M. E. Holderness, executive manager of the Civic Aviation council, 2181 Railway Exchange Building, St. Louis, Mo.

Russell Ware has resigned as Training Union secretary in California to enter Southwestern Seminary.

James H. Street has resigned as Brotherhood secretary in Mississippi.

Dr. J. W. (Bill) Marshall will leave the Foreign Mission Board July 15 to become president of Wayland College in Texas.

Dr. J. M. Nabrit, former president of the American Baptist Theological Seminary and secretary-treasurer of the National Baptist Convention, Inc., U. S. A., died last week.

Miss Thelma Brown, book consultant for the Baptist Sunday School Board, has been elected associate secretary of promotion and sales of the Missionary Education Movement, effective July 1.

In the two week period from April 4 to 18, there were 91 new Sunday schools requesting free literature from the Sunday School Board.

Fifty-six new missionaries were appointed at the semi-annual meeting of the Foreign Mission Board, April 8.

Of the three Baptist Churches in Texas City, most serious damage was done to the First Church, R. P. Hood, pastor, and to the Mexican mission. The windows and window frames were blown out, ceiling down, and roof damaged. Damage to Calvary, P. A. Corkern, pastor; and Heights, W. T. Bratton, pastor, was not so severe. Two Mexican Baptist pastors serving missions were injured. One Mexican pastor's home was severely damaged and family are in hospital, with one son missing. Many families in all churches had serious losses. Any relief sent to Texas City pastors can be used and will be appreciated.

Building a Christian Life

A Devotion by the Editor

"According as his divine power hath given us all things."

There is no reason for any one failing to build a great Christian life, because the divine power has given us "all things" needed for building such a life.

God will weave the knowledge of Christ into our thinking. He will mould our experiences with Christ into Christian character. He will stamp our personalities with the radiant grace of Christ. The truths which Jesus teaches, the grace which he gives, the love he bestows, and the power he imparts, will be woven into the fabric of our beings.

The apostle Peter urges "all diligence" in building a Christian life. Do not waste time under the delusion that there will be a more convenient time to serve God and to build your life according to His pattern. You cannot afford to wait a single day, nor even an hour. Build diligently, be in a hurry about it, delay not.

A person cannot build without exerting himself, not even a bird house or a toy. Shall we expect to build our Christian characters without working? We cannot build for our souls "more stately mansions" by idling away our time.

All the building materials provided should be used, a list of which is given in these verses. The person who builds into his life the virtues listed here will neither be idle nor unfruitful in the kingdom of God. Neither will a person be blind to truth nor forgetful of responsibilities.

To build according to the pattern set forth by Peter, ones life will be busy, ones work will be productive, ones sensibilities will be alert, ones step will be sure, ones reward will be rich.

"According as his divine power hath given unto us all things . . . Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things ye shall never fall." II Peter 1:3-11.

—00—

Workers' Conference of Little Red River Association met at Mt. Zion Church in April. Ten churches were represented and seven ministers were present. Special prayer was offered for Rev. C. W. Tapley who was in the hospital at that time.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

213 RADIO CENTER, LITTLE ROCK

Official Publication of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

B. H. DUNCAN, EDITOR
IONE GRAY, EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Publication Committee: Reece Howard, Brinkley, Chairman; Charles F. Wilkins, Newport; C. E. Lawrence, Little Rock; O. L. Gibson, Fayetteville; Bruce H. Price, Texarkana; J. P. Emory, Storey.

Entered Post Office, Little Rock, Arkansas, as second class mail matter. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided in Section 1193, October 1, 1913.

Individual subscription \$2.00 per year. Church Budgets 11 cents per month or \$1.32 per year per church family; Family Groups (10 or more paid annually in advance), \$1.50 per year. Subscription to foreign address, \$2.50 per year. Advertising Rates on Request.

The cost of cuts cannot be borne by the paper except those it has made for its individual use.

Resolutions and obituaries published at five cents per word. One dollar minimum.

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



Across the Editor's Desk

The Mother and the Cross

It is fitting and proper that we designate one Lord's day in the year as "Mother's Day." In doing so we honor ourselves and show that in some measure we are worthy of all that our Christian mothers have done for us.

To the mothers who may chance to read these lines we wish to pay to you the tribute which we owe you and to extend to you our warmest Christian greetings. We, your sons and daughters, honor you for your love which has enriched our lives, for your courage which has strengthened our morale, for your faith which has inspired us, for your wisdom which has guided us, and for your patience which has taught us the lesson of endurance.

To you who are privileged to wear the red flower we extend congratulations. You are fortunate in that you still have the opportunity, by some token or other, to express the love and appreciation which you cherish toward your mother.

And you who shall wear the white flower, you still have a Christian mother's example to follow, you still have her love to comfort you, her wisdom to guide you, and her courage and fortitude to brace you against the hard knocks of life. You can do her no greater honor than to live by the Christian ideals which she taught you, to cherish the Christian principles by which she lived, and to trust the Saviour whom she loved.

The Ideal Christian Mother

For the ideal of Christian motherhood we turn to the story of the mother of Jesus. Although we do not pray to her, we honor the mother of Jesus for what she is. There is a single statement concerning Mary which seems more revealing than any other, it is this: "Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother." Where else would you expect to find her at that tragic moment? Is not that where true and loyal motherhood takes its stand, by the crosses of the sons of men?

Those who bore enmity in their hearts stood about the cross. They had demanded that He be crucified, and they were present to see that the execution was carried out according to plan. They felt a certain depraved satisfaction as the nails were driven through His tender flesh and when the cross was lifted with its tortured victim and dropped with a jolt into the socket. They expressed their gleeful vengence in taunts and jeers and insults.

Those who were curious and critical, carried along by the movement of the crowd, were also standing about the cross of Jesus. There were the Roman soldiers whose interest was purely impersonal. The execution was in their line of duty and was carried out with

an impersonal efficiency which too often attends the administration of law.

There were others standing at a distance, sad and broken hearted, looking through tear dimmed eyes upon the Master hanging upon the cross. Fear had halted their steps before they reached the cross, and fear had silenced their voices.

How glad we are that this statement is inserted into the record, "Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother!" This is the revelation of a mother's heart, the declaration of a mother's love, the manifestation of a mother's loyalty to her Son.

Standing By the Cross

While enemies were gloating over their success, the mother was standing by her Son. While the curious and careless were joining the mob in heaping insults upon Him, the mother was standing by her Son. While the Roman soldiers were executing their grim and ghastly mission, the mother was standing by her Son. While the friends and former followers were frightened and held at a safe distance by their fears, the mother was standing by her Son.

While all the things that her mother heart had kept and pondered and cherished through the years were being torn from her with ruthless hands, the mother was standing by her Son. The nails which pierced His hands were felt in her own palms, the pains which racked His body were felt in her own body, the agony which entered His soul was felt in her own soul, as "there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother."

A mother's love tears away all restraints and she goes with her son or daughter to the cross. A mother's faith holds her by the crosses borne by her children. A mother's courage faces undaunted the dangers which threaten her offspring.

Who has kept the long night vigils over us? Who has shielded us from the hard jolts of the world? Who has stood by us in our crosses and trials of life? To whom have we turned for inspiration and courage in the dark hours? You have already answered these questions: "Mother."

She who gave the world its greatest Son stood by His cross in this His, as well as her own, darkest hour. And that cross has become the hope of the world. The cross to which she went with Him has become, not the instrument of death, but the instrument of life for all who will take their stand there.

The mothers in succeeding generations who have come nearest the ideal of this mother have given the world its greatest sons. These sons gladly acknowledge their debt to Christian mothers.

Tribute to . . .

First Church, Hot Springs

I wish to pay tribute to the First Baptist Church of Hot Springs. For eight years and four months it was my happy privilege to be the pastor of this historic church. This relationship has borne rich fruit as we have labored and prayed together in the cause of our Lord. Many of God's noblest saints are among the membership of this church.

The First Baptist Church of Hot Springs has a great future and is now in position to advance with the most ambitious program of its entire history. It shall be the earnest prayer of Mrs. Duncan and myself that God will lead the church to the man of His choice as undershepherd, and it shall be our delight to know that all past achievements shall be but the beginnings of greater things.

We acknowledge our debt of gratitude to this great church and its noble people, and we pledge our prayers for its continued growth and advancement in the service of our blessed Lord.

Mother's Day Is . . .

Hospital Day

By J. E. DILLARD

That's what it is; and that's what it ought to be. We ought to remember mother on Hospital Day, and we ought to remember the hospital on Mother's Day. And isn't it fitting that the two days are the same?

If mother is sick we want her to have the best care that love and learning can provide. She will get this at the Baptist hospital where managers, doctors, and nurses are Christians.

If Mother is well, or has gone Home, she wants other mothers and their loved ones and her own to have the best service science and skill can give. And she would like to make this possible.

But it takes money.

