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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 46

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, OCTOBER 16, 1947

NUMBER 41

Waiting on the Lord

There are His promises!
I read them over and over.
I try to believe.
Help thou mine unbelief.
I resolve to doubt not in my heart.
Then winds disturb my sea.
O thou of little faith,
Wherefore didst thou doubt?
Sometimes I seem to have done
Rather well for awhile
In trying to practice faith,
But no answer!
The mountain's still in the way.
Pray some more?
After all the prayers
I've already stored up in heaven
Waiting for the Lord's ear!
Heartsick with disappointed hope!
Forgive, Master, if sometimes I feel
Almost hurt with God
As if He has gone off and left me.
Nowhere to look but up,
And that seems to do no good.
Sometimes my feet have been wet;
I've come right up to the Red Sea
And stepped in,
But the waters didn't part
And the Egyptians were behind me
And the mountains on both sides.
Be thou removed,
And be thou cast into the sea.
No, that mountain's still there!
I will lift up mine eyes

Unto the hills, from whence
Cometh my help.
But the hills are far off.
This mountain's right at my feet
And shuts off the view.
Wait on the Lord:
Be of good courage,
And He shall strengthen thine heart.
Wait! . . . Wait! . . . Waiting!
Hard work, waiting is.
Beginning every day hoping,
Disappointed again.
Was I foolish to hope
Today would bring the answer?
When Mary and Martha
Sent for the Master
He tarried two days
For the glory of God.
All things work together for good
To them that love God.
All things?
Every single thing
That happens to me?
The trying of your faith
Worketh patience.
But let patience have her perfect work,
That ye may be perfect
And entire,
Wanting nothing.
Patience! . . . Perfect! . . . Wanting nothing!
Thy will be done.
.....
Thy will — be done.

—Anne Elizabeth Newman
The Teacher, Oct., 1941.

Southern Baptist Convention Calendar

Co-Ordinated Denominational Activities for 1948

January: Cooperative Program Emphasis.

Church Schools of Missions.
The Theological Seminaries.
WMU Training School.
Student Life-Enlistment Day, January 18.

February: Baptist World Alliance Sunday, February 1.

Stewardship Sunday, February 8.
Student Evangelistic Week, February 8-14.
YWA Focus Week, February 8-14.

March: Home Missions.

Training Union Study Courses.
WMU Week of Prayer for Home Missions and Annie Armstrong Offering, March 1-5.
Southwide Simultaneous Associational Sunday School Meetings, March 9.
Home and Foreign Missions Day in Sunday School and Offering, March 28.

April: Relief and Annuity Board (and Offering for the Relief of Aged Ministers).

Christian Literature and Church Libraries.
Sunday School Training Courses.
Training Union Youth Week in the Churches, April 4-11.
Intermediate Day, April 25.

May: Christian Home Week, May 2-9.

Hospital Day on Mother's Day, May 9.
Sunbeam Focus Week, May 9-15.
WMU Annual Meeting, May 16-18.
Southern Baptist Convention, May 19-23.

June: Vacation Bible Schools.

Ridgecrest, State Assemblies, and Camps.
Radio—The Baptist Hour.
Christian Education Day (preferably June 27).

July: Ridgecrest, State Assemblies, and Camps.

Student Volunteer Summer Service.

August: WMU Young People's Organizations.

Ridgecrest, State Assemblies, and Camps.
GA Focus Week, August 8-14.

September: Southern Baptist Foundation.

Training Union Study Courses.
WMU Season of Prayer for State Missions and Offering (as promoted by the state WMU).

October: Student Join-the-Church Day. (Sunday following college opening).

Sunday School Training Courses.
Layman's Day, October 10.
State Mission Day in Sunday School and Offering, October 24 (as promoted by the states).

November: Every-Member Canvass.

Church Schools of Missions and Stewardship.
State Papers and Missionary Magazines.
Orphanage Day and Offering (as promoted by the states).
RA Focus Week, November 7-13.

December: Foreign Missions.

Every-Member Canvass (completed).
WMU Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, November 29-December 3.
Southwide Simultaneous Associational Training Union Meetings, December 6.
Student Night at Christmas, December 26.

LIFE BUILDERS

A Devotion by the Editor

"A wise man, which built his house upon a rock."

