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### March 29, 1951

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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# ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 50

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, MARCH 29, 1951

NUMBER 13



—Louis C. Williams

*God loves the beautiful, He created so much of it in nature.*

**NORTH LITTLE ROCK  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
LIBRARY**

## From The Editor's Desk

### The Gospel of Evangelism--Repentance

Since sin is the first fact to be recognized and acknowledged in any evangelistic effort, repentance is imperative and is the logical step in evangelism. To acknowledge sin with all of its dire results and with its ultimate destiny of eternal death without repentance would lead to despair, hence repentance is the only alternative to despair.

#### A Turning

John the Baptist came preaching repentance. Jesus also preached repentance and said, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." The apostles preached repentance, and throughout the history of Christianity, wherever genuine evangelism has been practiced by Christian people, repentance has been a component element in their gospel message.

Repentance means literally a turning. It is a turning away from sin. It is changing one's thinking toward sin. Instead of loving one's sins and clinging to one's sins, one hates his sins and changes his course of life. Repentance is a continuous process. It is a fixed attitude of life, setting the entire life against sins. It isn't a single act with which we are done, but it involves continuous resistance to sin.

#### Process of Elimination

Repentance is the process of elimination—the elimination of those things which are sinful. This process in the spiritual life may be illustrated by the same process in our physical bodies. The physical body is provided with functional processes of both assimilation and elimination. If the processes

of elimination are not functioning properly we become ill. The same is true in our spiritual lives. If the process of spiritual elimination, which is repentance, is not functioning properly, we become spiritually anemic, ill, and we suffer accordingly. Perhaps this is the reason there are so many "weak and sickly" Christians among us. Although they may be continuously gorging themselves on spiritual truths and engaging in spiritual exercises, if the process of repentance is not continuously operative they cannot assimilate the spiritual food received and they become spiritually disgruntled, critical, weary, and enervated.

#### Life Attitude

Therefore in preaching the gospel of evangelism it is not enough that we simply call sinners to repentance with the idea that once they have repented of their sins they are through with this particular spiritual exercise for the rest of their lives. We must make it clear that repentance, to be genuine, is a life attitude involving the whole being in revulsion from, and opposition to, all sins. The attitude of repentance cannot be relaxed without serious danger to the individual.

The normal, healthful, hopeful, cheerful, and vigorous Christians are those who practice repentance daily.

If any spiritually weak, anemic, and disgruntled Christians happen to read this, let me recommend to you that along with your spiritual diet you try this remedy of repentance and see if it doesn't make a difference in your Christian experience and your spiritual health.

(Next week we will discuss "Faith").

### Concern for Eighteen Year Old Draftees

We do not question the concern of the Senate Armed Services Committee for the religious and spiritual welfare of eighteen year old young men who are to be drafted into military service in the event the bill which the Committee is proposing is adopted by the Senate.

#### Military Indoctrination

The Committee's concern is expressed in the following language:

"Congress declares it to be in the national interest that personnel serving in the Armed Forces be protected and encouraged in the realization and development of those moral, spiritual, and religious values, consistent with the religious beliefs and convictions of the individuals concerned, which are fundamental in the preservation and strengthening of the fiber of American citizenship.

"In the pursuit of this end, the Congress further declares that it shall be the duty of every commanding officer in every echelon of command in the respective services of the Armed Forces to maintain to the highest possible degree within his command those

conditions and influences calculated to protect the health, morals, and spiritual welfare of the personnel of his command."

Does it not seem strange that the Senate Armed Services Committee which recognizes the dangers to which the young men of the nation are exposed in military service should go on against their better judgment and recommend a bill that would draft eighteen year old young men? But that isn't the end. It is the determined purpose of the administration and of the military leaders of the nation to make this legislation permanent so that every year, as far into the future as anyone can at present see, every eighteen year old boy will be drafted into some branch of military service. If this happens, our nation is on the road to military ruin. It will mean the indoctrination of the manhood of our nation in militarism. No nation has ever yet survived the indoctrination of militarism in its manhood.

#### America Beware

Let America be prepared to defend itself. Let America be prepared to meet its obliga-

### Protestant Travel Service

The Kruger Travel Service is offering travel service to Protestants who are interested in visiting the Holy Land and other points of interest in the Old World. You will find the Kruger Travel ad on page 7 featuring the Holy Land Tours with convenient coupon for your inquiry concerning detailed information concerning these tours.

A minimum of five tour members is required for each tour departure and any person who will enlist at least 15 other persons to make the tour will be given the tour without cost, in consideration for his securing the 15 tour members.

Among the places to be visited in the Holy Land are: Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Jericho, the River Jordan, Samaria, the Dead Sea, Nazareth, Galilee, and Bethany. Other points of interest include Paris, London, Rome, Geneva, Athens, Madrid, Cairo, Tel Aviv, and Haifa.

The tours are planned to appeal especially to ministers, students, teachers, church lay workers, missionaries, and even many of the general traveling public.

Since the tours range in duration from 12 to 28 days and since these tours are arranged with convenient departure dates the year around, it would seem entirely probable that some interested pastor or other person in Arkansas might enlist 15 persons to make this tour of the Holy Land and thus secure a free trip for himself.

tions. But let America beware of the dangers of indoctrinating the youth of the land in militarism.

The greater danger we face is in thinking that we can save ourselves and the world by means of wealth and military power. It can't be done. It never has been done. It never will be done. The only thing that can save America or any part of the world from collapse and degeneracy is character that is capable of controlling and directing the powers which the human race now possesses. Power without character is dangerous, whether it be financial power, political power, social power, military power, atomic power, or any other power.

Let us develop character, moral and spiritual character. This cannot be done by inserting a few pious words into a bill which, if adopted, would draft eighteen year old boys and make Universal Military Service a permanent thing in our nation.

### ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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# Kingdom Progress

## Accepts Presidency, Southeastern Seminary

By Erwin L. McDonald

Dr. Syndor Lorenzo Stealey, head of the Department of Church History at Southern Baptist Seminary since 1942, has accepted the presidency of the newly created Southeastern Baptist Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina.

The post was offered to Dr. Stealey by the board of trustees of Southeastern Seminary following its first annual meeting, in Wake Forest, February 15.

Dr. Stealey is the second Southern Seminary professor to be offered the Wake Forest position; several weeks ago Dr. Olin T. Binkley, professor of Christian Ethics and Sociology, accepted but later changed his mind.

Southeastern Seminary is scheduled to open its first session next September. Eventually it is to have the entire present campus of Wake Forest College, but until the college is removed to its new site in Winston-Salem, it will have access only to part of the buildings and grounds. First year's enrolment will be limited to 150, it has been announced.

The son of a Baptist minister, Dr. Stealey has breathed the Baptist atmosphere from his first breath. His father, C. P. Stealey, was pastor of First Church, Martinsburg, West Virginia, at the time Syndor Lorenzo, older of two sons, was born.

In his most impressionable years, Dr. Stealey lived in Richmond, Virginia, and Washington, D. C., where his father was successively pastor of Broadus Memorial and West Washington churches. He was a lad of twelve when the family moved to Oklahoma, in 1909, settling in fast-growing Oklahoma City. There the father was to establish the **Oklahoma Baptist Messenger** (1912), now the official publication of the Oklahoma Baptist State Convention. The senior Stealey also established a book store which has since become the official Baptist Book Store for the state.

Dr. Stealey received his B. A. degree from Oklahoma Baptist University in 1920. After a brief time as principal of the high school in Ringling, Oklahoma, he went to William Jewell College as principal of the academy and director of the teacher training department. He continued his studies, in summer sessions, at the University of Oklahoma, specializing in Psychology, Education, and History.

Ordained to the ministry at Liberty, Miss-



Dr. S. L. Stealey

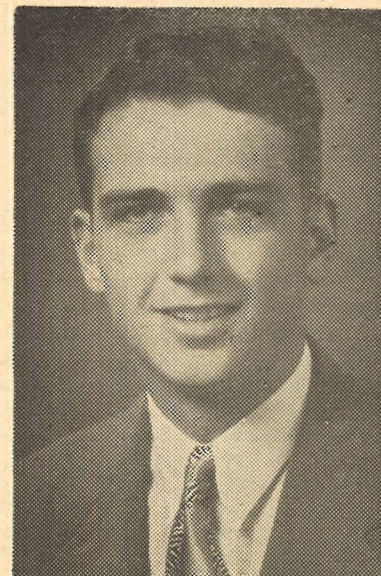
ouri, in December, 1922, he came to Louisville in September, 1924, to enroll in the Seminary. He was president of the graduating class in 1927, at which time he received the Th.M. degree. During graduate years he served as fellow under Dr. E. Y. Mullins, in Theology, and following Dr. Mullins' death, taught one year while Dr. H. W. Tribble, then a new addition to the Seminary faculty, was in Europe studying. He received the Th.D. degree in 1932. He was awarded the D.D. degree by Oklahoma Baptist University in 1943.

Mrs. Stealey is the former Miss Jessie Wheeler, Wynnewood, Oklahoma, the college sweetheart of Dr. Stealey. There are two children, Jessie Louise (now Mrs. F. K. Vance, Winston-Salem, North Carolina) and S. L. Jr. A second son, C. P., died while Dr. Stealey was an undergraduate student at the Seminary.

If Dr. Stealey should claim a hobby, it would probably be reading. He likes to spend his evenings in his library. His choice field, of course, is Church History, but he reads in many other fields. He is especially interested in religious liberty and writes and speaks often on this theme.

A commoner, Dr. Stealey is a champion of the little man and his cause. He has a sparkling wit that is closely akin to his fellow Oklahoman, the late Will Rogers.

## Ordained to Ministry



Pierce Matheny Jr.

Pierce Matheny Jr., a junior in Baylor University, was ordained to the ministry Sunday evening, March 4, by the First Church, El Dorado, Sam Reeves, pastor.

Mr. Matheny made public his call to the ministry on Mother's Day, 1946. His background finds him following a family tradition, since his paternal grandfather, M. P. Matheny, was a Baptist minister, and since he is the son of Christian parents, who are active in the El Dorado Church.

The senior class of El Dorado High School chose Mr. Matheny as valedictorian and recently he was initiated into Alpha Chi, the highest honorary literary society at Baylor. For two years he has been a member of the A Cappella Choir and the University Chorus. He is also a member of the Baylor debating team and a member of the Honorary Debating Society, and of Sigma Tau Delta, an honorary English society.

Mr. Matheny has served as part time pastor of a negro mission in Waco and has done volunteer student work during the summer months under the direction of Baptist State Headquarters.

## Clarendon Church Gets New Organ

First Church, Clarendon, L. Y. Lewis, pastor, has recently purchased a Hammond electric organ and redecorated the church auditorium. Pastor Lewis has served the Clarendon Church only ten weeks, coming there from Montrose Church.

## Mission Revival

Little Red River Association sponsored a mission revival which began on March 19. Primary emphasis in the association is being placed upon missions with the purpose of stimulating a wider interest throughout the association in missions within the association and in increased contributions to the Cooperative Program.

The Worker's Conference of the association met with the Palestine Church at Pearson, March 9. The program featured the ideal Training Union with a demonstration of a model union being presented as part of the program.

Coy Sims, missionary of the Independence Association, was the visiting speaker. Ten churches were represented with 150 present.

## Brotherhood Meeting

An associational Brotherhood meeting was held with Eudora Church in the Delta Association February 16, under the direction of State Brotherhood Secretary, Nelson Tull. The visiting speaker was A. S. Newman, State Brotherhood Secretary, Louisiana, whose subject was "The Challenge of Evangelism."