You can help by providing hospital equipment in mother's name; or by furnishing a hospital room with mother's name-plate on the door; or by making a cash contribution to enable your hospital to render such helpful healing Christian service as mother herself would love to give.

Give a worthy offering for your hospital through your church on Mother's Day.

"We Will Build Again"

Pastor William T. Bratton, Heights Baptist Church, Texas City, Tex., who suffered both the New London school explosion 10 years ago and the recent Texas City disaster says with courage:

"Our hearts are too deeply grieved for words. Hundreds are with us no more, among whom are some of our faithful workers. We will build again our shattered homes, and our broken churches, and our fair city. We ask for nothing but your prayers. Joy will come in the morning. Psalms 30:5."

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BAPTIST MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

From the moment of its inauguration on May 9, 1914, the celebration of Mother's Day caught the imagination of our race. The sons and daughters of America, quick to realize how deep was their debt to motherhood, rejoiced in a specific opportunity to honor her whom God had honored.

Legend of Mother's Love

Legend represents truth when it reminds us that an angel first kept this day. Gabriel was sent from heaven to earth to find the most beautiful thing in the world which would be suitable to adorn the heavenly city. All day long he roamed through field and city beholding the varied scenes of nature and art. Just at sunset, he plumed his golden wings for the flight back to the City of Light.

Three mementoes of his visit he had selected: First, a choice bouquet of fragrant flowers; second, the smile of a rosy-cheeked baby, and last, the love-light from a mother's eyes as she stooped to kiss the baby good-night. "Ah," said he, "mother love is the most beautiful thing I have seen in all the world," and he winged his way toward the pearly gates.

Just before entering the portals he decided to examine his treasures. To his astonishment, the flowers had faded, the baby's smile had turned to a frown; only a mother's love had remained unchanged. Passing through the gates, he was welcomed by the host of heaven who gathered round to see what he had brought from his long journey. "Here," said he, "is the only thing I found on earth that would retain its beauty all the way to heaven. The most beautiful thing in all the world is a mother's love."

Mothers of ours with us today, we rejoice in the opportunity to express to you our sincere appreciation. To mothers of ours living in another realm, we pay tribute, and rejoice in the fact that memory brings to us again many treasures from the vaults of the past. Much of that which is best and most compelling in life takes its beginning from motherhood. Beautiful girlhood begins in the heart of a mother. Strong, honest, pure manhood, too, is born there.

The homes of tomorrow are being planted in the minds and hearts of the children of today. One of the most charming texts for this day is found in the twenty-fourth chapter of Genesis: "And Isaac brought her unto his mother, Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife, and he loved her."

Mother's Influence On Home

What a beautiful thing that mother had done for her boy and his bride. In a world where love had little chance to govern the arrangements for marriage and the building of a home, this woman had left the symbol of all that is beautiful in home in her tent. The arrangements for Isaac's marriage had been made through his faithful servant and friend. Neither he nor his bride-to-be had met before this day.

Only one factor in the strange story of this early courtship offers any favorable suggestion to modern life. Apparently, the will of God was sought and known by these young people. But when Rebekah came within sight of the man who was to be her husband, she dismounted and met him in the garden of his home. Then Isaac took Rebekah to his mother's tent.

What infinite respect, what manly tenderness, what fine idealism was represented in that act. Though the abiding place was only a tent, it became the place of love's abode, and thus it became a home. For Edgar

Magnetic Motherhood

By M. RAY MCKAY, Pastor

Second Church, Little Rock

Guest is singing only the truth when he says: "It takes a heap o' livin' to make a house a home."

The brief account we have of Sarah's life is in itself a matter of charm and interest. Two things are said of her: She was beautiful and she had a vivid sense of humor. But this text pays her richer tribute when we see how her influence sanctified the home of her son.

The homes of tomorrow are being planted in the minds and hearts of the children of today. Of what serious import this must be for motherhood. When the breakdown of home is witnessed on many sides, how great will be the contribution to future generations by the mothers of today who can sanctify and make beautiful the homes of tomorrow. When God wants an important thing done in this world he puts the ideas or purposes into a woman's heart. She puts it into the baby's mind, and then God waits. Thus the hope of tomorrow is in the hands of the mothers of today.

Peril or Power in Motherhood

The peril in Mother's Day is that the celebration may spend itself in emotional froth rather than in deep and thoughtful consideration, and sincere tributes. There are perils as well as power in motherhood. The cords of love may become the chains of slavery.

Mothers and fathers may thrust their will into the lives of childhood and destroy initiative and ambition and even in later years may fashion chains of selfishness upon the lives of their children, and render life ineffective. "I am your mother," many a woman has said, and with selfish demand has required of her child a price which blighted his life.

Again the power of motherhood may manifest itself in evil example as well as in good. One of the most tragic texts of the Old Testament is that which sums up the reign of an ancient king in these words: "The king followed in the way of his mother, and did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord."

But the best in motherhood is the best in all of life. It is mothers who first of all make goodness attractive. We are not forced or lectured into goodness. We are allured into it, and the finest commentary upon the text of Paul, "Adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour," is usually written in the lives of our mothers.

Ideals are made effective through the ministry of motherhood. Here a thought or an ideal or a purpose is held before the child in youthful days, until the thought or purpose becomes alive in this new life and grows into effectiveness with the growth of childhood.

The conscience of the world must be developed and made effective through the influence of our mothers. Mothers cannot discuss all the problems of economics, but they can lead the world conscience to understand that men

are worth more than money . . . that things must not be in the saddle nor ride mankind.

Free initiative of business and industry in the past has never provided through any continuous period anything like the necessities of life for all the people, even of our nation. The needs of the people will never be met in any business economy until the conscience of men is made sensitive to the need of their fellows. Here mothers can speak their part.

They may lend a strong influence also in pioneering for peace. Here they will not answer the economic arguments nor deal with international situations and problems, but they will say to all men, "We want something better for the sons and daughters of our bodies and souls than that they be slaughtered in war. We will not bring up children who are to be sacrificed upon the altar of such a God."

Mothers Must Be Christian

Last of all, mothers must be Christian. Mothers must be Christian because the world will never be Christian in any other way, and the world cannot abide un-Christian.

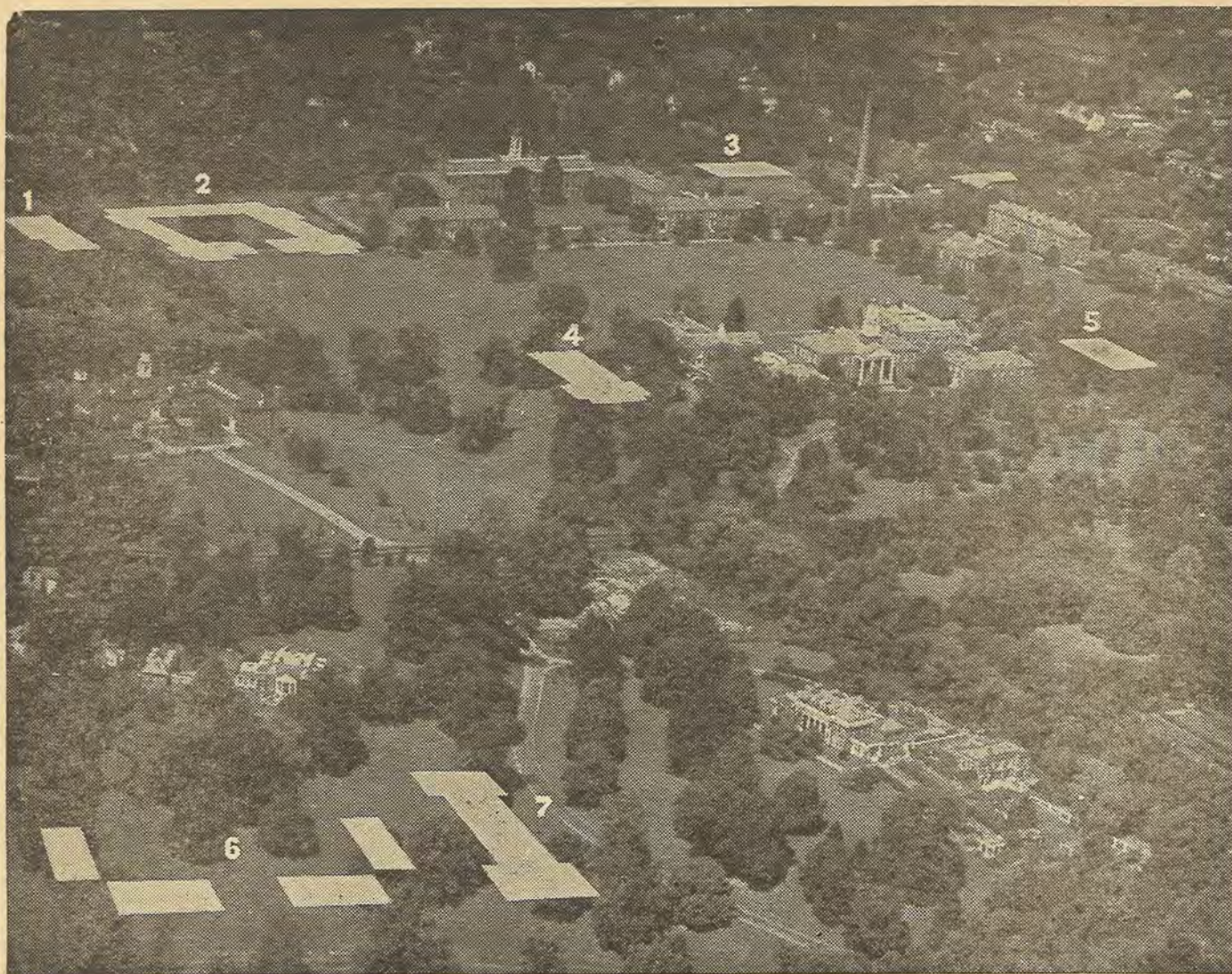
Horace Bushnell's words can never be forgotten when he says: "Let every father and mother know that when their child has reached the age of three years, they have done more than half of all they will ever do for this child's character." Long before the baby ever understands the words of his mother's prayer, it is calmed and strengthened by the quiet confidence of her voice and very early the child will begin to face life at the angle at which you face it.