"A foolish man, which built his house upon the sand."

The closing paragraph of the Sermon on the Mount presents the picture of a devastating storm as it descends upon a community where people have established their homes and settled themselves down for the pursuits and enjoyments of life.

If we have but meager powers of imagination and read these verses thoughtfully, we shall hear the clap of mighty thunder and feel the vibrations it sets in motion; we shall hear the roar of angry winds and pouring floods; we shall hear the crash of falling timbers and masonry, the whine of flying splinters; we shall hear the groans of the dying and the hysterical screams of the frightened and injured.

After the storm we look out upon a scene of destruction and ruin. But here and there, among the wreckage that litters the landscape stands a house that has withstood the wind and survived the storm. We may imagine the families in these houses speaking grateful acknowledgement for the gracious providence which has saved them alive.

Jesus said that such is a picture of the lives we build. The storms of the world are going to beat down upon every life. Some lives, like many buildings in the path of the storm, will collapse and fall. They are not well founded or undergirded; they are not braced and reinforced with strong principles which support them in the storms.

There are other lives, however, though beaten and pounded and shaken by the same storms, which stand firmly and outlive the gale. When the storm has spent its force and calm is restored, they are found standing, ready to take up again the tasks and responsibilities of life.

"And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not; for it was founded upon a rock."

"And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell; and great was the fall of it" (Matt. 7-24-29).

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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IONE GRAY _____ EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

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Across the Editor's Desk

The World As Jesus Saw It

This is a wonderful world in which we live. It is a world of abundance, a world rich in provisions for our needs, a beautiful world to satisfy our keenest esthetic sense.

Selfish, sinful, and godless men have abused this world in which we live; they have marred its beauty; they have wasted its resources, and defied its Creator. If men would understand and appreciate and use the world as God intended, the troubles of the world would end.

If we would know the world in which we live, if we would learn its values, rightly appropriate its resources, and correctly relate ourselves to our fellow men, we must see the world as Jesus saw it. The world as Jesus saw it is God's world, vibrant with divine energy and pulsating with divine love and grace. Jesus did not search back of nature to find the cause of things. He knew the causative power back of all things.

Nature as God's Handiwork

The late Dr. William Adams Brown, Union Theological Seminary, New York City, has said that Jesus saw the stars "not as the scientist sees them, as subjects for analysis; but as the poet sees them, as subjects for a song." His whole being seemed to break forth into melody as He contemplated the glories of God revealed in nature.

Jesus did not see the material world only as a means of subsistence. The tempter pointed out this advantage to Jesus with the implied suggestion that He use the world for this purpose only. But to Jesus one's daily subsistence comes as one's right, if he has used his life wisely. One does not need to defy God to gain material subsistence. There must be other concerns, which, if properly met, will obviate the necessity for worry over material things: "Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?"

Jesus saw the world as the handiwork of God. To Jesus, nature was not God, but God was in all nature. Jesus was not a scientist, nor were His interests scientific. He looked at nature not as the botanist looks at a flower, nor as the geologist looks at rocks; but He found in the flower and in the stone a joy and a familiarity that the scientist does not know."

Jesus saw the world as the evidence of God's care and provision for the children of His creative hand. This care and provision are adequate for their physical, intellectual, and spiritual needs. The lily, the daisy, the sparrow, the mountain, the sky, all filled Him with a sense of God's presence and His never failing watchfulness. All nature was to Jesus a source of joy and inspiration, a stimulus to noble living.

Humanity as God's Family

Jesus saw the world of humanity as the potential family of God, and every person as a potential child of God. Jesus did not look upon human beings as fit subjects to be reduced to the lowest level of serfdom; but as subjects fit for elevation to children of God. Men and women were already enslaved by sin. Such slavery was not the normal stage for creatures who bore the image of God, they were destined for a nobler state of being and a higher level of existence.

It was to break the power of sin which holds men in bondage that Jesus spent His life and shed His blood. The greatest adventure the world has ever known is the adventure of Jesus in human redemption. That adventure is worth all it costs in both divine and human sacrifice.

Jesus looked beyond the material and temporal world with which men have always been so deeply concerned. He saw the world which is to be as the only fulfillment of the highest possibilities of the life of man.

