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### May 15, 1947

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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# ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 46

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, MAY 15, 1947

NUMBER 20

## Country Church

LITTLE CHURCH, tell me this, ere I hasten on my way. Who was it built this concrete highway past your door, this straight and noisy road on which the heavy trucks go roaring by? And tell me, does he ever stop to think, as eager thousands seek the distant city in quest of gain, that you have more to give than some of them will ever find?

Your white walls, gleaming through the trees, have caught my eye. I leave my auto here beside the road, that I may walk the friendly path that leads up to your door. It bears the ruts of many thaws. Between its pebbles the tall grasses grow. Children have played here, and though your holy calm rebukes our restless ways, I think your heart rejoiced to hear their happy laughter.

How like you are to the church my father loved! I know what is within. Your walls, severely unadorned. Your windows, with their many colored panes, through which the sun paints ever-changing patterns on the floor. The stiff-backed pews, with well worn hymnbooks in the racks. The



simple, oaken pulpit, with its lamp, that on dark winter evenings the man of God who preaches here may see to read the Holy Book—the Word of Life to childhood, youth, and age.

Here hearts of simple faith have prayed for loved ones close to death, and known them raised to health again. Here men have kneeled, and learned the peace that comes with sins forgiven.

Here lovers pledged their troth, and here the last long prayers were said beside the bodies of the sainted dead. Men come and go, the generations rise and pass away; but you remain, that you may say to one and all that Christ is still the Way, the Truth, the Life.

Little church, give no heed to those who say your day is done. And envy not the churches of the city, for they, with all their monumental grandeur, their high altars, and their lofty spires, can come no closer to those who live on yonder countryside.

You will not mind if I, a stranger, softly step inside your door. I know I shall not find it locked. I would enter in; I would sit down, and rest, and pray awhile. I need the benediction which your hallowed walls can give.

—From the *May Baptist Leader*,  
Philadelphia, Penn.  
Reprinted by Permission.

# Across the Editor's Desk

Obedying the Great Commission Through . . .

## The Cooperative Program

The Cooperative Program is distinctly a Southern Baptist program and is set forth by Paul in II Corinthian 6:1, "We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain."

The phrase "workers together" means simply cooperation, and the phrase "we beseech you" is an appeal for voluntary cooperation. The work outlined by Jesus and His disciples is the presentation of a program in which we should voluntarily cooperate. Jesus commissioned His disciples to heal the sick, to care for the fatherless and the poor, to teach, to preach the gospel, and to evangelize. These functions prescribed by Jesus are precisely the functions included in the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program. And the whole vast enterprise is conditioned upon the voluntary cooperation of Baptists throughout the South.

### A Unique System

Each state within the Southern Baptist Convention has its own headquarters office, its own organization, its own department, its own agencies and institutions, and its own program.

Suppose we visualize a great number of streams, of varying sizes and from all directions, flowing into a central lake or reservoir. Such a system of streams flowing into a central reservoir may illustrate the Cooperative Program. Program funds flow in to the headquarters office from the individual churches throughout the state. These state reservoirs vary in size according to the numerical strength and financial ability of Baptists in the different states. In Arkansas this proposed central pool for 1947 is \$408,000. In some of the Southern states the pool rises to more than a million dollars.

The funds from these state pools are siphoned out to maintain the headquarters office and its various departments, to maintain the institutions and agencies of the state Convention, to promote the missionary, educational, and benevolent programs of the Convention. A final portion from these state reservoirs is forwarded to Southern Baptist

Headquarters in Nashville, Tenn. Here another lake or pool is formed by the streams which flow in from all the states of the Southern Baptist Convention territory. The funds from this pool are siphoned out for the various South-wide causes, including ministerial education in the seminaries, the Southern Baptist Hospital in New Orleans, the Relief and Annuity Board, the Home Mission Board, and the Foreign Mission Board.

The Cooperative Program funds flow into these pools, both state and South-wide, from 26,000 churches with a membership of 6,000,000, and from 20 states. It is estimated that the total contributions of Southern Baptists in 1946 reached \$125,000,000, with \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000 going into these Cooperative Program pools. This program, therefore, gathers its strength from 20 states, from 26,000 churches, from 6,000,000 Baptists.

As this is written before the meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis and before the statistics for 1946 are released, it is impossible to give accurate figures. But they are bases for estimates which are encouraging and which should inspire us to greater efforts and undertakings.

### The Whole Program

In the field of benevolences, it is safe to say that within the 20 states of the South at least 2,000 orphaned and homeless children are being cared for. It is impossible to estimate the suffering and privation which are being relieved, or the potential force being conserved for the Kingdom of God in the lives of these boys and girls. Hundreds of thousands of people are ministered to by our hospitals. Hundreds of aged ministers and widows of ministers are given substantial aid through the Relief and Annuity Board, exclusive of the various annuity plans. The impetus given to the Christian testimony by our benevolent program is tremendous.