Forty members of the Brotherhood of First Church, McGehee, chartered a bus for the trip to Eudora. This Brotherhood held a unique service on the bus, while enroute to Eudora, and passed a set of resolutions pledging support to their pastor, Theo T. James, and committing themselves to a program of evangelism.

## Ouachita Library

Several collections of books have recently been given to the Ouachita College library, it has been announced by Miss Goldie Cooksie, head librarian at Ouachita. A collection given by J. K. Wadley, Texarkana, includes a deluxe bound edition of a History of World War I. Mrs. L. C. Patterson, Arkadelphia, has given a complete set of Dickens' works, and several books from the library of the late Colonel James Blakeney have been given by his daughter, Mrs. King. Other additions include a number of books from the library of the late Dr. Otto Whittington, and two books from the Baptist Book Store in Little Rock.

## Revival At Judsonia

By R. J. McMILLAN

Mr. Nelson Tull recently spent eight days with First Church, Judsonia. A most comprehensive family census was taken before he arrived and the church was challenged to go out in a visitation program in every home of Judsonia. Approximately 130 members of the church responded to the call for visitation and prayer.

Never in the history of this old church has the Spirit of God been more active among the people. Men and women from all walks of life and ranging in age from six years old to 74 came trusting Jesus Christ as their Savior. Figures cannot show the heat of spiritual fires which burned as hardened business men, bright-eyed boys and girls, and glad-hearted mothers were united with their families in the bonds of Christian love.

The people of Judsonia will long remember this meeting and the change in people's lives. Our hats are off to Nelson Tull for everything he brought to our people. We recommend him to any church which needs to get the job done and will co-operate with him to that end.

The results speak for themselves: 74 additions to the church, 64 of these for baptism and the rest by letter, also many rededications.

## Caney Creek, Caroline Association Has Great Year

Sunday, March 4, marked an outstanding day for the Caney Creek Church, Caroline Association. The first anniversary of Pastor T. S. Cowden was celebrated, plus an ordination service for the following men to the deaconship of the church: Robert Lessenberry, Elmer Willman, Carl Aldrich, Thomas Holt, Carmen Henderson.

A report of the progress during the past year under Pastor Cowden's leadership is as follows. Two revival meetings were conducted with 76 additions to the church, 58 of these by baptism. There has been over 100 per cent increase in Sunday School attendance, the Training Union has been organized into four separate groups with 100 enrolled, and mid-week prayer services are now being held with good attendance. Gifts to the Cooperative Program have increased 18 per cent.

## A Worthy Appraisal

By L. E. COLEMAN SR.

Leonard Kaffka, pastor of Sulphur Springs Church, Pine Bluff, bought one of the Arkansas Baptist Histories recently and wrote us as follows:

"The article about the division of the Convention in 1901, the truth in all its sincerity, fairness, kindness and Christian presentation is well worth the price of the book after hearing all of the various and many tales with its mixtures of error throughout all the years. I think it would be well for every Landmark Baptist to have a copy of the book and it would do much to arrest some of their wrong thinking."

Your General Secretary has these books for sale at \$2 each (including sales tax). Write us today for your copy!

### Eight Page Issue

Due to five Thursdays in March, with no increase in income, it is necessary to cut the Arkansas Baptist to an eight page issue.

—The Editor

## Music Week at Ridgecrest

By W. HINES SIMS

Now is the time for all church musicians to make plans and reservations for the great Convention-wide Church Music Conference to be held at Ridgecrest, North Carolina, August 23-29. This conference is open to all singers, pianists, organists, choir directors, ministers of music, pastors, music committeemen, and church leaders.

The conference for this year has secured an outstanding faculty of twenty-four recognized leaders of church music selected from the entire Convention. Classes are planned so as to meet the needs of all musicians regardless of the level experience and musicianship. There will be elementary, intermediate, and advanced sections in voice and conducting; elementary and advanced sections in theory, piano, and organ; three choirs singing easy, medium, and difficult music respectively; an oratorio choir which will sing *The Messiah* on the closing evening; classes in graded choirs, the organization of the music program and how to grow a musical church; and some miscellaneous classes, conferences, and forums dealing with various problems.

All registrants must be over fifteen years of age unless accompanied by parents since there are no classes planned for children.

Registrations should be made immediately by forwarding \$2 per person to Willard K. Weeks, Manager, Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly, Ridgecrest, North Carolina.

## Ouachita Commencement

The commencement and baccalaureate speakers have been selected for this year's graduating services at Ouachita College, it has been announced by Dr. S. W. Eubanks, president. Dr. Theron Price, professor of Philosophy and Church History at Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, will deliver the baccalaureate sermon; Dr. J. P. Allen, pastor of First Church, Charlottesville, Virginia, will deliver the commencement address. Baccalaureate services are scheduled for May 20, and commencement day will be May 21.

Dr. Price is a graduate of Ouachita College and of Southern Seminary at Louisville. Dr. Allen, a graduate of Louisiana College, is also a Louisville graduate.

## Chaplain Beasley

Among the chaplains recently graduated on March 14 from the Chaplain School, at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, was Arkansas Durward B. Beasley, El Dorado, with the rank of First Lieutenant.

Until he was recalled recently to extended active duty as a reserve chaplain, Chaplain Beasley was pastor of First Church, Huttig.



## Listen to the BAPTIST HOUR

Date: April 1

Speaker: Charles Wellborn

Subject: "The Power Behind It All"

### Arkansas Stations:

**KTHS, Hot Springs, 2:30 p. m.**  
**KENA, Mena**  
**KXLR, Little Rock, 12:15 p. m.**  
**KDRS, Paragould, 1:30 p. m.**  
**KUOA, Siloam Springs, 4:30 p. m.**

## Simultaneous Revivals In Delta Association

Seventeen churches of the Delta Association engaged in Simultaneous Revival meetings, February 18-28, resulting in 148 additions to the churches by baptism, 56 by letter, and 10 decisions for special Christian service.