That world which is to be is not a place to be dreaded—except, of course, by the sinful and unrepentant. It is not a world of gloom and uncertainty. It is, rather, a world of fullness and completeness, a world of light and life and joy and peace. The only requirement is that a person receive God into his heart here and God will receive him into His eternal abode there.

The world which is to be is not a place where all achievement and growth come to an end; it is not a world of stagnation. On the contrary, the noblest hopes and aspirations will find complete satisfaction.

It is quite a common experience, among those who are struggling for a progressively better life, to feel disappointed, to feel that they have not achieved their best, that they have not attained the heights which are possible for them. In fact, that is the common experience of the Christian life. Paul acknowledged that he had not fully realized that for which Jesus had laid hold of him. But he declared that he was reaching forward and pressing on, incessantly endeavoring to live up to his own highest possibilities and to the expectations of his Lord.

This world does not provide adequate opportunity for the full exercise of the powers resident in human life, when quickened by the Spirit of God. We struggle with a thousand handicaps which hamper our spiritual exercise and retard our spiritual progress. "Even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body," said Paul.

When release comes to the redeemed, they

enter into a world where the hampering circumstances of this life are unknown. They will know the thrill of rising to their greatest goals, and achieving their most worthy undertakings without the handicaps known in this world.

Clear Vision Depends on Pure Heart

To see the world of nature, the world of humanity, and the world which is to be as Jesus saw them, depends on a changed heart. This necessity is graphically set forth by Hawthorne in a story entitled "Earth's Holocaust." It is the tale of some men and women who had become weary of their foibles and follies and who had decided to be rid of foolishness and flipperies. They determined to make an end of them by burning. A great mountain of useless and silly possessions was lighted. The flames and smoke of them rose to the sky.

There were present a number of reprobates, sad of countenance, now that their business was gone. Satan himself came to comfort these. "Be not cast down, my peers," he said, "there is one thing these wisecracks have forgotten." "What is that?" they all shouted. "Why, the human heart; unless they hit upon some trick of purifying that foul thing it will soon be the same old world again."

Changed hearts are what this world needs, for changed hearts make changed persons. This world will be changed and the world which is to be will be inhabited only by those whose hearts are changed.

Ralph Waldo Emerson is quoted as saying: "The soul of every reform is the reform of the soul."

Private Enterprise

A recent poll of college students showed that a substantial majority voted in favor of socialization of industry and the destruction of private enterprise. Obviously many of our educators need to be reeducated. For if college and university professors know the facts of industrial history and teach these facts to their students, a majority vote in favor of socialization of industry and for the destruction of free enterprise would be impossible.

Commenting upon this situation, the Charlotte, N. C., Observer puts it this way, "Our college students must be mis-educated if, after four years in an institution supported by free enterprise, they turn against the very system that made their education possible. These students, 63 per cent of whom believed that government ownership is more efficient than private enterprise, could not for the life of them cite a single instance to prove their point."

Private enterprise is not without its faults. But wherever it has been given a chance, private enterprise has proven itself superior to socialized industry.

The reasons for this superiority are obvious. Private enterprise provides the maximum opportunities for individual initiative and resourcefulness.

NOTES OF ADVANCE

Buckville Church had seven additions, all by baptism, in recent revival services in which Pastor J. C. Melton, Lake Hamilton Church, Central Association, did the preaching. Singing was directed by Joe Anderson of Cedar Glades Church.

* * *

R. Wilbur Herring, new pastor of Calvary Church, Little Rock, was ordained to the ministry at Pulaski Heights Church, Little Rock, September 28. Pastor Harold Hicks presided as chairman of the council, Pastor R. C. Campbell, First Church, preached the ordination sermon; Pastor M. Ray McKay, Second Church, presented the Bible to the candidate; and Pastor W. O. Vaught, Jr., Immanuel Church, gave the charge. The ordination prayer was led by Pastor Taylor Stanfill, Park Hill Church, North Little Rock.

* * *

Dr. R. C. Campbell, pastor, First Church, Little Rock, will soon have his 12th book, "The Christ of the Centuries," issued by Broadman Press, Nashville, Tenn.