If we look at our Christian education program, we are met with an inspiring vision. Our hope for the future lies with the thousands of young men and young women enrolled in our colleges and seminaries. In these institutions of higher learning we are training our church leaders for the future, ministers and other Christian workers, missionaries, educators, and lay leaders. The future of our churches and of our denomination depends upon a trained Christian leadership.

The Home Mission Board is carrying on the most extensive program of its entire history. With more than 800 missionaries in the homeland, Cuba, and the Canal Zone, this missionary agency is reaching into the neglected and needy areas of the city and the country alike. The Home Mission Board is also mak-

ing extensive use of the radio for preaching the gospel. We have no more powerful agency for evangelizing the homeland than our Home Mission Board. The record of its work in evangelism, in establishing missions and organizing churches, and other ministries is inspiring to read and should command the attention of all Southern Baptists.

Through the agency of our Foreign Mission Board, Southern Baptists extend their ministry to all parts of the world. The doors are open as never before for our missionaries to enter with the gospel of our Lord. The peoples of the earth are pleading for the bread of life. It is our privilege and opportunity to respond to their plea through the agency of our Foreign Mission Board. The work of rehabilitation and expansion in the war-ravaged countries is going forward. New missionaries are being sent out. In every country where the Foreign Mission Board is working the lost are being saved, the sick are being healed, the needy are being ministered to temporally and spiritually.

### A Challenging Program

To visualize the whole program of Southern Baptists is to be inspired beyond measure by the magnitude and the comprehensiveness of the Kingdom enterprises which we promote and support. This program, if understood and seen in its proper perspective, should arouse our Baptist people of the South to the greatest undertakings of their entire history. It seems incredible that any Christian could be indifferent to such a program, if the program is laid before him in all its vastness and challenging appeal. Therefore every means should be used to convey to our people a picture of our Southern Baptist program, from the local church out to the ends of the earth.

As you read and study the Bible, it is good to underline precious passages that bring definite lessons to your soul. Make a list of the good thoughts which come to mind as you read a passage of Scripture, and share these with members of the family and others.—Jerome O. Williams in the Baptist Training Union Magazine.

## ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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Official Publication of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

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

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## NEXT WEEK

A full report of the Southern Baptist Convention will begin in the next issue of the Arkansas Baptist, and will continue in subsequent issues. An eight-page issue this week has permitted both Editor and Editorial Assistant to attend the sessions of the annual conference of Baptists from 20 Southern states held in St. Louis, May 7-11. Several hundred Arkansas Baptists were in attendance.

## New Men in Christ . . .

# Marred Men Made Again

By WILFORD LEE  
First Church, Crossett

A Chinese proverb says "One picture is worth 1000 words." The truth of this saying is seen in the parable of the potter found in the eighteenth chapter of Jeremiah.

### God is the Potter

"The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying, Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words. Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels. And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: So he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it. Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying, O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the Lord. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel."

In the compass of a hundred words we learn more of divine sovereignty, human imperfection and the will of God than we could grasp in many pages of abstract theology.

While Jeremiah was brooding over the impending destruction of the nation God caused him to see the meaning of it all in a visit to the potter's house. Immediately the prophet grasped the significance of the potter's work. That is what God is doing to Israel! God is the potter. Israel is the clay and the clay is flawed and sinful. He cannot use it; but He will not reject. He will crush it down and make it again another vessel.

Now God deals with individuals in essentially the same way that He deals with Israel.

The vision at the potter's house is a message for every soul. By the grace of God marred men may be made again.

### Sin Mars Every Life

"Marred"—that is the one-word summary of every life. We are not surprised to learn that, are we? Yes, every life is marred; for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. There is none righteous, no not one. Only one word accounts for the damage of the divine design: sin.

Sin's wastage and wreckage is seen in every direction. It is the one ugly fact that mars and mutilates God's perfect plans. Latent and active in every life, sin's presence and power spoils these vessels of human clay.

The real weakness of our lives come from sin. Oh, the staggering blows of temptation, the weakness that comes of so many compromises and concessions to evil. Resolutions are broken; visions are disobeyed; good impulses are unfulfilled, and evil impulses unfought. Man's greatness is marred by man's sin.

The life is marred—how badly we may not know, nor does it matter. A small flaw is as damaging as a large one. It is begging the question to argue that "I am not a great sinner."

My friend, the mere presence of sin disqualifies and brings forth death. The presence of any sin admits the possibility of every sin. One cancerous cell within the body foreshadows the awful possibility of the entire body being consumed.

"Marred"—let everyone be swift to confess it. It is a wholesome thing to fall to your knees and say from the heart, "Father, I have

*This is the third 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.*

sinned." The road to recovery and new life begins just there.