Evangelist Dan Vestal of Fort Worth, and gospel singer, Johnny Jackson, Louann, assisted Pastor Theo T. James and First Church, McGehee, in the revival crusade. The McGehee Church received 14 for baptism and 23 by letter.

Pastor James was general chairman of the simultaneous effort. Other churches participating in the crusade were: Eudora, Dillard S. Miller, pastor, with Lloyd Hunnicutt, Magnolia, and Arlie McDaniel, Mena, assisting; Collins, with Pastor Charles Chesser conducting his own services; Halley had the service of J. P. Hughart; the Chickasaw and Trippe Junction missions of First Church, McGehee, had the services of state evangelist, D. C. Bandy; W. L. Yeldell, Clarksville, assisted Pastor Joe Burgess and the Portland Church; Daniel's Chapel and Pastor Charles Holland were assisted by Evangelist W. J. Morris; Allen McCurry and Lawrence Knight assisted in the services at Crawford's Crossing, a mission of First Church, McGehee; Pastor Harold O'Bryan and Wilmot Church were assisted by Ray Cutchin; Pastor Melvin E. Greer and McArthur Church had the service of associational missionary, Claude Crigler of Greene County Association; Pastor W. R. Vestal, First Church, Searcy, assisted Pastor Ed McDonald and First Church, Dermott; S. E. Powell, Hamburg, was with Pastor L. J. Ready and New Hope Church; Pastor Quincy Mathis conducted his own services with Belaire Church; William West led the service at Jerome; Pastor O. C. Hicks and Wats Church were assisted by Mr. Thomson of Missouri; Missionary E. H. Acuff of Bartholomew Association assisted Pastor H. C. Rash and Omega Church.

## Fountain Hill Builds

Fountain Hill Church, W. A. Lacy, pastor, Ashley County Association, has just completed an education building providing 18 Sunday School rooms for the Young People, Intermediate, Junior, Primary, and Nursery departments. The building is of frame structure and most of the work was donated, resulting in the low cost of approximately \$5,000.

The Fountain Hill Church plans within the next two years to remodel the sanctuary and brick veneer the entire plant.

The church is planting ten acres in cotton which they call "The Lord's Ten Acres," the entire proceeds from which will go into the church treasury and ten per cent of the proceeds will be given to the Cooperative Program.

Pastor Lacy has been with the Fountain Hill Church 18 months. During this time there have been 71 additions to the church and a net gain of 42 in the church membership.

## Beech Street, Texarkana Receives 20 Additions

The Beech Street Church, Texarkana, and Pastor James G. Harris had the services of Dr. M. Ray McKay of Second Church, Little Rock, in revival services recently.

There were 20 additions to the church. Pastor Harris comments, "Best of all, our men were really fired up for soul-winning and a visitation program."

## Promoting Home Missions



L. O. Griffin

Every missionary of the Home Mission Board is a promotion secretary. Woman's Missionary Union has just closed a great promotional emphasis in the Annie Armstrong Week of Prayer for home missions. Every pastor who preaches on home missions promotes the cause.

### A Promotion Secretary

The Home Mission Board has just elected Reverend L. O. Griffith, of Louisville, Kentucky, as secretary of promotion for home missions. Brother Griffith will move to Atlanta from his present position as assistant to the executive secretary of Kentucky Baptists where he has served in an executive capacity for the past six years. He is beginning his work with the Home Mission Board on May 1. A native of western Kentucky, Brother Griffith is a graduate of Georgetown College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. For twelve years he served as pastor in the mountain area of Kentucky at which time he was director of boys' and girls' camps at Clear Creek Springs, Pineville, Kentucky.

### A Missionary Retires

Dr. J. B. Bounds, who for the past eight years has been superintendent of Indian work for the Home Mission Board, is retiring April 1 from active service with the Board. He will devote as much time as his physical condition will allow in institutes and camps as he continues to serve the Indians in a spiritual way. Dr. Bounds has had a colorful ministry in Indian service both with the Home Mission Board and in pioneer days. An Oklahoma writer, Phyllis Sapp, has written an interesting biography of Dr. Bounds titled *The Ice Cutter*. It is a 30,000-word book advertised this month by Baptist book stores through this paper.

### Home Missions in 1950

The annual report indicates that the Home Mission Board employed 754 regular missionaries and 271 summer student missionaries during 1950. These missionaries reported 32,600 conversions; 87,241 Bibles and Gospels distributed; 1,130,261 pages of tracts distributed; 18,512 classes taught; 3,988 revivals conducted; 598 new missions opened; and 293 new churches constituted.

In addition to the work of the regular missionaries 259 chaplains reported 6,120 conversions. The home mission challenge is greater than it has ever been in the history of Southern Baptists.

## Sobering News

The sobering news of the day may be somewhat liquidated by this bit of statistical intelligence.

Enough whisky, wine, rum, and other liquors are now stored by American beverage distillers to keep every American whisky drinker comfortably intoxicated for many years to come.

In case a fighting jag of a 24-hour duration—with eight hours sleep—is desired, enough "spirits" is on hand to keep the 13,100,000 whisky drinkers totally drunk for 776 consecutive days—if 10 ounces of whisky will do that.

This analysis is made by the American Business Men's Research Foundation of Chicago, who furnish the figures based on the Bureau of Internal Revenue report of liquor in storage as of December, 1950,—795,181,080 gallons.

Sixty-five per cent of Americans over 21 years of age drink intoxicants according to a survey made by National Opinion Research Center of the University of Denver. The same source estimates that 7 per cent of these drinkers drink spirits only, 3 per cent wine and spirits, and 11 per cent beer and spirits.