Motherhood is the world's best interpreter of God. "Like as a mother pitieth her children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him." The prophet could think of no better illustration for the mind and heart of God than that of motherhood, and yet one never accurately interprets another with whom he is unacquainted. You become the best interpreter of God if you know him best.



—H. Armstrong Roberts.

*Oh Mother when I think of thee,
'Tis but a step to Calvary;
Thy gentle hand is on my brow,
'Tis leading me to Jesus now.*



Help Us to Complete this Picture!

1. NURSERY 2. MARRIED STUDENTS' APARTMENT 3. INFIRMARY 4. CHAPEL 5. CHILDREN'S MUSIC BLDG. 6. MISSIONARY COURT 7. MEN'S DORMITORY, SCHOOL OF MUSIC

The aerial view above gives some idea of the attractive layout of our campus, situated on rolling acres of bluegrass in one of the most beautiful sections of Louisville, adjacent to famed Cherokee Park.

But while the grounds are beautiful, Southern Seminary still lacks many facilities. At least *seven* important buildings or groups of buildings

are needed to "complete the picture." ALL of these are urgently needed now.

The tentative locations for these new buildings are indicated by whited-out spaces above. Won't you help us to lay the financial foundations of these structures in this Year of Our Lord 1947? What better, more permanent, more richly rewarding investment could you make?



Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

LOUISVILLE, KY. . . . DR. ELLIS A. FULLER, PRESIDENT

New Men in Christ . . .

The Christ-Made Life

By WILFORD LEE
First Church, Crossett

This is the second in a series of four messages on "New Men in Christ" being heard on eleven Arkansas radio stations through programs by the Radio Commission of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

I have heard that one of the diamond fields of South Africa was discovered on this wise. A traveler one day entered the valley and came up to a settler's door, at which a boy was amusing himself by throwing stones. One of these stones fell at the stranger's feet. He picked it up and was in the act of tossing it back to the boy when something flashed from it, which stopped his hand and made his heart beat fast. It was a diamond.

The child was playing with it as a common stone, the peasant's foot had spurned it, the cart wheel had crushed it, till one who knew true values saw it and recognized a stone of surpassing beauty and worth.

Jesus Sees Beyond the Surface

Even so does Jesus our Lord see wondrous possibilities in the most unlikely lives.

Today we speak of Christ-made lives. There are two scripture passages which hold our attention. The first is John 1:42 which tells of Simon Peter and his meeting Jesus for the first time. "And when Jesus beheld him he said, Thou art Simon, son of Jona. Thou shalt be called Cephas (a stone.)" "Thou

art"—"thou shalt be"—a promise and a prophecy.

The second word is Matthew 4:19 "And he said unto them follow me and I will make you fishers of men." These two words may be placed together for each refers to the transforming power of Christ. "Thou art—thou shalt be"—"I will make you."

The world takes men at face value; Jesus takes them at heart value. Christ estimates a man by his intrinsic worth. He saw in Simon the fisher; in Peter the rock. He knew that He could make of him a new man indeed, and He did.

Now what Christ did for Peter He does for any man who will follow Him. We do not know what we may become if only we will let Him have His chance. In a despised tax-gather there is Matthew, the apostle, in Saul, the bigot, there is Paul, the missionary. In sinful Magdalene there is Mary, the merciful.

God never calls men for what they are—He calls them for what they can be. It is our possibilities that interest God—not our perfections.

But the Lord knew that Peter the apostle would not evolve from Simon the fisher. There must be a divine power working in him to effect the change. The rough hewn stone will produce no finely sculptured work of art; it takes the artful eye and practiced hand of the Master.

It is said that one of Michaelangelo's famous statues was for a long while only a block of fine marble which had been chipped and

hacked by many poor artists who had each tried to carve out his imprisoned vision but had miserably failed. So misshapen it was at last that it become nothing but an eyesore in the city square. Thus it remained until the master craftsman came to Florence and saw in its blotched shape a vision of loveliness. He set to work and in time produced a work of art which is the wonder and despair of all artists since his day.

What Michaelangelo could do with a cold stone, Jesus, our Lord, can do with the poor, sinful, deceitfully wicked hearts of men." Follow me and I will make you," "thou art," and "thou shalt be."

What Christ has promised He will fulfill. "I will make you" is promised upon the condition that you "follow me." The gospel for all today is this.

Spirit of Jesus Produces Change

There is yet another factor of vital importance in a Christ-made life. More wonderful that what our Lord sees in us is what Christ puts into us. "Thou shalt be," and we question, "how shall these things be?" How did Simon become Peter? Merely by vision alone? By no means.

Jesus looked into the soul of the man, examined the foundations of his life, and saw good ground for hope. Where did Peter receive his stalwart convictions? From Jesus. Whence came his shepherd spirit? From Christ. All that became the Apostle of Pentecost was the implanting of the spirit of Jesus within him.

A fable tells us that once a gardner while walking about overheard the old briar bragging to the other flowers about the lovely roses blooming from it. The man stepped in and rebuked the briar. Said he, "Your loveliness comes not from what you are but from what I put into you."

ARKANSANS ATTENDING SOUTHERN SEMINARY



Arkansas students attending Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, include:

Front row, left to right: Mrs. Wayne Ward, Piggott; Mrs. Andrew Hall, Little Rock; Mr. and Mrs. Lehman Webb, Warren; Mr. and Mrs. John Parrott and daughter, Tuckerman; Mrs. Morris Ashcraft, Malvern; Mrs. William Montgomery, Donaldson; Mr. and Mrs. Carl Overton and son, Arkadelphia; Johnny Ashcraft and son, Detonti.

Second row: Wayne Ward and son, Piggott; Andrew Hall and daughter, Little Rock; W. L. Yeldell, Little Rock; J. Samuel Phillips,

Texarkana; Jean Prince, Camden; Mr. and Mrs. D. Wade Armstrong, Hartford; Morris Ashcraft, Malvern; William Montgomery, Donaldson; Mr. and Mrs. Leland Hall, Little Rock; Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Early, Fordyce.

Third row: Mr. and Mrs. Erwin McDonald, Russellville; Quincy Mathis, Crossett; Ermon Webb, Urbana; Garland Allen, Tuckerman; Deward Deere, Malvern; Jack Flanders, Little Rock; Mr. and Mrs. Barney Freazier, Little Rock; Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Tiffany and son, Siloam Springs; William Flynt, Lonoke; John Ed Steele, Mountain View; Frank Pitts, Harrisburg; Weldon Marcum, Jonesboro.

Heard...

AT THE MISSIONARY CONFERENCE

The conference with the associational missionaries at Lake Hamilton April 24-25 was equal to all our expectations. There were 22 present besides the visitors and denominational leaders who came by for one session of the meeting.

Your superintendent of missions thoroughly enjoyed leading these men in a discussion of the work of a missionary—what he should do and how best to do it. Many gave their experiences in accomplishing certain types of work.

Through the discussions of this meeting our missionary work will become more definite and unified. In order that our people may see that this is now the feeling of the missionaries, we give below their own comments.

I think this has been a fine, profitable time of fellowship. Hope that it can be made an annual affair. — Herman Highfill, Buckner Association.

"Without counsel, purposes are defeated, but in the multitude of counselors, they are established." This type of meeting is an absolute necessity for the best results of the mission work in our state; it is a mountain top experience for services in the valley for associational missionaries. — Walter Watts, Centennial Association.

The missionary spring retreat has been a wonderful experience to me. I have received great inspiration, zeal and determination out of the conferences. The fellowship has been excellent. Thanks to you, Dr. Caldwell, for arranging this great meeting. I trust God will lead you to make this an annual event. — Chester Roten, Stone-Van Buren Association.