* * *

Lake Hamilton Church, Central Association, had 16 additions, all by baptism, in a summer revival in which Pastor Ray Branscum, South Highland Church, Little Rock, did the preaching, and 13 additions, 10 by baptism, in a recent revival in which Pastor Jesse Reed, Park Place Church, Hot Springs, did the preaching. Pastor J. C. Melton directed the music.

* * *

Immanuel Church, El Dorado, R. C. Brinkley, pastor, had 22 additions in evangelistic services with Pastor Minor E. Cole, First Church, Forrest City, doing the preaching and Frank Adams in charge of music. All additions were adults.

* * *

Reports from First Church, Lake Village, show much progress under the leadership of Pastor H. O. Malone, who has been on the field three months. During this time the church has received 45 members, 27 for baptism. There have been additions every Sunday except three. Eighteen of the new members were received during a one-week revival in which the pastor did the preaching and Mrs. Malone directed the music. The Arkansas Baptist has been placed in the church budget. C. R. McPherson has been ordained to the gospel ministry. Andy Heskett, minister and faculty member in the Lake Village High School, has been called as mission pastor.

* * *

Pastor and Mrs. Loyal Prior, First Church, Norphlet, were honored on their fourth anniversary with the church with a lovely gift and picnic lunch.

PASTORAL CHANGES

Charles Hampton from First Church, Hazen, to First Church, Glenwood.

C. S. Womack from Keiser Church to Perryville Church.

Paul Aiken from First Church, Warren, to Kirkwood Church, Atlanta, Ga.

R. W. Bishop to Bethel Church, Little Rock.

Harold Trevolt from Argonia, Kans., to Quitman Church.

Harold Ingraham has completed 25 years as business manager of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.

* * *

Rehobeth Church, Flippin, had 32 decisions for Christ, 27 professions of faith, in revival services with Pastor A. F. Muncy, First Church, Wilson, doing the preaching. D. M. Kreis is pastor.

* * *

Rev. T. W. McKneely, 1311 Sixth St., Durham, N. C., is interested in pastoral work in or around Little Rock. He served as pastor 20 years and was chaplain in the Army for three years.

* * *

Dr. I. E. Reynolds, retired director of the School of Music of Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., is to be associated with Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Berkeley, Calif., as guest instructor, according to an announcement made by President B. O. Herring. His new duties will begin January 5, 1948. Dr. Reynolds will share a part of his talents and time with churches of California.

* * *

Pastor Taylor Stanfill, Park Hill Church, North Little Rock, has received a letter from Rev. and Mrs. Roe Beard, Home Mission Board missionaries to the Choctaw Indians in Eastern Oklahoma, who recently received a trailer home through the efforts of a group of pastors and missionaries. The letter says: "May we tell you how much we are enjoying our new home on wheels. It is almost unbelievable that we have a place to cook and eat. The good people who made it possible will never know how much we are enjoying it and how grateful we are to them for such a blessing. We have just come back from the meeting of our association, attended by about 2,500. I wish you could have seen that great throng of Indians and heard them sing. We had a fine number of conversions and baptisms."

* * *

Department superintendents in the Sunday School of Second Church, Hot Springs, are busily engaged in an effort to earn a trip to Ridgecrest next July at the expense of the church. All superintendents who lead their departments to become Standard before the Sunday School Conference at Ridgecrest next summer will get such a trip. This is a provision of the new church budget which went into effect October 1.

—000—

Meyers Becomes Editor Baptist New Mexican

Dr. Lewis A. Myers, former editor of the Arkansas Baptist who has served as editor of the Word and Way for the past two years, has accepted the editorship of the Baptist New Mexican and will be on the field soon. He succeeds Dr. G. Ward Fenley.

Dr. Myers left the editorship of the Arkansas Baptist in 1943, after serving four years, to enter the army chaplaincy. He is now vice-president of the Southern Baptist Press Association.

The Mexico paper boasts an every Baptist family circulation.

Little Rock Lawyer Gives Life to God



Lucien Coleman, former member of the state legislature and attorney for the government, recently surrendered his life to full-time Christian service at the morning worship hour at Second Church, Little Rock.

Mr. Coleman has been director of the Training Union and superintendent of the Young Peoples' Department of the Sunday School at Second Church for more than a year. His pastor, Dr. M. Ray McKay, reports that in these positions he has evidenced outstanding leadership ability. Mr. Coleman has also been in demand as a song leader for revivals and is now directing the music in evangelistic services at Calvary Church, Batesville.