Since those who drink beer and spirits could not drink the amount of spirits available, and beer too, the Foundation includes them in the figure of 13,100,000 spirits drinkers, but offsets this impossibility by excluding those who drink wine, beer and spirits.

### His Book a Hit

By ERWIN L. McDONALD

"*The Christian Pastor*," a new book by Dr. Wayne E. Oates, assistant professor of Psychology of Religion at Southern Seminary, Louisville, will be the May selection of the Pastoral Psychology Book Club.

The author's first book, "*The Christian Pastor*" is written from a five-year accumulation of lectures which Dr. Oates has delivered to his classes at Southern Seminary. It emphasizes the historical role of the pastor as "a man of crisis"; his functional role as a "symbolic" representative of God; the Biblical concept of the pastor's work; the conditioning influences in the pastoral relationships; and suggests the best available literature on pastoral care and personal counseling.

Published by The Westminster Press, Philadelphia, the book sells for \$3.

### The Evangel Musician

A church music quarterly for the blind was applauded in January by 300 blind musicians, who have an active interest in church music. *The Evangel Musician* is the braille music companion of *The Braille Evangel Magazine*, Fort Worth, Texas, edited by Edwin Wilson.

Each issue contains brief notes on hymnody, fifteen hymns, anthems, gospel songs, gospel choruses, and other simple forms of sacred selections. The subscription price is \$1 per year. If you have blind friends, who would be interested, advise them to write to Edwin Wilson, Box 6001, Fort Worth 15, Texas.

The original 300 subscribers represent music teachers, radio workers, church organists, pianists, choir directors, and members, and congregational singers. Music departments of schools for the blind and braille libraries have also placed their subscriptions.

—000—

God will make every provision for going forward if we make no provision for going backward.  
—Marshall Craig.

## Mission Notes

By DR. C. W. CALDWELL

### Personal Evangelism

Many pastors and churches have ordered the soul winners cards and have had great response in getting the members to sign that they are going to win one or more people to Christ. Dr. K. Owen White, First Church, Little Rock, preached a sermon emphasizing soul winning, passed the cards out, and over 300 of them were signed. Many others have had like response. Pastors are urged to make use of these cards in getting commitments in an effort to win souls to Christ. It will be a wonderful thing to have 25,000 Baptists witnessing for the Lord each week and endeavoring to win the lost people to the Lord.

Posters are also available, to be placed in every conspicuous place in the church, emphasizing, "Win One in '51." Keep personal evangelism going throughout the entire year!

### Eastern Crusade

The Eastern Simultaneous Crusade is now in progress. From the Mississippi River to the Atlantic Ocean and from Maryland to Florida, revivals are now on. It has been suggested that each Baptist church west of the Mississippi pray definitely and earnestly for some Baptist church east of the Mississippi. The Superintendent of Missions is engaged in a revival with First Church, Lucedale, Mississippi, and will appreciate an interest in the prayers of all Arkansas Baptists.

### Another Negro Leadership Conference

The second Leadership Conference for Negro pastors and church leaders will be held with the Arkansas Baptist College, Little Rock, May 8-10. This program is being planned by the president of the Negro Convention, the president of the college, the Superintendent of Missions for Little Rock and Pulaski County, and the Department of Missions of our Arkansas Baptist State Convention. The first conference was held at Dermott, with 372 in attendance, and it is expected that the Little Rock Conference will have even a larger attendance.

### Missionaries Retreat

The annual Associational Missionaries' Retreat will be held in Hot Springs, April 17-19. This is a meeting which all missionaries look forward to each year. It is a time of fellowship, recreation, and conferences on mission work. The Mission Department expects each missionary to attend and will provide transportation to and from Hot Springs.

### Rural Church Conference

The program is practically complete for the second state wide Rural Church Conference which will be held at Ouachita College, June 4-8. Dr. J. O. Williams, Nashville, Tennessee, and Dr. J. T. Gillespie, of the Home Mission Board, will be two out-of-state speakers. Many Arkansas pastors and denominational leaders will appear on the program. Churches are urged to send their pastors and, if possible, provide expenses for his meals while attending the Conference. The Mission Department will pay something on the mileage for each car that has four passengers.

The first Rural Church Conference held in the state was at Central College last year and had over 200 in attendance. It is expected that the attendance of the next Conference will go far beyond that number.

## Annual W. M. U. Meeting Speaker



Miss Martha Franks

Miss Martha Franks, missionary to China, will be one of the speakers at the Annual Meeting of Arkansas' W. M. U. April 3-5, at Second Church, Little Rock. Her first message will be heard Tuesday evening, April 3. She will speak to the Business Woman's Circle in annual banquet, April 4, and at the closing session Thursday morning.

The Annual Meeting will open at 1:30 o'clock, April 3. At the first session the state president, Mrs. F. E. Goodbar, will be heard in annual message; Miss Mary Christian, with the Baptist Sunday School Board, Mrs. Vernon Hall and Mr. Raymond Lindsey, Little Rock, will speak to the Community Missions report rendered by Mrs. Ralph Douglas, State Chairman. Miss Minnie Landrum, known as the "mother" of W. M. U. in Brazil, will bring her first message Tuesday afternoon.

Other guest speakers will be: Finlay Graham, Missionary to Lebanon; Loyd Corder, Home Mission Board; Miss Alma Hunt, Executive Secretary of Southern W. M. U.

State officers to be presented in reports are Mrs. Ford Maggard, Stewardship Chairman; Mrs. R. H. Jones, Mission Study Chairman; Miss Doris DeVault, Young People's Secretary; Mrs. W. C. Edwards, Auditor; Miss Nancy Cooper, Executive Secretary and Treasurer.