Is there one who will say, "Lord, I have sinned, my life is marred. Take me and make me anew." Sin must be confessed to God or there is no forgiveness. And God cannot make any life anew unless He first cleanses and pardons the repentant soul.

"Marred"—but let none despair. The clay can never correct itself nor can human frailty resolve itself into soundness; but our God through Christ can refashion everyone who yields himself under God's hand. Only one thing will exhaust the Divine Patience and that is unyielding clay—a perverse and obstinate spirit. Even the Divine Potter can do nothing with such a one.

### "So He Made it Again"

The truth that thrills our souls with joy is this: "He made it again"—not another vessel but the marred vessel was remade. A potter less patient and loving than God would throw the imperfect product aside. Only God will take pains with misshapen, cracked and flawed lives. He will not fail nor be discouraged. Sin works within man and mars the design of the Creator; but our Lord remakes sin's damages for he is a better workman than sin.

If we have failed our God in His first designs for our lives and service let us not despair. He is patient and ready to give us another opportunity under His hand. He is willing to grant us another chance of rising to His will.

"Marred, so he made it again": this is the gospel of another chance.

## NOTES OF ADVANCE

Montrose Church, with a Sunday School enrollment of 100, had 79 present in services April 26. Four new Sunday School rooms are nearing completion. Chester Hooks is Sunday School superintendent. The church does not have a pastor.

Quartet of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary sang at the Southern Baptist Convention, May 7-10, and is now on a concert tour covering 11 states. They sang at First Church, Little Rock, May 6.

First Church, Fayetteville, experienced one of its best days April 27. Observance of Intermediate Day began Saturday evening with a picnic, followed by a breakfast at the church Sunday morning. Mrs. A. L. Leake, Rogers, spoke at the breakfast meeting. There were 556 in Sunday School and 166 in Training Union. At the evening worship service the Baptist Student Union of the University held an installation service for its Executive Council.

First Church, Blytheville, had 61 additions, 45 for baptism, in revival services in which Pastor J. T. Brown, Estil, S. C., was evangelist and Ralph Churchill, publicity director of Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, directed the music. Pastor E. C. Brown of the

Blytheville Church, brother of the evangelist reports: "This revival is another demonstration that the gospel is still 'the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth,' and that it still appeals to men and women who are lost. The revival spirit continues to be felt in our church. Five have come for baptism since the meeting closed."

"Ross Avenue Church, Dallas, Tex., has prayed down a revival," reports Arkansan Homer B. Reynolds, who is pastor and also evangelist for recent revival services. There were 63 additions, 33 for baptism. Eugene Spearman, formerly of Arkansas also, was singer. A chain of prayer beginning at 7 a. m. on Saturday morning and continuing until early Sunday morning was held for two consecutive Saturdays before the special services began. This chain of prayer is continuing and every Saturday from 7 in the morning until 9 at night someone is in the church auditorium praying.

Among the class of 91 students from 15 states who received diplomas and degrees from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary April 28 are Mrs. V. M. Bellue, Little Rock, John T. Dearing, Pine Bluff, and Miss Aileen Storey, Heber Springs.

Twenty-four additions were counted in revival services at First Church, Judsonia. Eighteen of these, with ages ranging from nine to 40, were for baptism. Pastor Leonard M. Keeling says: "Pastor James E. Carroll, Second Church, El Dorado, who was the evangelist, preaches the old time gospel with great force of conviction. Any church that may secure him for a revival will be fortunate. Bro. W. J. Morris, Pine Bluff, led the singing. He is a preacher and gospel singer. He is a happy combination in revivals, often doing both the preaching and directing the music, in addition to leading the young people's group."

Pastor Jesse Reed, Park Place Church, Hot Springs, preached in evangelistic services at Midway Church, Fort Worth, Tex., one of the churches cooperating in simultaneous revivals. Pastor O. C. Robinson, Jr., formerly of Arkansas, reports that it was the greatest revival in the history of the church. There were 18 additions.

W. Ross Edwards, formerly of Arkansas, has resigned as pastor of First Church, Warrensburg, Mo., to accept the pastorate of Swope Park Church, Kansas City, Mo. During the four years of his pastorate at the Warrensburg Church there have been more than 500 additions with 225 for baptism. In revivals outside of the church there have been 287 additions, 192 for baptism.

# The Meaning of Enlistment

Enlistment means more than enrollment. Enlistment is engagement for service, and in service. Men are not enlisted by the process of enrolling them as members of the church Brotherhood. Rather they are enlisted when they are individually engaged for service in the work of their church, and then led into constant repetition of that service.

For instance, a man is not enlisted in giving just by informing him of the truths concerning scriptural giving and of his obligation to give; or even when he admits his obligation to give. A man is enlisted in the grace of scriptural giving when he is led to engage in giving; to practice giving; to GIVE! A man is enlisted in tithing when he is led to engage in the practice of tithing.