Pastor McKay predicts a great future for Mr. Coleman as he enters the field of Christian education as director in a church or as he continues his work in evangelistic singing.

—000—

Plans Made to Secure Hospital For Negroes

Plans are being made to secure a Baptist Hospital for the Negroes of the South, to be located in Hot Springs, according to Pastor Clyde Hart, Central Church, Hot Springs, who has been working on the idea.

A proposal was submitted to the National Negro Baptist Convention, Inc., at their recent meeting in Kansas City, Mo., whereby they can purchase the Good Samaritan Hospital and Bath House of Hot Springs. The building, erected at a cost of \$500,000 in 1944, is available for \$175,000.

The Convention appointed a committee to inspect the building and to report back to the meeting of its Executive Board in February. The Board was given power to act on the project.

The committee to inspect the building met October 15 at the Roanoke Baptist Church (Negro), Hot Springs. Dr. R. C. Woods, pastor of the church, is chairman of the committee, and he has invited several white leaders to the meeting.

Pastor Hart comments: "This would be one of the greatest pieces of mission work that could be done for the Negroes of the South. They will need both the moral and financial assistance of Southern Baptists.

They Tithe . . .

Spiritual and Material Blessings Follow "Prove Me" Effort

Thrilling reports have reached the office of the Arkansas Baptist the first week following Tithers' Enlistment Day, observed October 5. The 112 churches already reported show a total of 11,659 tithers—more than one-fourth of the state's goal of 40,000 in the effort to enlist 1,000,000 tithers among Southern Baptists.

There are interesting stories of increased offering; but more important than monetary returns are the spiritual blessings being poured out on individuals and churches where they have dared to launch out on the promises of God. The paragraph notes below reveal some of the blessings already received.

On page twelve are listed the names of the churches reported and the number of tithers enlisted. These reports are incomplete and most of them are already incorrect in that new tithers are being enlisted almost every day in most of these churches.

Immanuel Church, Little Rock, W. O. Vaught, Jr., pastor, leads in the number of tithers with 1,265 signed pledges.

Atkins Church, Dardanelle-Russellville Association, reports 52 tithers with deacons 100 per cent. Cecil Archer is pastor.

Pastor Arthur L. Hart reports that Charleston Church has voted to give 25 per cent of its income to missions. He adds, "I will not be satisfied until we get on a 50-50 basis."

The entire resident membership, with the exception of two children, of Deer Church, Newton County Association, has pledged to tithe for three months—14 in all. Offering through the Sunday School on October 5 was \$58.25.

Missionary Ottis Denney, Newton County Association, reports that approximately one-half the Baptists of the entire county are now tithing.

Out of a resident membership of 289, First Church, Carlisle, reports 115 tithers.

Pastor Graham Fowler reports that Fair View Church in Red River Association is 100 per cent in pledging to tithe — all the 21 active members signed pledges.

From Pastor R. O. Ekrut, First Church, Strong, comes this report: "A member pledged to tithe, and the next Saturday a Negro woman came into his store to pay a debt made by her husband several years previously. The member had forgotten the debt." Strong Church reports 91 tithers.

First Church, Fordyce, reports that all active deacons and all but 10 Sunday School and Training Union workers have signed tither's cards bringing the total pledges to 251.

Pastor C. J. Rushing, First Church, Manila, reports that 13 tither's pledge cards were

signed October 5, but he adds that there were not enough cards to go around.

Pastor J. C. Harris, Central Church, Mineral Springs, was preparing to baptize a man when the candidate told him that he and his wife had decided to tithe.

Plainview Church, Pine Bluff Arsenal, secured 56 pledges to tithe. Pastor G. E. Nethercut says, "We look upon this as the beginning of a new day in the success of our church."

Missionary H. W. Johnston, Gainesville and Current River Associations, reports on a simultaneous Stewardship Revival Campaign. Ministerial students from Southern College, Walnut Ridge, did the preaching. Every church in the two associations had a different speaker for each of the five nights. Messages were on some phase of stewardship with an explanation of the "Prove Me" plan.