Groups meeting for a meal together are the Executive Board, Tuesday noon; Y.W.A. Tuesday evening at 5:45 o'clock; B. W. C. at 5:30 Wednesday evening—all at Second Church. Mission Study chairmen will meet for breakfast Wednesday morning at the Lido Cafeteria.

### Mission Study Breakfast

The second annual Mission Study breakfast will be held at Lido Cafeteria, Seventh and Main Streets, Wednesday morning, April 4, at 7:30 o'clock. Bring your tray to the balcony of the cafeteria, which has been reserved for us,

## Brotherhood Notes

By NELSON TULL, Secretary

### The Old-Time Religion

The old-time PREACHING of the gospel, plus the old-time PRAYING of God's people, plus their faithful GOING and WITNESSING, enables God, even in these hectic days, to give an old-time revival.

The above truth was demonstrated recently in a revival at First Church, Judsonia, where R. J. McMillan is pastor.

Before the revival the pastor led his people to take an excellent family-group census. The census was processed thoroughly on Monday and Tuesday of the revival week; and prospects were given following the preaching service. The next day a great visitation program got under way in Judsonia. People began to respond to the invitation to accept Christ, among them some of Judsonia's outstanding men.

God gave a great revival! There were seventy-four additions, sixty-four coming on profession of faith as candidates for baptism. So it goes everywhere when God's people use God's plan for doing His work (Acts 20:20-21).

R. J. McMillan and his wife are a consecrated young couple, thoroughly dedicated to their Savior, and superbly equipped for the work to which God has called them.

### Another Great Church Organizes Its Brotherhood

"I am writing you in regard to the Brotherhood that we organized in First Church, Helena. A group of 16 men met Tuesday night, February 27, and voted to organize our Brotherhood. After the pastor, Brother Ralph Douglas, gave the challenge and purposes of a Brotherhood, as outlined in the Brotherhood Guide-Book, the group voted to recommend to the church the names of the men to serve as officers.

"We had our first meeting on Tuesday, March 5, with 32 men present; and 30 of them signed up as members. The president was in charge of this meeting. We voted to have a meeting at the church each Tuesday evening at 7:30; and a supper meeting the Tuesday following the last Sunday in each month.

"We met on March 13, with 22 men present, to discuss the working committees and activities of our Brotherhood.

"I want to thank you and your team for holding the Regional Brotherhood meeting in our church."

Earl W. Alexander  
Secretary-Treasurer

and enjoy an hour of fellowship, inspiration, exchange of ideas and getting acquainted. An interesting program is being arranged.

## Religious Education Department

EDGAR WILLIAMSON, DIRECTOR

### Important Training Union Events

1. Summer Field Work — July 13-August 25  
Washington - Madison association July 13-21  
Concord association July 21-28  
Dardanelle-Russellville association July 28, August 4  
Caddo River association August 4-11  
Little River association August 11-18  
Hope association August 18-25
2. State meeting for associational Training Union officers, Little Rock, October 29
3. "M" Night — December 10. Each association will be responsible for its own mass meeting
4. Series of one-night clinics for associational Training Union officers, conducted during January, 1952, by the State Training Union director
5. State Training Union Convention, March 14-15, 1952, First Church, Little Rock.

### Conway-Perry Association Hymn-Sing

The regular Quarterly Hymn-Sing for Conway-Perry Association was held Sunday, March 4. There were 146 present representing nine churches. Earl W. Smith the Association Music Director was in charge of the program and Mrs. H. D. Palmer played the accompaniment. Brother C. S. Womack led the devotional. In addition to the congregational singing special numbers were brought by Perry, Nimrod, Plumerville, Casa and Morrilton (Mission addition). The next Hymn-sing for this group will take place at Nimrod on June 3.

### Vacation Bible School Meets A Real Need

It provides more time for the religious training of boys and girls. In ten days it provides thirty hours of teaching activities, or about the same number of hours that the Sunday School provides in six months, and under conditions approximating those of the public school.

It not only provides more time; it also provides a happy and constructive program for many of the boys and girls of the community who have nowhere to go and nothing worth while to do during the long summer public school vacation time. It provides an oasis in the summer desert.

Vacation Bible School provides real experiences of worship. It teaches the Bible effectively. It inculcates a love for Scriptural and beautiful music. It teaches missions effectively. It offers a balanced program of activities. It gives boys and girls two of the happiest weeks of the year.

Past records have shown that it reaches non-Sunday school pupils. It wins boys and girls to Christ. It pleases the parents. It blesses and enriches the life of the pastor. It helps the Sunday school and the church. It wins community appreciation.

### How to Get Ready

To get ready for a Vacation Bible School, give careful study to the VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL GUIDE. If possible, have a regular training class for prospective faculty members and all others who will take the course.

Get the department textbooks, look them over carefully, and then encourage each department superintendent to have a Textbook Training Class for her faculty, using the study outlines furnished by the Sunday School Department. Credit is offered on the Sunday School Worker's Diploma for both the Guide and the department textbooks studies individually or in a class.

The principal should also order the Principal's Package and familiarize himself thoroughly with its contents.

The approaching school should be considered as one of the principal activities of the church and the Sunday School and should be given much advertisement.

### State Training Union Officers, 1951-1952

During the recent session of the State Training Union Convention, El Dorado, the following State officers were elected:

J. T. Elliff, Fordyce, president, Lawson Hatfield, DeQueen, first vice president, Mrs. Howard Samuels, Fordyce, secretary.

District vice presidents are as follows: Mrs. Ruth Tolleson, Siloam Springs, Northwest District; Miss Ruth Wilson, Grannis, West Central District; W. F. Montgomery, Heber Springs, North Central District; Miss Mary Alice Crawford, Jonesboro, Northeast District; Carl A. Overton, Star City, Southeast District; Dale McCoy, Gurdon, Southwest District; W. W. Dishongh, Hot Springs, Central District; Curry E. Coker, Harrisburg, East Central District.