A Christian man is not enlisted in soul-winning by simply getting him to admit his supreme obligation to win souls; but when he engages regularly in the business of soul-winning.

A man may be said to be fully enlisted when he is led to engage in all the work of his church. The enlistment of men is their engagement for service, and in service.

**Notes of Advance**

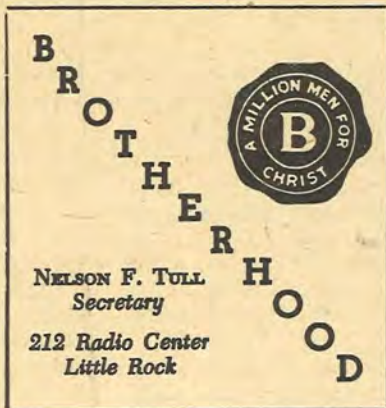
Hebron Church, Pulaski County Association, where Dawson King is pastor, has recently organized a Brotherhood.

The number of Brotherhoods in Arkansas now stands at 115.

First Church, Van Buren, engaged in a Brotherhood revival during the week of April 27-May 4, during which there were 36 additions to the church, 35 coming by baptism. T. H. Jordan is pastor.

The plan for the revival was a simple program of preaching, praying, and going in a deliberate and sustained effort to win lost people to Christ and then to the church. Nelson Tull, your state Brotherhood secretary, was the speaker.

One of the laws of Christian work is that the number of people who respond to invitations at the close of our services is in direct proportion to the number of



people the church has tried to win.

This is a truth that we all need to grasp!

—000—

## Many Professions In Ashdown Revival

By MINOR E. COLE, *Pastor*  
First Church, Forrest City

We have just closed an old-fashioned one-week revival with First Church, Ashdown and Pastor Lawson Hatfield. Twenty-nine people united with the church on profession of faith. Seventeen young men and women came forward to dedicate their lives to the Lord. The church was truly revived. In some special evangelistic services in the Ashdown consolidated schools more than 100 people publicly responded to a simple gospel appeal to accept Christ as their Saviour. Sixty-two of them were high school students.

Bro. and Mrs. Hatfield are much loved in Ashdown and are doing a great work for our Lord there. They are a gifted and consecrated young couple and God is using them. Bro. Hatfield led the music and he is fine in this capacity.

—000—

It is my firm conviction that Jesus was born of the virgin Mary in the way declared by Matthew and Luke and corroborated by other writers of the New Testament. If Jesus was born of parents as we were, then he would have had a nature like us and would not have been able to have provided salvation for us.—Austin Crouch, The Sunday School Builder.

## Alma Church Breaks Attendance Records During Unusual Revival

By D. O. STUCKEY, *Pastor*  
First Church, Alma

We have just experienced—not closed—one of the greatest revivals it has ever been my privilege to participate in. We had Pastor T. H. Jordan, First Church, Van Buren, doing the preaching. Bro. Jordan has the heart of a pastor, as well as an evangelist. This combination, plus his great gospel preaching, accompanied by the power of the Holy Spirit, was greatly used of God in our church and surrounding community during our revival, April 6-18.

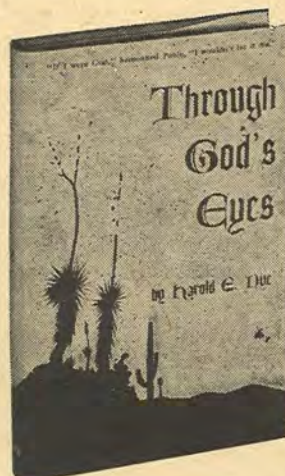
Another outstanding factor to the success of the meeting was the fact that we had Bro. John Freeman, assistant pastor of Calvary Church, Fort Smith, in charge of the music, and working with the young people each evening.

The visible results of the earnest efforts of these two good men of God, plus the loyalty and hard work of a great group of our own members who toiled day and night with a spirit of consecration and devotion that is rarely seen today, were 21 additions.

On the middle Sunday of the meeting our church went far beyond all attendance records of the past, to honor Christ with 215 in Sunday School, and 106 in Training Union. The evening service was given over to the baptismal service in which 18 were baptized into our church. Then after the baptismal service was over, we observed the Lord's Supper. The building was packed full, and our hearts did truly burn within us during that high and holy hour.

# Through God's Eyes

Harold E. Dye



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# MANY FIND CHRIST THROUGH MISSIONS

April has been a good month for the Department of Missions. Of course, it is not the time of the year when great revivals are held in rural churches and mission stations. It is a time of preparation for the work of evangelism during the summer. All of those connected with this department have been busy in some way or other.