Pleasant Grove Church, Woodruff County Association, reports the largest single offering in the 70 years' history of the church on October 5. Twenty tithing pledges were secured.

Cove Church, Ouachita Association, increased its tithers from six to 27 on Tithers' Enlistment Day.

Twenty-eight of the 29 active deacons of First Church, Benton, are tithers.

Brookland Church, Mt. Zion Association, reports an offering of \$180 on October 5 as compared with \$47 one year ago.

Offering at First Church, Blytheville, jumped from \$650 on September 28 to \$1,024 on October 5, Tithers' Enlistment Day.

Pastor G. Paul Starnes, First Church, Louann, reports: "It is with thanks to God that we are able to report that 28 of our members pledged to tithe. Tithing seems to be a topic of discussion among our people, and they are discussing it from the Bible standpoint. I feel that a new day is upon us. May we as Southern Baptists not fail God in Christianity's crisis hour."

Matthews Memorial Church, Pine Bluff, reports an offering of \$229.75 on October 5 as

compared with \$124.43 on September 28. Fifty tithing pledges were secured.

Pastor C. E. Wilbanks, First Church, Springdale, reports that the tithing emphasis was delayed in his church because of a revival meeting, but he says, "We shall present the tithing campaign later, not for three months but for keeps."

Pastor Robert D. Hughes, Oak Grove Church, Pine Bluff, reports that many of the 49 members who pledged to tithe their income crossed out the words "three months" indicating the decision was for all time.

Pastor Sam C. Reeves, First Church, El Dorado, writes: "Our church reached its goal October 5, and pledges show an increase of at least \$25,000 annually if we continue. This is the best piece of work we have done."

Westpoint Church, White County Association, L. B. Edwards, pastor, secured 35 tithing pledges on Tithers' Enlistment Day, and the church voted to tithe its income to the Cooperative Program.

Out of a membership of 1,223, First Church, West Memphis, reports 408 tithers. The church received \$65,809.09 in contributions during the past associational year of which \$24,208.80 was given to missions. Two hundred six people were baptized during that time. Two mission buildings were erected. Aubrey C. Halsell is pastor.

Pastor James W. Johnson, Eastside Baptist Mission of First Church, DeWitt, writes: "About four months ago a young man was converted and his wife rededicated her life in one of the night services. In talking of his experience the man expressed his desire and determination to go all the way with and for Christ. The very next Sunday he began to tithe and is now a very enthusiastic supporter of the tithing program." The mission, with a membership of 43, has 24 tithers.

Southwide Results

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—(BP)—Dr. Duke K. McCall, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, believes that Southern Baptists have more than reached their goal of "a million Southern Baptist tithers for Christ."

His estimate was based on telegraphic reports from state leaders throughout the far-flung Convention territory, telling of the observance of Tithers' Enlistment Day, October 5. Indications are that every state reached or exceeded its goal.

"But this is not a time for stopping," Dr. McCall warned. "Really the battle is just begun. Still to be proved is the doing of the tithe which has been pledged, and the winning of the three-month 'prove me' tithers to permanent stewardship. And still to be reached are another five million Baptists not included in the initial goal."

\$25,000—

First Church, Little Rock, has voted to give \$25,000 through the Cooperative Program next year. R. C. Campbell is pastor.

CHRISTIAN HORIZONS

*"Blessed is the man whose skylight is undimmed
by the dust of doubt or sin of disobedience."*

Flying Missionaries: Three flying missionaries will tour 100 churches in Africa this month by twin-engined plane. The trip is sponsored by the British section of the Mildmay Movement for World Evangelization.

The flying group believe that "missionary aircraft" could take native children to school, transport medical supplies, move missionaries and carry doctors to the sick. All from Britain, they are Ex-Squadron-Leader Jack Hemmings, the pilot; Ex-Flight-Lt. Stuart King, the engineer; and Ex-Navyman Tommy Banham, the navigator.

"We shall come back and try to supply them all the aircraft they need," Hemmings said in Britain. "We have several ex-RAF aircrew men who are willing to fly for us."

150,000 Japanese Bibles: An edition of 150,000 Japanese Bibles—largest ever printed anywhere—has been published by the American Bible Society and will be shipped to Tokyo so as to arrive there before Christmas.