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# The Creation

By MRS. HOMER D. MYERS

*This discussion is based on the International Uniform Sunday School Lesson Outlines, copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education and used by permission.*

Sunday School Lesson for  
April 1, 1951  
Genesis 1:1-15; 26-31

Every normal person likes to create something. The building contractor looks with pride upon the building he has constructed. That building represents him. An architect might have designed it, but a blueprint is one thing and the completed structure is something else. The consummation of the plan is the work of the builder's own hands. It should always represent his best effort, for in the long run it will show something of his character and personality. It doesn't take Father Time long to deteriorate a building that is constructed of cheap materials and careless labor.

The designer or seamstress, likewise, is proud of his or her creation. It will manifest to others something of the character and personality of its creator.

All of us cannot be designers and architects, builders and seamstresses, but there are little acts of creation which we perform in every day life that are indicative of our personality. If we do not create happy homes, we drift into the opposite. If one doesn't create cleanliness, they live in filth. So whether it is a clean house, a happy home, a pan of biscuits, or something to wear, or maintaining a business, or living a professional life, we are little creators and we should keep an eye on our creations to see if they are **GOOD**.

## God's Character And Personality

If human beings can create the beautiful and useful things we see and use every day, why should anybody have ever thought it incredible that God created the universe in the beginning! An apostle of old said that they who are ignorant of the works of God are willfully ignorant and so are without excuse for that ignorance. The infallible, unerring, indestructible word of God tells us that "In the beginning God created" — and in that creation we see much of the character and personality of God.

The first thing God dispelled was darkness. God is light just as surely as He is love. He never intended for men to dwell in darkness today through their own failure and not because it is the will of God. So we find that one of the characteristics of God is light. Darkness is symbolic of sin and evil, and the devil is the father of darkness as surely as God is the Father or begetter of light.

Before God created a man, He prepared a pleasant place for man-

kind to live. He gave man the beautiful blue canopy of the skies above, and bedecked them with sparkling jewels — multiplied millions of stars. He prepared a magnificent garden, with fruit trees and vegetables, with flowers and shrubbery, with a great fountain in the center, springing into four rivers to water that portion of the earth, all this without the deterring presence of weeds, thorns, and briars. Then it pleased God to give man a zoo. Every specie of animal we know today, no doubt was placed in the garden for beauty and for the pleasure of him. And everything was in perfect peace and harmony. There was nothing to make afraid, nothing to hurt or harm another.

## A God of Beauty, Law and Order

What does that word picture tell us of the character and nature of God?

He was a God of beauty. Everything he created was beautiful, even the serpent. Can we not assume that He desires the beauty of the world as much today as ever before? Indeed.

We see in creation a God of perfection. A perfect God cannot do an imperfect thing, neither morally nor physically. Seven times in Genesis one, we find God examining His acts of creation and pronouncing that, "It is good," in each instance.

When we think of the immensity of the universe our minds are staggered, but we can realize something of the great power of our God. So in creation we see the greatest force in the universe and the deciding, guiding factor of it.

One does not have to be a student of science nor a scholastic genius to look around and see that He is a God of law and order. We can see something of the clock like precision of the works of the solar system, and we are amazed at the accuracy and efficiency with which God works His wonders.

Every human being can see this much of the character of God if he will. The Psalmist said so (Psa. 19). "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth His handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech and night unto night showeth knowledge. There is no speech nor language where their **VOICE** is not heard."

But the Christian sees much more in the personality of our Creator than is portrayed by nature. We see His spiritual power,

wisdom, and guidance, working in everything from the minute and microscopic to the kind of power exposed in the explosion of the atomic bomb, sometimes manifested to man in a common cyclone. When the Christian sees the mighty power of God demonstrated we thrill to the words of the poet who said,

"God works in mysterious ways.  
His wonders to perform,  
He plants His footsteps on the sea,  
And rides upon the storm."

His ways may sometimes or always be mysterious, but they are always wondrous, just the same.

## Desires Only the Best For His People

The Christian can see beyond the outward beauty manifested in the acts of God and know that He desires only the good and happiness of His people. God is not the author of confusion; He is not responsible for the slums; it is not His will for people to starve. He has abundantly supplied this earth with resources and sinful man has brought about the poverty, adversities and suffering that

abounds in the world.

When God created man He desired the companionship of mankind. Man has often been called the crowning glory of God's creation. Man is the only creature of God endowed with a living soul; mankind will live on forever, somewhere. In the very act of creation God made the soul of man a priceless thing. Jesus valued one soul more than the world. He loved the souls of men so much he died a dishonorable death for us. He set up the church primarily as a soul saving station in this wicked world. He commissioned the church to go to the ends of the earth — seeking lost souls.

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**History of Arkansas Baptists on Sale**

We have taken over from the Sunday School Board, the circulation of the "History of Arkansas Baptists," by J. S. Rogers. In order to move the book and to put it more thoroughly into circulation, we are, at least temporarily, reducing its price to \$1.96 plus taxes, which makes the price exactly \$2. This book has been selling for \$3.57 including taxes. It cost us much more than \$2 per copy to publish this book, but it needs to be in circulation among our Baptist workers and Baptist churches and Baptist families. We are making this concession in order to get this book more widely into circulation. If you will send us \$2, we will send you this book.

**Southern Baptist Convention**

J. D. Grey, chairman of the Committee on Order of Business for the Southern Baptist Convention, San Francisco, June 20-24, has released the program suggested by his committee. B. B. McKinney will direct the music. Theme will be "The Whole Gospel for the Whole World."