## Associational Missionaries

The associational missionaries have been busy in schools of missions, study courses, denominational meetings, and conferences. Some revival meetings have been held. Most of these men were in attendance at the associational missionaries conference in Hot Springs.

There were 52 professions of faith during the month in the services conducted by these missionaries. They have set up their goals for the year's work and are now ready to enter the summer months majoring on evangelism.

## Pastor—Missionaries

The pastor-missionaries, which are those aided by this department, report many steps of progress being made. Many of them are adding Sunday School rooms to their buildings, some are building pastor's homes, and others are getting ready to build church houses. These men report 30 professions of faith during the month. It may be added, however, that most of these professions were reported by one pastor.

## Rural Evangelist Wiles

Rev. M. E. Wiles began his work as rural evangelist in April and has been kept busy practically every day. He has visited several places where the churches have requested financial aid and has given to the superintendent a detailed report of the needs and conditions found there. He reports four professions of faith, 22 rededications, and two having surrendered to special work. He already has many revivals booked for the summer.

## Rural Evangelist Hill

Rev. R. A. Hill has arrived in Arkansas and he is ready to begin his work as a rural evangelist. This man did an outstanding work around Tuckerman before he went to the seminary in New Orleans. Now that he has finished his seminary work he feels that the Lord has led in calling him to be a rural evangelist for his native state. His heart is on evangelism and I predict for him much success. Any pastor desiring his help in revival meetings may contact him through the Department of Missions, Radio Center Building, Little Rock.

## State Superintendent

April has also been a splendid month for the superintendent of the department. He has helped in the organization of the Park Hill Church in North Little Rock; the ordination of three deacons in Elaine Church; a revival meeting with Reynold's Memorial Church, Little Rock; conducted a conference with the missionaries in Hot Springs for two and one-half days; has been in eight churches for some sort of service; and supplied in the

Department of

# MISSIONS

C. W. Caldwell, Superintendent

pulpit in four churches and in every case there were additions to the church.

Counting those who went into the organization of the new church there have been 60 additions during the month where he has held services. He will be engaged in a simultaneous revival in Missouri the week following the Southern Baptist Convention. This meeting is to be something of an experiment sponsored jointly by the Home Mission Board and the Missouri Mission Board. The type of meeting and the success of it will be reported later.

—OO—

## Eggs for Baptist Home

By L. B. SNIDER, Superintendent  
Bottoms Baptist Orphanage

In a recent article in this paper we suggested that Arkansas Baptists make our children an offering of eggs. Twenty cases have been received. Eggs are a fine bone building food and our children need an abundance of such food.

We have sufficient cold storage space to store 100 or more cases. Eggs are larger and cheaper in price in the spring than in any other season. This is the season when eggs are stored.

We shall be glad to send empty cases to those willing to fill them for us. Eggs may be sent by railway express, parcel post, etc.

—OO—

First Church, Des Arc, had five professions of faith, three additions for baptism, and seven by letter and statement in recent revival services. Rev. O. M. Stallings, Spiro, Okla., formerly of Arkansas, was the evangelist. Pastor Ernest Baker reports that the church was greatly revived. The church had the largest attendance and offering on Easter Sunday witnessed since Pastor Baker came on the field last September. The pastor has baptized 23 in the seven months bringing the total additions to 42.

—OO—

Choices of whether to live in a trailer or apartment, in a hotel or a home, downtown or in a suburb should be made prayerfully in the light of the best physical and spiritual interests of the children.—Roland Q. Leavell in The Teacher.

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## Jonesboro Church Engages in Unique Plan of Enlistment

With the entire membership divided into groups of seven and given names of three lost people, a careful check on attendance was made at First Church, Jonesboro, during recent evangelistic services. The plan also gave special attention to the church's list of unsaved prospects. Co-captains of each group were charged with the responsibility of the attendance at the services and giving special attention to the prospects.

The eight-day period of special services was preceded by a week of visitation evangelism. Workers met at the church for the evening meal and went afield to do personal soul-winning among the unsaved and to enlist the unchurched. Names were secured in a religious census taken just before the revival. Associational Missionary M. S. Lloyd assisted in the visitation program.

Seventy-five visitors went out the last evening. A number of professions of faith and decisions were reported each evening.

During the week of evangelistic services morning meetings were held at 7:15 and evening services at 7:30. Pastor C. Z. Holland did the preaching and Deacon Edgar Booker directed the music.

At the close of the meeting a love offering was received which was sufficient to send the pastor to the Baptist World Alliance.

—OO—

Dr. J. W. Marshall, secretary of the department of missionary personnel for the Foreign Mission Board, has accepted the presidency of Wayland College, Plainview, Tex.

\* \* \*

First Church, Bauxite, had 24 additions in a revival in which Pastor R. A. Butler did the preaching and F. C. Pipestem, Fairfax, Okla., directed the music.