For me this conference is an answer to an associational missionary's prayer—it has taken the "flounder" out of missions and gives us some definite goals to work toward as missionaries.—Ottis Denney, Hope Association.

I have attended a number of retreats, associational meetings, conventions, etc., but I have never attended one that was more constructive, informing, and helpful than the one held this week at Lake Hamilton. Under the leadership of Dr. Caldwell I believe with all of my heart the cause of missions

Department of MISSIONS

C. W. Caldwell, Superintendent

in Arkansas will make great progress during the immediate years ahead and on.—J. J. Franklin, Arkansas Valley Association.

This conference has helped me to better understand and appreciate the unification of our great evangelistic effort, all of our state departments working at the same task, trying to win the lost. It helped by affording us social and recreational opportunities, meeting our co-workers, coming apart for rest and play.—M. E. Wiles, rural evangelist.

I think this conference has been one of the most constructive meetings we have had in our state. It has revealed some of the causes for confused thinking regarding our state mission program. I trust it will result in greater understanding of the primary functions of our state departments and in a greater effort to combined our various types of work in an overall great unified mission program of building and strengthening churches.—S. A. Wiles, Central Association.

I think the retreat has been all that could have been expected. Either the fellowship,

the addresses, or the outing was worth the trip.—W. O. Taylor, Clear Creek Association.

This has been one of the very best meetings it has been my privilege to attend. I think if we could make this an annual affair we would be well paid.—T. F. Cooper, Caddo River Association.

I think this has been a profitable meeting and would appreciate it if it could be made an annual affair.—L. A. Thompson, Ouachita Association.

Our conference was so helpful to me that I could recommend such a meeting annually. Dr. Caldwell is the man to lead us. He is an all-round fellow. He loves the Lord and the men who work with him.—M. S. Jaggars, Harmony Association.

I think a meeting like this is grand and that we ought to have others.—Claude Crigler, White River Association.

This is one of the best meetings I have attended since coming to Arkansas. For the fine spirit of fellowship, inspiration, and information, let's have an annual affair similar to this one. Thanks for a very fine time, and may His blessings attend you.—H. B. Donnell, Little River Association.

I have never attended a meeting where the fellowship was any sweeter. Many times it seems as though a meeting is drawn out, but this one seemingly couldn't stop. At times during the meeting I was like Peter, just wanted to build some tabernacles and stay. I believe the Lord will give us a great year. Let's do it again next year. I hope the fish will bite a little better. Bro. Caldwell, we believe in you and I'm going to always remember you in my prayers. God bless you.—Hugh Cooper, Rocky Bayou Association.

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NOTES OF ADVANCE

The WCTU has placed in the film library of the Baptist Book Store, Little Rock, a 20-minute sound movie entitled "It's the Brain that Counts." This is said to be a very popular film. A 50-cent service charge is the only rental cost to the user. Write the Book Store if you want to show it.

Arkansas gave \$12,609.02 to world-wide causes in March according to the monthly report of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention. Of this, \$12,375.00 was given through the Cooperative Program and \$234.02 was given for designated causes. Southwide total was \$473,035.82.

Douglasville Church, Pulaski County Association, has received 35 additions since Allen McCurry became pastor September 1. A new pastor's home, valued at \$6500, has been erected with only \$2000 debt. Plans are underway for a new church building which will seat 500. There will be assembly rooms and class rooms for every department and class of the Sunday School. Revival services will begin June 1 with Pastor Irwin Moshier, Wilmot, as evangelist.

Pastor Bruce H. Price, Beech Street Church, Texarkana, recommends Rev. C. S. Carlton, 1209 Linden, Texarkana, for supply and revival meetings. "I am glad to commend him to the churches as a faithful servant of the Lord and I trust that he will be used in many of the pulpits," writes Pastor Price.

The name of New Prospect Church, No. 2, near Van Buren, has been changed to Oak Grove because that is the name of the community in which it is located. Mrs. R. O. Estes, church clerk, reports that the spirit of the church is reviving, the attendance is growing rapidly, and the Training Union attendance has almost doubled under the leadership of the new pastor, A. D. Kent.

Arkansas students who were graduated from Southwestern Seminary May 2 are George F. Smith, Helena; Jewell Rose Gwyn, Texarkana; Lydia Catherine Jordan, Van Buren; Mrs. Vergie Young Partain, Hughes; B. Finney Bragg, Fort Smith; John W. Johnston, Fort Smith; Archie L. Partain, Hughes; Willard Eugene Speed; Lake City; and Eugene Tillman Moore, Sheridan.

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Southern Baptist Hospital were joint beneficiaries in the will of Miss Estie Dupree, of Baton Rouge, La. The two institutions received \$64,468.20 which was divided equally between them. The Seminary will use its part in the \$3,000,000 building fund according to President Roland Q. Leavell.

Arkansan Rudolph Q. Harvey, pastor, Central Church, Pampa, Tex., recently observed his second anniversary with the church. Dur-

ing the two years there have been 645 additions, 205 for baptism. The offering increased from \$11,459.05 in 1944 to \$27,641.76 in 1946. Attendance has grown in the Sunday School from 256 to 519; in Training Union from 131 to 242, on the People's Power Night from 59 to 159. Pastor Harvey is a native of Greenbrier.

Thirty-nine professions of faith, 14 additions by letter, and 42 rededications were counted in evangelistic services at First

Church, McGehee, in which Pastor A. B. Van-Arsdale, College Avenue Church, Ft. Worth, Tex., did the preaching and Edwin Geurin, Hot Springs, directed the music. Mr. Geurin enlisted 130 juniors in a choir. Pastor Theo T. James writes: "The unusual element in these results is that an appeal was never given during the whole meeting for rededications and yet many of the Christians were so moved by the power of God that they desired to live closer to the Master."

Corning Church celebrated its 60th anniversary with a homecoming service May 4. Golden Neely, who was twice pastor of the church, delivered the anniversary sermon. Lunch was served at the church followed by an afternoon service featuring old time singing and talks by former members and visitors. Pastor L. C. Tedford distributed a 54-page booklet which he had written on the history of the church.

BAPTIST STATE HOSPITAL

Holds Open House



In celebration of National Hospital Day, the Baptist Hospital is holding open house from 2 to 4 p. m., Sunday, May 11. All people who are interested will be made welcome.

OUR BABIES SPECIAL GUESTS. Babies who have been born in Baptist Hospital within the last three years are to be our special guests. Their families are urged to bring the children for this occasion. Souvenirs will be provided for each of these honored guests.

PUBLIC INTEREST PROGRAM. There will be a planned program for the two hours, consisting of tours through the hospital with demonstrations of care of premature infants, uses of the operating room, and demonstrations in the Nursing School. The program will be in charge of the Ladies Auxiliary of the hospital.

DEDICATION OF CHAPEL AND ORGAN. The climax of the program will be the dedication of the Florence Rudisill Memorial Chapel, at which time the new Hammond Organ, recently given to the hospital by Mr. and Mrs. Jim G. Ferguson, of Evanston, Ill., will also be dedicated.

The Board of Trustees, Hospital Staff, and members of the Women's Auxiliary of the Hospital urge that you take this opportunity to become acquainted with your institution.

Pastoral Changes

Homer H. Bridges from Second Church, Pine Bluff.

William H. Travis to Shiloh Church, Red River Association, for half-time.

Woman's Missionary Union

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

Mrs. J. E. Short
President

Miss Laverne Ashby
Young People's Secretary

Mrs. C. H. Ray
Executive Secretary and Treasurer

Alvin Hatton
Royal Ambassador Secretary

State BWC Federation Organized

By Mrs. H. M. Keck

A bit of history was made at the annual meeting of the Baptist Woman's Missionary Union in Jonesboro. For the first time a state BWC banquet was held. "BWC" means Business Woman's Circle. Planned and presided over by Mrs. C. H. Ray, executive secretary, the banquet was easily a high experience of the meeting.

All local plans were under the supervision of Mrs. H. L. Robinson, president of Northeast District, and Mesdames O. H. Johnson and Orville Oldham of Central Church where the banquet was held. The banquet tables were lovely with spring flowers and vari-colored paper parasols. Programs and nut cups further carried out the color scheme.

Among the 175 persons attending were 115 BWC members. There were representatives from 39 churches there from 44 Business Woman's Circles. On the program were Mrs. H. L. Robinson, speaking on "The Value of a BWC Federation"; Mrs. Edgar Godbold, Southern community missions chairman, speaking on "The Joys of Ridgecrest," and Miss Hannah Plowden, telling something of her missionary work in China and Hawaii. Music was given by Misses Helen Miles, Peggy Patton, and Martha Broadway.

Another bit of history was made when, under the guidance of Mrs. J. E. Short, state WMU president, a business session was held and a state BWC federation was organized. The officers are Mrs. H. L. Robinson, Jonesboro, advisor; Mrs. Albert L. Buck, Texarkana, president, and Miss Elma Cobb, Little Rock, secretary.

early summer and the rest of the year. Order your copy now from the state WMU office.