Baptist Governor Earl Warren of California will welcome. Baptist Governor Fuller Warren of Florida will respond. C. Roy Angell, Florida, will bring the Convention sermon with Clarence W. Cranford, D. C., alternate. Other special speakers will be Charles Wellborn, F. Townley Lord, Louie D. Newton, H. H. Hobbs, Wallace Bassett, W. R. White, Howard Butt, Robert G. Lee, and W. A. Criswell. Evangelistic service on Sunday night will climax the Convention.

**A New Church Goes Forward**

Bethel Church in Pine Bluff, Harmony Association, has called Earl Humble, Prescott, to be its pastor. Bethel Church was organized last October by a group of people who were formerly members of First Church in Pine Bluff. They went out from First Church with the full approval and blessings of the pastor and the church, and organized Bethel. We are acquainted with some of the people of this church, and they are some of the salt of the earth. The following facts reflect their work up to the present time:

1. Organized October 15, 1950.
2. Organized with 66 charter members, now has 160 members.
3. Has ten deacons. Has a Sunday School of 200 enrolment and a B. T. U. of 100 enrolment. Has five circles in W. M. U. work.
4. Has purchased and paid for a fine building site of 200x250 feet in a growing residential section.
5. Has bought a fine home for the pastor in the same block with the church site.
6. Plans to build the first unit of a church building this spring.
7. Has called Earl R. Humble from First Church, Prescott, and he begins his pastorate April 1.
8. This church is composed largely of tithers and in five months has raised around \$12,000 for all purposes.

**Smith and Fort Smith**

"Smith" is a familiar term and "Fort" is a familiar term, but when you put "Smith" in "Fort Smith" you have a double "Smith." This is true in more ways than one at Fort Smith. Pastor J. Harold Smith and First Church, Fort Smith, is at least a double team. We heard him speak in the Leadership Conference, and he brought a marvelous message; it was directly to the point. Smith has pulpit power. We are confident that many of us preachers, for some reason or other, are not using all of our latent powers. Brethren, is it because we think that the fastidious and the "cultured" people would disapprove of us? Do we shrink from unpopular appraisal? Why shouldn't a Baptist preacher "take off the brakes," and employ all his powers in presenting his Christ to human hearts? Some of our preachers are doing it. We understand that they are walking the aisles for Christ in considerable number in First Church in Fort Smith. Pastor Smith is more or less a stranger to us, but he is a lovable character and is rather dynamic. His people are falling in love with him. We congratulate him upon being pastor of one of our very greatest churches, too.

**McCollum and Hazen**

C. R. McCollum, pastor, First Church, Hazen, has led the people there in a marvelous fashion. They are giving 15 per cent of their total income to missions (13½ per cent to Cooperative Program and 1½ per cent to the Baptist Honor Debt.) These items were adopted as Preferred Items in their budget and according to our information the money for these items is taken out of their proceeds before any other expenses are paid, including the pastor's salary. The church had 63 additions last year with 42 of that number coming by profession of faith and baptism. We congratulate the pastor and his good people for their fine spirit of loyalty and co-operation, and the progress they have made.

We understand that Brother McCollum is planning to leave Hazen in the near future. If your church needs a good pastor contact him.

**Elmer Berry and T. F. Cooper**

Elmer Berry, formerly of Arkansas County now at 639 South Poplar Street, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, does not feel at home away from Arkansas. He could be brought back to this state by some good church that desires his ministry.

T. F. Cooper, formerly of Caddo River Association and one time pastor of Plainview Church in Pulaski County, but whose ministry has for several years been at Abion Church, Abion, Illinois, has given up his work in Illinois and would be willing to continue his ministry in Arkansas. If some good church would like to have Cooper, they might contact him at the above address. Cooper is a great preacher and a real Baptist. It is our hope and prayer that some church will bring him back to this state.

**A Letter from the Dead**

*(Baptist and Reflector, March 15, 1951)*

"I regret to inform you . . ."

So read the message from the adjutant general of the army addressed to Mr. and Mrs. Marion Cloughly, Graham, Oklahoma, following the death of their 20 year old son, Jimmie R., who was killed in action in Korea in September.

But it wasn't a shock to them—they already knew. Jimmie had written a letter to be sent to his parents "just in case anything happens to me." Apparently he had carried it many days for when he fell in battle, it was well worn. The mother and father were glad that the letter arrived ahead of the terse, impersonal telegram; it was better to read these words in his own handwriting:

Dear Mom and Dad:

I do love you very much and all I live for is to try to please you. Now if I die we'll meet again in heaven. If we don't stop the 'Reds' here they will just keep coming and reach the U. S., where, Mom and Dad, they would close down our churches and take away our freedom, to prevent which I would gladly die. I love you so much I wouldn't want to let anything hurt you so long as I can help it. Gosh, I love you so!

I have \$10,000 insurance made out to you, Dad, and if Jack (a brother in the Navy) wants to go to college please send him with this money, but give one-tenth of it to the church. Don't feel God didn't answer your prayers because this was just His will. You know, Dad, "Man that is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble." Dad, I know God has saved me and that I'll be happy in heaven.

Now, Jack, you will have it easy if you go to college. Don't turn away from God because he has made it easy for you, but thank Him every day because He has been so good to you.

Dad, if Jack doesn't want to go to college just spend the money on yourself and Mom and make things easier for yourself.

I know I am young yet. God can look me right in the eyes and say I gave you a Christian home, and what more could you ask? Mom and Dad, I want to thank you for all you have done for me, I love you so much.

*Your son, Jimmie.*

**Building Fund Not Excepted**

We have just received two checks from the Decatur Baptist Church for the Cooperative Program. One of the checks was on the building fund, while the other was on the regular account. This good church is giving a percentage of its building fund for missions. We think this is a fine attitude. It is not fair to missions to set up a church budget and first of all set aside a large amount for a building fund and then let missions have a meager share in the other items of the church budget. Thank you, Decatur.

N22-A-B  
 MRS T A SPENCER JR  
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