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## STANDARD TRAINING UNIONS

First Quarter, 1947

According to reports received, the following organizations of the Training Union were Standard for the first quarter, January, February, and March, 1947:

**Baptist Training Unions:** Benton County Association, First Church, Siloam Springs, Mrs. Ruth Tolleson, director; Central Association, Walnut Valley Church, Hot Springs, Mrs. Mary Lee Graves, director; Mount Zion Association, First Church, Lake City, Fred Carter, director.

**Baptist Adult Unions:** Benton County Association, First Church, Siloam Springs, Mrs. Ruth Tolleson, director; Liberty Association, Galilee Church, El Dorado, Mrs. G. S. Warren, director; Mount Zion Association, First Church, Lake City, Fred Carter, director; Red River Association, Fairview Church, Mrs. Exie Presley, director.

**Baptist Young People's Unions:** Benton County Association, First Church, Siloam Springs, Mrs. Ruth Tolleson, director; Concord Association, Immanuel Church, Fort Smith, Thomas B. Chaney, director; Mount Zion Association, First Church, Lake City, Fred Carter, director; Red River Association, Fairview Church, Delight, Mrs. Exie Presley, director.

**Baptist Intermediate Unions:** Central Association, Walnut Valley Church, Hot Springs, Mrs. Mary Lee Graves, director; Mount Zion Association, First Church, Lake City (two), Fred Carter, director.

**Baptist Junior Unions:** Caddo River Association, First Church,

# Religious Education

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Mount Ida, Carey Self, director; Central Association, Walnut Valley Church, Hot Springs, Mrs. Mary Lee Graves, director; Benton County Association, First Church, Siloam Springs, (two), Mrs. Ruth Tolleson, director; Mount Zion Association, First Church, Lake City, (two), Fred Carter, director; Red River Association, Fairview Church, Delight, Mrs. Exie Presley, director.

**Story Hour Units:** Central Association, Walnut Valley Church, Hot Springs, Mrs. Mary Lee Graves, director; Mount Zion Association, First Church, Lake City, Fred Carter, director.

**Standard Departments:** Mount Zion Association, First Church, Lake City, Junior Department, Intermediate Department, Adult Department, Fred Carter, director.

There are perhaps 25,000 places where Southern Baptists should organize Sunday Schools, because there are several million people who will not be enlisted for Bible study unless more Sunday schools are organized.—J. N. Barnette, The Sunday School Builder.

## Letters Express Appreciation of Cuban Missionaries for State WMU

There is no single article of furniture in this whole Baptist Temple which adds as much to our musical usefulness as the lovely book case which we bought with the generous check from Arkansas women. Now we can keep under lock and key the hymn books furnished by Tennessee and Mississippi and the folders of anthems . . . many of them your gift also. All this dates back to your visit last May.—Mrs. Rose G. Pool.

We had a wonderful Convention. All want to be more faithful than ever now that we have lost our great leader, Dr. McCall. The Convention closed with a beautiful memorial service for him. Mrs. McCall is returning this month to dispose of their things and then return to the States to make her home with her children and grandchildren. She has been wonderfully brave and has been an inspiration to all of us.

Yesterday when I was trying to get the housekeeping going again after the confusion of having this building full of delegates to our Convention the maid came with your letter and that wonderful check for \$500 from Arkansas WMU.—Mildred Matthews.

### WMU Week At Ridgecrest

WMU Week at Ridgecrest, N. C., will be held August 7-13, including special conferences for members of Business Woman's Circles. We hope many from Arkansas will attend.

### Ridgecrest Rates

Pritchell Hall, \$2.75 and \$3, with bath, \$3.50; Crestridge, \$4 with bath; Hillside Annex, \$3.50 with bath; Springdale Annex, \$2.50; Rhododendron Hall, \$3; Lakeview, with connecting bath \$3 and \$3.25, private bath \$3.50; Crystal Springs Lodge, \$2.75 and \$3, with bath \$3.50 and \$4; Kitasuma Cottages (overlooking Royal Gorge), with bath \$3.25, with connecting bath \$2.75; Florida Cove, with bath \$3.25; Cottage Rooms, \$2.25, \$2.50 and \$3 (according to location);

# WMU

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The management reserves the right to place more than one person in each room. Cottages for housekeeping at \$16 per week and up, according to size, capacity equipment and location. When groups are requesting accommodations, they should include in their request the number of persons for whom they wish reservations—the type of accommodations they desire, that is: whether housekeeping or non-housekeeping if a cottage or, if requesting hotel accommodations, the approximate rate they would prefer to pay for their accommodations.

Registration fee is \$1 per person for each conference, and must be paid at time reservation is made. Make checks payable to Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly. For information, write Mr. Robert Guy, Manager, Ridgecrest, N. C.