We also announce that the "Story of Missions" by E. E. White, 60 cents, our textbook on history of missions, is now ready. It is an old book, little known to most of our women. It has been brought down to date by an additional "chapter" in pamphlet form by Dr. Carver, which will come with every copy purchased. If you want additional copies of the pamphlet for class use, they may be had free by writing the Foreign Mission Board, Box 5148, Richmond 20, Va. We urge every WMS to study this book between now and the end of the year. It is the first book on our Series III, and an essential to intelligent understanding of the missionary enterprise in this troubled world of ours. The book is easy to read and to teach. Order from the Baptist Book Store, 303 W. Capitol, Little Rock.

Ridgecrest YWA Camp

YWA girls all over the state have marked June 19-25 as red-letter days on their calendars. These important days are set aside for YWA Camp at Ridgecrest, N. C. The time is coming soon when no more registrations for YWA Camp may be taken. There is still plenty of space if you send in the reservation fee of \$10 immediately. The whole trip need cost no more than \$60. Write to state WMU office for an itemized estimate of the trip's expense.

CULPEPPERS TO SAIL FOR CHILE



Rev. and Mrs. Hugo Culpepper and son, Richard Alan, of Little Rock, will sail from New York City on May 16 for Santiago, Chile. The Culpeppers have been transferred by the Foreign Mission Board from China, where they had formerly served, to Chile in that events in north China prevent their returning there just now.

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There are only 50 Assembly reservations left!

Last year more than 300 applications for space in Assembly-owned dormitories were refused due to lack of space. Provision has been made to care for 250 more than last year. All but 50 of the places in Assembly-owned dormitories have been reserved.

Reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Make application for reservation NOW before it is too late. Send name with \$2 reservation fee to Dr. Edgar Williamson today.

Waiters and Waitresses Wanted

Applications from those desiring to serve as waiters and waitresses in the dining hall are being received in every mail, but there is need for more. Those accepted for this service will receive bed and meals during Assembly session. Write today to Dr. Edgar Williamson, 203 Radio Center.

Associational Wide Study Course In Current River

During the week of April 13-19, Current River Association had a simultaneous Training School for Sunday School workers. There are 15 churches in the association. Eleven took part in the Training School; some of the churches for the first time. There was an average attendance of 20 for each school; an increase of 400% over last year. The state Sunday School superintendent, Robert O. Barker, spoke in 12 different churches during the week.

Norace Adams, First Baptist Church, Piggott, is the associational Sunday School superintendent. H. W. Johnston, Datto, is the associational missionary.

State Sunday School Convention—October 20-21

Make plans now to attend the State Sunday School Convention to be held at First Baptist Church, Little Rock, October 20-21. Every effort is being made to make this convention the best possible. An exceptionally good program is being planned. Dr. R. G. Lee, Dr. T. L. Holcomb, J. N. Barnette,

Harold Ingraham, and the department leaders of the Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., will speak.

Village Enrolls 69 In Study Course

A most profitable Training Union study course has just been conducted at the Baptist Church of Village. Pastor John E. Hargett states that with a Training Union enrolment of 69 they had an average attendance of 70 for each of the five nights, with 70 people meeting the requirements for awards. The following books were used: "Building a Christian Home," "Planning a Life," "Not Your Own," and "The Junior and His Church."

Associational Training Unions

Benton County Training Union held a rally on March 19 with 12 churches represented, and 233 people present. One new Training Union has recently been organized in the association. Mrs. Troy Brooks is the associational Training Union director.

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Washington - Madison Association had an associational Training Union executive committee meeting on the second Sunday in April. Plans for the next mass meeting were discussed. This organization is working to become standard in the near future, and to have a study course in every church some time this fall. Mrs. Margaret Price is the associational Training Union director.

Two Associations Enjoy Hymn-Sings

The Lockesburg Church was crowded to capacity with people from Little River Association at the first quarterly hymn-sing sponsored by that association, Sunday afternoon, March 16. Mrs. W. E. Perry, Nashville, is the associational director and presided at the piano for the fine congregational singing directed by Mrs. B. W. Nininger, state music director. Special numbers were given by choirs from Ashdown, Murfreesboro, Lockesburg, and Nashville.

During the week Mrs. Nininger directed an associational school of church music. Ninety-four registered for the school. There was an average attendance of 51. A beautiful program of church music was sung on the closing night. Six pastors were among those attending.

Under the leadership of Mrs. Faber Tyler of Ozark, Clear Creek associational director, an enthusiastic sing was held at the Ozark Church, Sunday afternoon, April 20. Miss Gail Jones and Miss Sula Kate Benson were the accompanists. Mrs. B. W. Nininger led the singing, sang a solo, and spoke on "The Ministry of Music." Seven pastors were present. The next

quarterly hymn-sing will be held the third Sunday afternoon in July in the Alma church.

Attention Choir Directors

Plans for the Church Music Convention are nearing completion. A great two-day program has been arranged with something of interest to all. Professor J. Campbell Wray, director of the School of Sacred Music at Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Ft. Worth, is to be in charge of the vocal clinic and will rehearse and direct the great chorus in a festival to be presented at the evening service.

Music to be used on this program has been chosen by Professor Wray and can be purchased from the Baptist Book Store. Each choir should order sufficient copies and then prepare to participate in this event.

Since the time is limited for rehearsal during the Convention, it is necessary to study the music in advance. Choir members will appreciate the opportunity to learn these fine numbers. Two are in four-part mixed arrangement and the last one is arranged for male voices: Cherubim Song (7), Bortniansky; Our Father, Who Art in Heaven, Cain; and O Clap Your Hands, Edwards.

Music Convention dates are June 9 and 10; the place, First Church, Little Rock; the time, 9:30 a. m. to 9:30 p. m. Look for the poster in your church!

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CATALOG ON REQUEST

Chinese Officials Seek Saviour of Our Southern Baptist Missionaries

By JOHN A. ABERNATHY
Tsinan, Shantung, China

Your letters always cheer us and are eagerly looked forward to from time to time. There are times when we are out of touch with the outside world and mail cannot reach us. Recently the Communist Army put on an offensive to the east of us when the railroad was again destroyed.

Trains had been running from Tsinan to Tsingtao only a few months. We were just beginning to get back to semi-normal again when everything was upset. For some time we didn't even have plane service and of course no mail.

Situation Improved

For the past few days the situation is more stabilized in this part of the province. To the south and west of us the Communists have either been defeated or driven out so that the way is open from Tsinan to Hsuechow and Shanghai. Of course, the railway was destroyed long ago by the Communists, but is being restored as rapidly as possible.

We are told that within two months we may have trains going from Tsinan to Shanghai. It seems almost too good to be true.

Some of the battles are most sanguine and large numbers are killed and wounded on both sides. Hospitals are filled with wounded. Communist soldiers are most inhuman. Often when fighting they force civilians (including women and children) to go ahead of them into battle. An officer told me recently that his men had wept sometimes when it was necessary to slaughter these innocent people. War is terrible, but it seems the

only way to settle the present trouble in China.

I'm more convinced than ever that the number one enemy of the world is Communism and it will be impossible to have real peace until it has been eradicated. Communists in China have destroyed many churches and other mission property. One of the largest church buildings in Shantung was recently dynamited while the bishop was forced to stand by and watch.

In the same city several pastors and evangelists were taken and forced to take special training to change their "thoughts." Several months have passed and they have not returned to their homes. In the eastern part of the province just a few days ago two noble pastors and an evangelist were "tried" and eliminated.

Great Interest in Gospel

Now let me tell you something more cheerful and uplifting. I think I have never seen greater interest in the gospel and church work in general than now. In a former letter I mentioned a lieutenant general who was interested. He and his wife and several officers and men have been saved and I wish you could hear their testimony. It sounds like a selection from the epistles. It would do your soul good to hear it.

Recently this general returned from several hard weeks at the front, where he was in constant danger. He was radiant as he said, "I was never in greater danger during the 30 years I've been a soldier, but it was different this time. I prayed morning and night; I read my pocket New Testament and all the time I felt that another was by my side protecting me. I was also conscious that you and the church there were praying daily for me." He said, "The hymns you taught us were sung every evening."

Only a few months ago Jewell and I were invited to supper with

PASTOR PRINCE RECEIVES CAR



I. M. Prince, president of the Executive Committee of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, receives a new Dodge four-door sedan from the membership of First Church, Paragould, where he has been pastor for six years.

a certain general and his wife. The purpose of our being invited was that we might show them the way to Christ. One can never forget the almost desperate sincerity on their faces and of their talk. I'm sure they will soon be saved.

All this kind of work is aside from our regular mission work in the churches and schools. Recently a large number of high school boys and girls were saved during special meetings for them. Please continue to help us in prayer and for Governor Wong that he may be saved. He has requested that we pray for him daily.