The new Bibles, first to be printed in the United States, each contain 1,696 pages. It required 440,000 pounds of paper to produce the edition, 50 per cent more than that needed if the same number of English Bibles were printed.

Minister is Police Chief: James Charles Still, an ordained Methodist minister, is police chief of the model industrial city of Kingsport, Tenn. He became a policeman by accident, "When I took the examination I wasn't interested," he says: "I had coached my younger brother for the test, and I took it to keep him company. The city manager called me when he saw the grades. Once I got into the work I couldn't leave."

"Economic position, color, race, social position, doesn't mean a thing to me," Still says. "I treat them all alike, and if it doesn't suit anyone, that's just too bad."

Selfishness: Dr. Louie D. Newton, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, speaking at the 100th anniversary of the School of Law of Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tenn., said that Communism is: "selfishness in disguise," and that Christian love is the only answer to it.

Communism, Dr. Newton charged, is "an idea of selfishness: to take away from those who have." In this guise, Dr. Newton continued, Communism "has permeated every corner of every land" and is a challenge to the philosophy of Christian educational institutions.

Meatless Days: A call to the churches of America to institute a nation-wide program of "meatless and wheatless" days was voiced in New York by Charles P. Taft, president of the Federal Council of Churches.

Acknowledging the existence of "widespread doubt" as to the efficacy of current food conservation plans, Mr. Taft urged the churches to seize the "moral initiative" and

"make the most of" whatever proposals are offered by the government. Mr. Taft suggested that church suppers be made special occasions for the practice of self-denial.

Church Construction: American Protestant churches, which plan to spend \$650,000,000 in erecting new buildings and improving old ones, face the prospect of being able to complete only a small part of the contemplated work in the near future, according to Elbert M. Conover, director of the Interdenominational Bureau of Architecture. John A. Volpe, a Boston builder, declares that labor costs are up 14 per cent, while costs of material have increased 100 per cent.

William Kincaid Newman, secretary of the church building department of the Congregational Church Board, New York, advises churches against adding too much to their long-term debts. He said debts should be paid off within 10 years and should not be assumed by the next generation.

Military Expenditures: Marriner Eccles, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, recently pointed out that the United States had spent \$25,000,000,000 or more on purely military expenses since V-J Day, but had spent less than \$18,000,000,000 on overseas relief and rehabilitation, according to Religious News Service Correspondent Larston D. Farrar.

Gratitude: The Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church, Washington, D. C., has begun the planting of 2,000 tulip bulbs sent to them from a tiny Dutch village they "adopted" two years ago. The bulbs were sent to Pastor J. Hillman Hollister by the farmers, trades people and laborers of Hedel, a hamlet between the Meuse and the Rhine Rivers.

Shortly after V-J Day, as part of the general American church rehabilitation program for parishes in Europe, the Chevy Chase congregation began sending bundles of clothing and tools to a church in Hedel. Later they "adopted" the whole village. In gratitude, the Hollanders sent the tulip bulbs.

Tolerance: "The most lovable and livable quality that any human being can possess is tolerance. Tolerance is the vision that enables us to see things from another person's point of view. It is the generosity that concedes to others the right to their own opinions and their own peculiarities. It is the bigness that enables us to want those we love to be happy in their own way instead of ours."—Pick-Up.

Church Attendance: President Truman endorsed a Church Attendance Crusade being sponsored by the Federal Council of Churches for eight consecutive Sundays. He said:

"The brave men and valiant women who pioneered this continent lived adventurously; but wherever they settled they made generous provisions for the institutions of religion. In a world of suspicion and hatred and endless conflict of policy we sometimes lost sight

of those spiritual principles by which our ancestors lived. What a blessing it would be if through the proposed church-going crusade we could recapture some of the unshaken loyalty to God to which they bore such faithful witness.

"If we remain true to the spirit of our fathers and mothers we cannot fail. Religion alone has the answer to humanity's 20th century cry of despair, 'What must I do to be saved?'"

Service on Horseback: A worship service on horseback was held in Columbia City, Ind., during the annual Indiana Saddle Horse Show and the State Palomino Show, attracting 6,000 people from 10 states.