## And Still There Is Room

Yes, those desiring to attend this year's State Baptist Assembly at Siloam Springs may still send in reservation. There is room for between 50 and 100 more in Assembly-owned dormitories. It is suggested, however, that those desiring reservations send in name with \$2 reservation fee at once. Do it today! Send to Dr. Edgar Williamson, 203 Radio Center, Little Rock.

### More Waiters and Waitresses Needed

Young men and women of intermediate and young people ages are needed to serve tables in the dining hall. In return for this service the Assembly will provide bed and meals and a share in the free-will offering taken at the end of the Assembly for those who serve.

Those desiring to apply for this service should write at once to Dr. Edgar Williamson, 203 Radio Center, Little Rock, giving name, address, age and name of church. DO IT NOW!

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# Prophets Reveal God's Anger At Israel's Social Injustices

By R. PAUL CAUDILL

The struggle for social justice is as old as the human race. Whenever men have gathered in groups—whether in cities, towns or villages—there have been those who oppress and deal unjustly with the poor and less fortunate.

So it was in the days of ancient Israel. One needs only to turn to the words of the prophet Isaiah to understand how acute the problem was: "Woe to them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there be no room, and ye be made to dwell alone . . . that justify the wicked for a bribe, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him" (5:8ff.).

The prophet Hosea boldly declared that Israel's goodness was as "a morning cloud, and as the dew that goeth early away" (6:4), a land in which whoredom and new wine had "taken away the understanding" (4:11), a place in which "there is no truth, nor goodness, nor knowledge of God in the land. There is naught but swearing and breaking faith, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery; they break out and blood toucheth blood" (4:1f.).

When Amos pleads for Israel to seek Jehovah, he is but following in the train of mighty men of God who had gone before him, and is dealing with a problem that is universal in its scope of influence.

### The Secret of Life

Amos saw, as did Isaiah, Jeremiah, and the lesser prophets, that for Israel there could be no hope apart from Jehovah. "Seek Jehovah," he cried out, "and ye shall live" (5:6). And well might he utter his passionate plea, for Israel was morally and spiritually bankrupt.

Manifestly there were those who felt that life in its richest and fullest sense was to be found in material things. They had their "winter-house" and their "summer-house" and their "houses of ivory" (3:15), but they had obtained them, evidently, through social injustices.

Yea, verily, justice had been per-

### Sunday School Lesson For May 18

Amos 5:6-15, 21-24

verted and righteousness overturned: "Ye who turn justice to wormwood, and cast down righteousness to the earth" (5:7). "For I know how manifold are your transgressions, and how mighty are your sins—ye that afflict the just, that take a bribe, and that turn aside the needy in the gate" (5:12).

A nation whose people had so given themselves over to the perversion of justice and righteousness must, sooner or later, experience the terrible wrath of Jehovah. Such sins demanded retribution certain and sure.

That is why Amos entreats Israel with passionate fervor to seek Jehovah. Only by a genuine return to God could they have valid grounds for hope of enduring life. The crisis had come at long last. They must either turn to Him for life, or be destroyed, by the consuming retributive hand of their own sins.

### A Positive Stand

Amos reminds Israel that positive steps must be taken, if she is to seek Jehovah. It is not to be a passive, negative affair. "Seek good, and not evil," he said (5:14). Only in this way can real life and the transforming presence of Jehovah be experienced.

Moreover, Israel was enjoined by Amos to "Hate the evil, and love the good," and to "establish justice in the gate" (5:15).

It is at this point that we find

the head and front of our offending in so-called "Christian America." We refuse to hate the evil and to love the good. In fact, many have all but lost the power of discrimination between good and evil, even as Isaiah found it in his day.

Take the matter of strong drink. If church members would only take a stand in accord with the teaching of the scriptures and the leadership of the divine Spirit, the problem would soon be solved. But church members, by and large, fail to do this. They might offend their friends! They might be ostracized! They might be called "narrow" or "intolerant"!

The religion of Jesus Christ calls for a transformation of every area of the believer's life. All conduct must come under the surveillance of the all-seeing eye of God, and must be subject to His counsels.

### I Hate . . . I Despise

"I hate, I despise your feasts, and I will take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Yea, though ye offer me your burnt offerings and meal-offerings, I will not accept them . . . Take thou away from me the noise of thy songs" (Amos 5:21ff.).

God does not want mere lip service on the part of His children. He has no regard for the shallow, superficial manifestations of a creed that is unrelated to life. A religion that is not lived is not a living religion. A creed that does not reveal itself in conduct is not Christian.

It is difficult for the Christian to realize this. Moreover it is harder than one thinks to ask continually the question, "What would Jesus have me do?" as the vexing problems of life are faced. And yet, there is no other course for

those who are resolved to go "all the way" with Jesus. We must make our decisions in the light of and according to His counsel.