We're happy that Misses Crawford, Alderman, and Knight will soon join us here. They have been held up in Shanghai and Tsingtao for over two months. No other transportation being available, they have chartered the "St. Paul," a mission plane, to bring them and their luggage from Tsingtao to Tsinan and will be here next week.

—00—

Beck Spur Church Has Eighth Birthday

By REV. GLEN GILES, Pastor
Beck Spur Church, Forrest City

Easter Sunday marked the eighth year since a group of Christians met to have an egg hunt and hear a message by the

old pioneer preacher, W. M. Thompson. People rejoiced to hear the Word preached to them in this section of the state, which is about four miles west of Forrest City.

This first message, in 1939, was delivered in the open in the front of a dwelling home and after this service the meeting place was changed to another home and continued there until July when the group then gathered in a vacant dwelling house and continued there.

In August of that same year the pastor of Forrest City Church, G. C. Prince, did the preaching in a meeting and 10 souls were saved by the grace of God.

In the following year another meeting was held by the Thompson brothers which led 12 more souls to the Lamb of God; and by the help of faithful members of the Forrest City Church a Sunday School was organized, and in the fall of this same year the Baptist Church was organized and was given the name, Beck Spur Baptist Church.

Bro. Chester Parker of Forrest City was called to serve as its first pastor. He served for five years. Then the writer became pastor and has served two years.

The church has a new building which is about 18 months old, and we are still having the egg hunts every Easter.

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Two Glorious Revivals

Your state Brotherhood secretary has had the privilege within the past few weeks of assisting in Brotherhood revivals both at Mt. Ida and at Norphlet. Each of these revivals was a never-to-be-forgotten experience.

First Church, Mt. Ida

God surely showered down His blessings upon us at Mt. Ida. Pastor A. L. McDaniel had everything in readiness. On the first Sunday of the revival the all-time attendance record for Sunday School was broken. And then on the next Sunday new attendance marks were set in both Sunday School and Training Union.

There were additions to the church in nearly every service during the week. The revival was indeed a heart-warming experience. As to visible results, there were 44 additions, 36 coming by baptism.

The Mt. Ida revival was the result of simple gospel preaching, and the consecrated praying and going of God's people.

First Church, Norphlet

At Norphlet, where Loyal Prior is pastor, God gave us another gracious revival, and some truly wonderful victories. The people of the church were ready, and willing to be used of the Lord.

On the second Sunday of the revival the attendance records of several years' standing, both for Sunday School and Training Union, were broken. Bro. Prior writes that the Sunday School attendance for the first Sunday after the revival tied the figure for the previous Sunday.

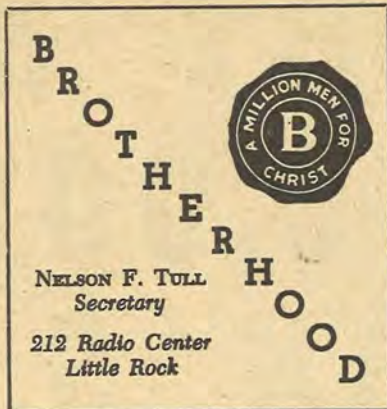
During the revival there were 37 additions, 32 coming by baptism. Of the 32 candidates for baptism, Bro. Prior baptized 29 on the closing night of the revival.

The Norphlet revival was the result of simple gospel preaching, and the consecrated praying and going of God's people.

Winning Souls Their Aim

J. Scott Blystone, missionary of the Washington-Madison Association, writes as follows:

"Here is a little report that I am sure will gladden your heart. The Brotherhood at First Church,



Springdale, are taking seriously their aim to win souls. Of their own volition they came and offered a Gospel team for every third Sunday night of the month to be used in some mission point. They take special music, the visual education equipment and a Gospel message. Usually our assistant pastor, Allan Brickey, goes along.

"The men are finding this a great blessing to their own lives and the people are enjoying their services. Not only are they doing this, but they are sponsoring a laymen's revival in May with the preacher-deacon, Art Wright, of Muskogee, Okla., as evangelist.

"The Brotherhood is carrying the whole responsibility of this meeting. We are predicting a great revival. The Brotherhood is standing back of our pastor, Dr. C. E. Wilbanks, in a wonderful way and the spirit of the church is fine and God is richly blessing.

"Our prayers are that God will give our association a number of Brotherhoods that will give of their time and energy in furthering the Gospel of our Lord.

"You can date us for Sunday, July 20, and the following Monday and Tuesday. We want to get things started in Washington-Madison Association. We will do our best to get every man possible to attend the Sunday afternoon rally which we will hold at First Church, Fayetteville."

Establishing Mission Stations

The newly organized Brotherhood of the First Church, Van

Buren, where T. H. Jordan is pastor, is looking out upon the fringes of their city and discovering the need of three or four mission stations. Almost every Brotherhood in the Southland can well look its own field over with the same purpose in mind.

We don't know of any activity which will cause God to shower down His blessing upon a church more readily and more freely than the efforts of the church to reach out with the Gospel in its own community. The Brotherhood is dedicated to the missionary concept that every church ought to reach out in every direction as far as it can with a personal ministry.

One of the activities of the Brotherhood evangelistic committee is to search out the spiritual needs of its community, and to follow the Lord as He leads in meeting those needs.

—00—

New Church Has Great Prospects

By TAYLOR STANFILL, Superintendent City Missions, Little Rock

A new church was organized on Park Hill, North Little Rock, April 6, with 50 members. The first Sunday School was held in the

Park Hill School, April 13, with 66 present and with offering of \$148.

Organization was under the direction of a council of laymen from the neighboring Baptist churches, First, Central, Baring Cross, Pike Avenue, Sylvan Hills, all of North Little Rock and Pulaski Heights, Immanuel, and First Churches, of Little Rock. The movement had the approval of all neighboring Baptist churches and the initial membership was from a number of them. The temporary meeting place is the Park Hill School. The writer directed the organization and Dr. C. W. Caldwell, state superintendent of missions, preached the organizational sermon.

The new church was named Park Hill. The writer will serve as pastor in connection with his other duties until such time as a permanent pastor can be selected. A building committee and a finance committee are at work.

The new church has recognized the tithe as God's method of financing the church and kingdom. The tithe was recognized as the minimum of gifts through the Co-operative Program. The Arkansas Baptist goes to all the homes in the membership.

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Or

The History of Baptist Churches From The Time of Christ, Their Founder to the Present Day.

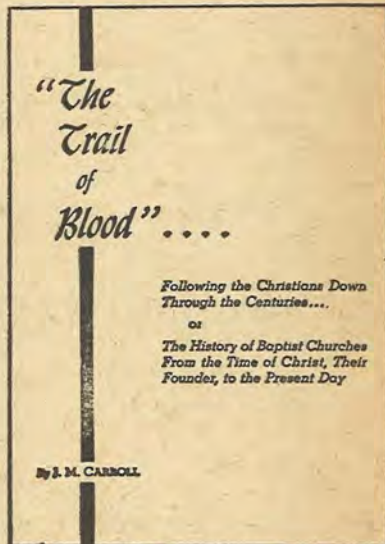
It has been nearly three years since I republished this great history by Dr. J. M. Carroll. I want to thank the Pastors and all others who have helped me scatter it among our people. Over 100,000 copies have been sold, and we still sell over 300 of them per day. This book is needed as never before in our history:

(1) Many of our people do not know of the great struggle which cost the lives of millions of Baptists. They do not understand that an ocean of blood was spilt that the Truth might be preserved.

(2) Our Saviour promised that "the gates of Hell" would not prevail against His churches. Dr. Carroll shows how this prophecy has been fulfilled.

(3) The Catholics are putting forth a special effort to reach the people in the South. They are preparing priests to deal especially with the Protestants and Baptists of the South—"The Trail of Blood" with its Scripture and history is the truth with which to meet and to defeat them.

—PASTOR CLARENCE WALKER, Publisher.