Jesus went about "doing good." Wherever He went He did good. He did good unto all men—there were no exceptions. His life was in accord with His faith and His spoken message. He witnessed through His deeds as well as through His words.

God does not need, and He does not want, the lip service of those who professing to follow Him deliberately walk as the Gentiles walk (Eph. 4:17). He hates, He even despises hypocrisy and sham. He desires the sincere and the contrite heart.

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It is a group of Baptists giving money to pay off our old debts.
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Each member pays one dollar or more each month over and above his regular church contributions. Some pay even more.
3. To whom is it paid?  
Pay your church treasurer. Designate it "Honor Club." He will send it to Baptist headquarters at the end of the month designated.
4. How much of the old debt has been paid?  
\$281,382.31.
5. How much remains?  
Approximately \$280,000.

Help us pay our old debts.

These debts helped build the Orphanage.

They helped build our Baptist Hospital.

They helped build "Bruce Hall" at Central College.

They helped build "Cone-Bottoms Hall" at Ouachita.

— LET'S PAY THEM! —

## Arkansas Valley Churches Grow Spiritually

The Baptist work in Arkansas Valley Association offers a genuine inspiration to every lover of the Lord. The churches throughout the association are enjoying great spiritual prosperity. The pastors are happy, and the Lord is giving them much fruit for their labors.

The association embraces Phillips County, Lee County, and Monroe County. Some of the larger towns are Helena, West Helena, Marianna, Brinkley, and Clarendon. This is a great section of the Wonder State, and there are many material resources for agriculture and industry.

Last year the churches in Arkansas Valley baptized 358 new members. This makes a total membership of 4,382. Total contributions through the Cooperative Program during the year amounted to \$17,869.06. The churches contributed for all purposes \$111,326.97. There was a total Sunday School enrolment of 3,231.

Five years ago—1941—the churches baptized 277, and a total membership of 4,392. They had a Sunday School enrolment of 2,846. They gave through the Cooperative Program that year \$3,071, and for all purposes contributed \$48,736.00. You can see from these figures that the churches are making real progress in that section of eastern Arkansas.

The churches have never had stronger pastors than the men who are leading them now. If you go into any church in Arkansas Valley Association on Sunday, you will hear a great prophetic message. Pastor D. D. Smothers, of West Helena, and Pastor Reece Howard, of

Brinkley, are mighty preachers. Pastor W. F. Couch, of Marianna, is fearless in his pungent preaching. His church alone gave \$9,334 for cooperative missions last year.

Pastor Raymond D. Harris at Elaine baptized 58 converts last year, bringing the membership of the church up to a total of 430. The year before, this church had 374 members. It had a Sunday School enrolment of 145 in 1945. In 1946 it had an enrolment of 335. The Lord is blessing Harris and Elaine.

Pastor J. B. Measel, of Barton, baptized 14 last year. Measel is one of our finest young preachers. Pastor Arthur King is doing a blessed work in Clarendon. King is a hard working consecrated pastor, and the church is prospering.

The First Church in Helena is pastorless at this particular time. E. G. Waddell is pastor of Friendship and Turner Churches. Five were baptized at Turner, and three were baptized in Friendship last year. E. M. Bragdon is pastor in North Helena, where 11 were baptized last year.

Pastor W. D. Wallace, of Hughes, baptized 11, and has a total Sunday School enrolment of 175. Wallace is another one of our tireless workers. Sam McNeil is pastor at Lexa, and Rehobeth. McNeil is developing the work at both places.

J. J. Franklin in Arkansas Valley is tops as associational missionary. There are none better. He is prayerful and persistent and patient. He touches all the destitute points in the association. He is a great preacher. He is a constructive laborer. Mrs. Franklin is a splendid helper in his work.

## Siloam Springs and Simmons

Pastor B. N. Simmons is pressing forward in Siloam Springs. This splendid church is making unusual progress. They are finishing up a commodious educational building. They have the plans drawn for a new auditorium. This church is under the shadow of John Brown University, a non-denominational institution.

There have been many Christian workers of a nondescript complex in Benton County. There have been many self-appointed men and women coming from various sections of the country to establish their own organizations or to promote their own independent ideas. But Simmons and the Siloam Baptists are driving their stakes down on true Baptist lines. We thank the Lord for the coming of Simmons to Arkansas.

## Cabot and McCoy

It was the privilege of this writer to look in on the work of the Baptist people in Cabot recently. Their wise and hard working young pastor, Dale McCoy, and his wife, Marguerite, are giving the church as fine leadership as it has ever had.

McCoy is a real preacher. He is steady and thoughtful, and gives the people a spiritual ministry. The pastor's wife has taken the lead in building up a choir of young people which gives the music at the evening hour on Sundays.

The church is raising funds to erect a new educational building. We were greeted by the largest congregation that we have ever seen in Cabot.