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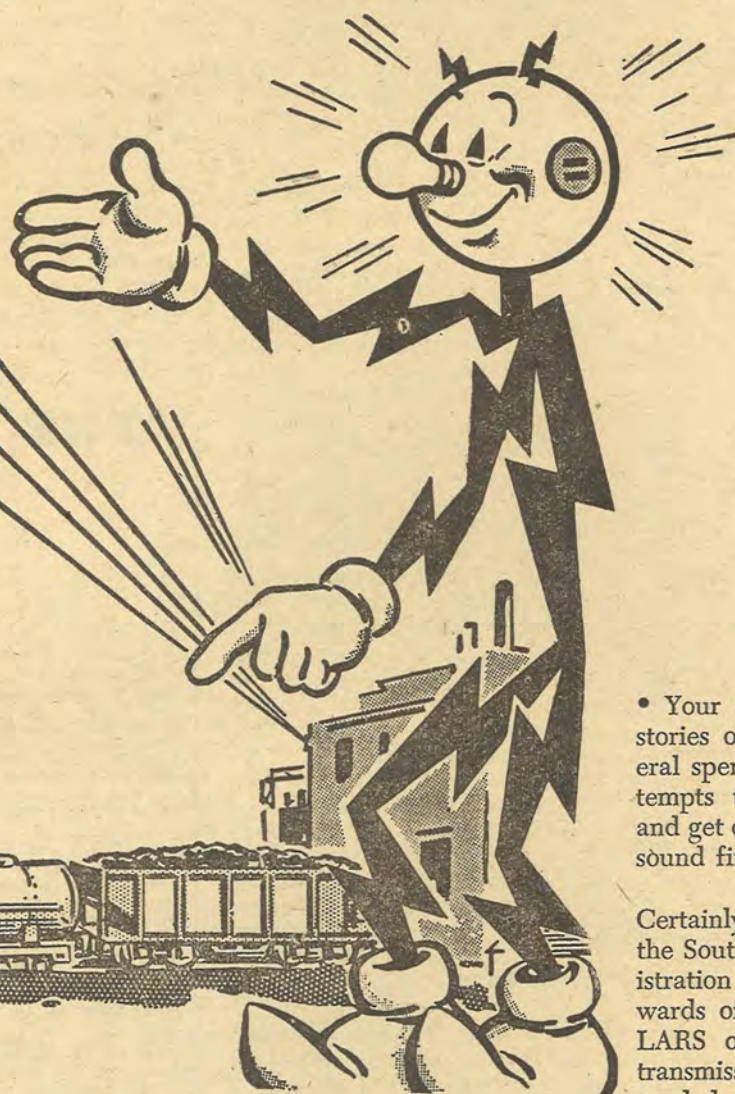
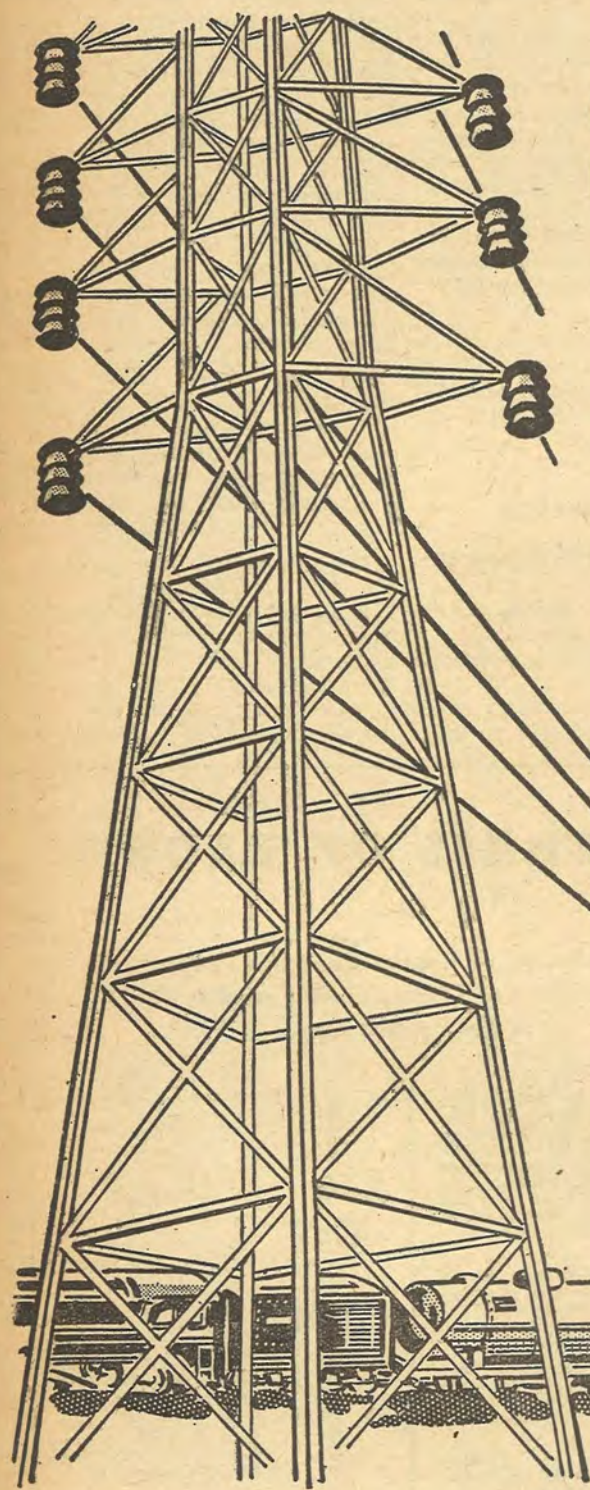
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TODAY . . . WHEN ECONOMY IN GOVERNMENT IS BEING URGED . . . WHY SPEND \$250,000,000 ON S.P.A.?



• Your newspapers daily carry stories of plans to reduce Federal spending . . . of sincere attempts to balance the budget and get our Government back on sound financial footing.

Certainly, then, the proposal of the Southwestern Power Administration (SPA) to spend upwards of 250 MILLION DOLLARS of tax money to build transmission lines that are not needed *does not make sense!*

The SPA is a Federal agency created to direct sale of the Government's hydroelectric power from dams in the Southwest . . . which power now is being purchased by business-managed, tax-paying companies, at a *price set by the Government.*

The lines proposed by SPA, to be built at staggering cost, would merely *duplicate* lines already operated by private companies.

They would not provide an additional kilowatt of power not already assured . . . but would *add thousands of employees to the Government pay roll* and eat up millions of tax dollars.

Certainly our tax-paying citizens do not want another wasteful bureau. *SPA is not needed!*

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Elijah Stands Alone for God And Thousands Take Notice

By R. PAUL CAUDILL

It was a good day for Israel when Omri, the king and father of Ahab, went to sleep "with his fathers." A single sentence portrays in graphic finality the evil character of his tragic reign: "But Omri wrought evil in the eyes of the Lord, and did worse than all that were before him" (I Kings 16:25).

Beginning his reign in the 31st year of the reign of the good king Asa of Judah, Omri reigned for six years in Tirzah. It was he who bought the hill Samaria of Shemer for two talents of silver and built on the hill the city of Samaria.

By walking in the ways of Jeroboam, the wicked son of Nebat, Omri set the evil pattern that was to be followed by his own son Ahab who was to succeed him as king of Israel.

It is only logical that there would follow divine retribution for Israel's folly. Consequently, the land became enveloped by a mighty famine. It was during this time that Elijah the Tishbite, was fed by the ravens by the brook Cherith that is before the Jordan.

The Real Trouble

When Elijah came face to face with Ahab, he was asked if it were he "that troubleth Israel." Ahab's pungent answer furnishes us another striking commentary on Israel's evil days; "And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy Father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the Lord, and thou hast followed Baalim" (I Kings 18:18).

The real trouble with Israel lay in her spiritual infidelities. She had gone away after the gods of her heathen neighbors. She had forsaken the ways of Jehovah for the paths of Baalim.

One of the first things Ahab did, upon assuming the kingship, was to take Jezebel, the daughter of Ethbaal, king of the Zidonians, as wife. Upon coming under the spell of her exotic influence, he "went and served Baal, and worshiped him." It was at this point

Sunday School Lesson For May 11

I Kings 18:20-21, 30-39

that the seeds were sown for Ahab's subsequent folly.

The ancient scribe goes on to tell of how Ahab "Reared up an altar for Baal, in the house of Baal, which he had built in Samaria," and of how he made a grove and "did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel to anger than all the Kings of Israel that were before him" (I Kings 16:32 f.).

It is too bad that national leaders are so slow to understand the relationship between public morals and national welfare. We are today not far from the very conditions that prevailed in ancient Israel.

The Halting Hordes

It was a lamentable picture to look upon the gathering of the prophets of Baal at Mount Carmel along with "all Israel." The prophet Elijah, realizing that the time had come for a "showdown" between the prophets of Baal and those of Jehovah, had given command to Ahab for the assembly (all in all, there were 450 of the prophets of Baal and 400 of the "prophets of the groves which ate at Jezebel's table").

Elijah minced no words when he stood before the vast assembly on the heights of lofty Carmel. He went straight to the heart of things and said, "How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him."

But the people gave no answer to his fervent plea. Their calloused hearts were insensible to spiritual reasoning. It would take far more than the stirring entreaty of a prophet's voice to call them away from their love of Baal.

A Lonely Role?

To the unbelieving world, the role of the prophet Elijah no doubt appears to have been a lonely one. "Then said Elijah unto the peo-

ple, I, even I only, remain a prophet of the Lord; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men" (I Kings 18:22). One to 450, a fearfully one-sided ratio, indeed. Only a heroic soul would dare seize the initiative in the face of such staggering odds!

But Elijah's role was not so lonely as it may have appeared to his multiplied adversaries. He had a strength that was far greater and mightier than all the arms of the prophets of Baal. He had for his strength the invisible might of the arm of Jehovah. He was, in the words of the hymn writer, "Never Alone."

The Fire of the Lord

It must have been a tense moment as Elijah prepared to call upon his God in order that by a sign the true God might be established.

The efforts of the prophets of Baal had resulted in a complete fiasco. They cried out from morning until noon, saying, "O Baal hear us," but we read that there was "no voice, nor any that answered."

So great was the consternation of the heathen prophets, and so desirous of gaining the ear of Baal, that they cut themselves with knives and lencets "till the blood gushed out upon them." But still there was none to answer, "nor any that regarded."

But there was manifestly no doubt on Elijah's part as he made ready for the miraculous demonstration of the power of his God. Coolly and deliberately the stage was set (for the full picture read I Kings 18:30-39), and quietly and calmly he called on Jehovah: "Hear me, Lord," he said. "that the people may know that thou art the Lord God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again. Then the fire of the Lord fell . . ."

Then it was that there followed the glorious victory for which Elijah had yearned. "And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, The Lord, he is the God; the Lord, he is the God."

Figures to Inspire

April 27, 1947

Church	Addns.	S.S.	T.U.
Alma, First	188	188	91
Arkadelphia, First	6	590	194
Bauxite, First	7	357	155
Benton, First	601	601	272
Including Mission	---	632	---
Camden, First	680	181	---
Conway, First	6	482	106
Cullendale	43	355	173
Dumas, First	16	347	90
Including Missions	---	449	---
Dyess, Central	6	164	85
Elaine	---	209	---
El Dorado Churches:	---	---	---
First	3	877	182
Second	---	446	102
West Side	2	280	97
Fayetteville, First	2	556	166
Fordyce	2	470	149
Fort Smith, First	46	1135	434
Hamburg, First	---	335	189
Hot Springs Churches:	---	---	---
Park Place	---	461	122
Second	---	536	133
Including Mission	---	609	---
Walnut Valley	1	91	60
Little Rock Churches:	---	---	---
Baptist Tabernacle	2	487	104
Gaines Street	13	432	290
Immanuel	3	1119	286
Including Missions	7	1621	621
Plainview	---	129	78
South Highland	4	348	83
Magnolia, Central	3	553	146
Malvern, First	1	456	67
Mena, First	---	301	96
Monticello, First	---	262	47
Mount Ida, First	3	182	246
North Little Rock,	---	---	---
Baring Cross	3	591	219
Including Mission	---	621	234
Ozark	2	308	83
Including Mission	---	383	---
Paragould, First	10	680	278
Paris, First	---	408	146
Pine Bluff Churches:	---	---	---
First	34	930	236
Including Mission	---	1031	262
Matthews Memorial	---	107	56
Second	1	44	230
Rogers, First	2	323	93
Siloam Springs, First	7	350	180
Springdale, First	5	353	172
Including Missions	---	467	---
Stuttgart, First	---	364	154
Texarkana Churches:	---	---	---
Calvary	---	126	---
College Hill	---	83	---
Warren Churches:	---	---	---
First	---	558	117
Immanuel	---	117	69

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12 campus boys to work their way through college. Neither drinking nor smoking is allowed on the campus.

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DO YOU HAVE
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Young Men Should Join . . .

THE RETIREMENT PLAN

Some young preachers have gained the impression that if a young man joins the Retirement Plan he would be "paying for the older man"—that if he joins while he is young he would pay into the Plan over such a long period of time that his outlay would be greater than his benefits. We would like to disabuse the mind of any young preacher on this idea.

One of the points emphasized is that if a man is eligible to become a member of the Plan and help build up a fund for annuities, and yet refuses to do so, he will lose the amount of annuity which his contributions, the contributions of his churches, and the contributions of the Convention would have purchased for him over the period of time when he should have been a member of the Plan.

It Is Not Wise to Wait

First, Pastor A and Pastor B, each 25 years of age, are entering their first pastorates at the same salary, each \$1,000. Pastor A joins the Ministers Retirement Plan at once, continuing at the same salary throughout the years of his active services and finds at age 65 he has a retirement annuity of \$500.

Pastor B, struggling with school debts, decided to wait for five years before joining the Plan. He will be only 30, he argues, and there is plenty of time. By so doing he will put in pocket the \$30 a year membership dues for five years, thus saving \$150 in all. It appears to be wisdom, so he waits.

He will save \$30 each year using it for something "more urgent." He will save \$150 in the five years, but he overlooks this fact; the \$150 plus an added \$150 his church would have paid had its pastor been a member, plus still another \$100 his denomination would have paid (\$400 in all) will not be working for him through the entire period of more than 35 years with interest compounded year after year. And the result will be his age annuity will not be \$500 as in the case of Pastor A, but only \$342. He saves \$30 a year in his youth and is short \$158 a year in his old age.

His retirement annuity will be decreased the first year by an amount larger than the total he saves in the five years. If he should live to age 70 he will lose \$790; to age 75, \$1,380. Is it wisdom for him to wait? Surely the youth of 25 can spare \$30 a year far easier than the aging man of 65 can spare \$158 a year.

Does the Young Pay for the Old?

Second. This question comes up to the average young preacher: "Does the young man

pay for the old man?" The answer is "no"; he only pays for himself.

Let us illustrate: Suppose a man begins to pay dues at age 25, and his salary is \$200 per month. He pays \$6 per month. Forty years at \$72.00 per year would be a total of \$2,880, which he would pay in personally. Now, the first thing to remember is, he never loses that \$2,880. It is always to his credit and if he dies before he receives any annuity, every cent that he has paid in, plus interest, would be refunded to his family.

Suppose he reaches age 65 and retires and begins to draw a pension, and his pension is \$100 per month, or \$1,200 per year. The expectancy of the life of a preacher is 13 years beyond age 65. Suppose he draws this \$100 per month for 13 years. At the end of the 13th year, he will have drawn in annuities a total of \$15,600, whereas he only paid into the Plan \$2,880. He has drawn nearly six times as much as he paid into the plan, although he started in the Plan very young.

Don't you see such a young man has not even paid for himself, much less for the older man? Suppose the young man reaches only half the years of his expectancy, even then he would draw more than twice as much as he paid into the Plan.

Disability Benefits

Third. Another thing to be considered, suppose for some reason a young man becomes disabled and cannot work any more. If he is a member of the Plan, he draws a disability annuity equal to 40 per cent of his previous year's salary, up to \$500 in annuity, if he has pastored five years in the South. If he did not join while he was young, and if he became disabled, he would be 100 per cent out of luck. We consider that this is a distinct advantage and a good reason why the very youngest should be a member of the Plan.

Annuity Ceilings Higher for Young

Fourth. Another thing, there is a safety valve that holds down the annuity these days on the older man when he retires. The annuity ceiling during the first five years of the operation of the Plan was \$600; the sixth year of the Plan the ceiling is \$800; the ceiling lifts \$200 each succeeding year of the Plan until the twelfth year when it reaches the maximum. The younger man who joins the Plan will have a ceiling of \$2,000 on annuity: the old man \$600 or \$800, or less than \$2,000. You see, that is an advantage for the young man which the older man does not have.

Augusta Dedicates Beautiful New Edifice

The growing church in Augusta recently dedicated their splendid new building. More than a year ago the church building burned. It was difficult indeed to obtain permission, and to find materials with which to construct an adequate building, but the progressive leadership of this historic congregation did not take "no" for an answer.

J. O. Young was the pastor, and he was supported and strengthened in his efforts to rebuild the edifice by a group of as fine church members as there are anywhere.

It was the writer's privilege to be with the congregation, and with their new pastor, Dell Hames, in the dedication services early in April. A large congregation was present and watched the deacons burn up the last notes that represented indebtedness on the church building.

Pastor Hames had prepared for an interesting and impressive dedication service. The program was well arranged, and the music, and other features of the day were performed with a purpose. The new church building is one of the most elegant of all the church houses in the state. No expense was spared in making it a building of beauty and one fit for service. It is an adequate work shop, and its appointments are beautiful.

The congregation at Augusta has increased through the months and they have a real program of work. Bro. Hames came on to the field a few months ago, and is leading the people in a significant manner, and the church has enjoyed a period of spiritual progress.

Little River Expands

Little River Association is going forward under the aggressive ministry of a group of fine pastors, and an aggressive missionary. Pastor Lawson Hatfield, Ashdown; Pastor W. E. Perry, Nashville; Pastor Boyd Baker, DeQueen; Pastor Russell Armer, Horatio; and Pastor R. E. Baucom, Murfreesboro, have been for sometime some of our outstanding leaders.

Right along by their sides are Dean Newberry, Mack Gates, Sidney Oxendine, Grover Taylor, James Harris, Charles Cornell, B. Atterbery, M. E. Tate, Don Jones, and their missionary, H. B. Donnell.

These leaders have outlined a far-reaching program for the work of the Lord in Little River Association. They are helping the pastorless churches to find leaders, and they are planning for a revival in every church and community during the year. What an inspiration to attend the meeting in Little River Association.