Rev. Foster Jones supervised the religious gathering. Using the topic, "A Field for Champions," he told his mounted audience that the qualities which made Man-of-War a great horse were the same qualities needed by human beings. But he pointed out that the human being has been given also the mind, heart, and soul to rise spiritually above the animal kingdom.

Dignity: "Dignity is the capacity to hold back on the tongue what never should have been on the mind in the first place."

Kindness to Pastors: Congregations should try to create a pleasant atmosphere for their pastors by giving them a holiday once a week, a month's vacation and praise when they deserve it, Dr. Paul Hoh, of the Lutheran Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, told the Men's Fellowship in Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Buffalo, N. Y.

Dr. Hoh warned: "The atmosphere in which the pastor works is of exceedingly great importance to him and to the results he gets. Many men of great ability fail because their congregations never gave them a boost."

He urged more consideration of pastor's salaries to provide a comfortable home and retirement arrangements. "Pastors also should be encouraged by their congregation to explore new opportunities and methods for their pastorate," he said. "They should be encouraged to get out of their ruts, to attend retreats and meetings in other cities, to try out new ideas."

Religious Freedom: All religious denominations in Bulgaria are carrying on their activities without interference, according to Dr. Jean Nussbaum, European secretary of the International Religious Liberty Association. Dr. Nussbaum declares: "In Bulgaria the various cults enjoy freedom without any restriction, and Protestants, Roman Catholics and Orthodox are equally treated."

Clerical Collars: A Methodist minister of Sydney, Australia, has charged that back-to-front collars worn by clergymen are one of the "unreal" aspects of religious life that keep workaday people from paying more attention to the church.

The minister, Rev. D. A. Trathen, in a radio broadcast, also claimed "there is an air of unreality about stained glass windows, and black-bound Bibles of seeming antiquity." He said the message of the church must be "translated into everyday life," adding: "Reality would come with a fresh language in place of theological terms, dramatic presentations from the Bible, more practical, relevant training of ministers, and a greater use of church buildings for community activities."

A Short, Short Course In . . .

CHURCH NEWS WRITING

By JAMES L. VERHOEFF
Editor, Blytheville Courier News

In spite of the fact that some of us in the field of journalism seem never to master the art of news writing, it is based on fundamental principles that are as simple as A, B, C.

The five W's listed in journalism textbooks for beginners in news writing open the door to this interesting field and make it comparatively easy to obtain the know-how for presenting worthy items in acceptable form.

The five W's are: Who, What, When, Where, and Why. They are essential to each and every news item. It may be only a single paragraph announcing a birth, or it may be an item of a thousand or more words, but it needs to have those five essentials answered in the first sentence.

Before undertaking to write for newspapers, it is essential that the pupil select subjects which are timely and of general interest, and then set about using those five W's which can be assembled like the letters of the alphabet or shifted by the experts in a manner as fascinating as the performances of a trick bicycle rider.

Must Weigh Interest

In this introduction to news writing, the phrase, "nose for news," can be described as a reporter's ability to discover information in which people are interested.

Other churchmen are interested in the things which interest you, and outsiders, believe it or not, are interested in what you do as a church member. Much of the apparent lack of interest stems from the fact that non-members, and those who worship only occasionally, hear so little about what consecrated Christians are doing day after day, and week after week in the service of their Master.

Activities of a Sunday School class often are newsworthy. To be newsworthy they must hold interest for members of other churches and for other denominations. The length of a news item about one particular class must be determined by the degree of interest the item possesses for those on the outside. Members of other classes will be interested in comparisons with their own activities. Names in news always have an appeal. This appeal is in a direct proportion to the number of acquaintances persons in the news have.

Except for rare instances, the items pertaining to Sunday School classes will be limited to one or two paragraphs, but the secret of preparing church news effectively lies in the many, many opportunities for frequent use of brief items.

Golden Opportunity

Sensational items seldom make good news for the church but a steady flow of interesting reports dealing with church activities can wield a powerful influence for the church.

Alert churchmen can provide news which editors will be eager to receive. Everywhere in the field of business today experts are placing more and more stress on sound public relations. If that is good business for busi-

ness then it should be a golden opportunity for the churches of all denominations.

Leaders in churches throughout the land daily are overlooking too many opportunities to let the newspapers help them to promote Christianity as a way of life. They are neglecting their talents in a degree no less reprehensible than the steward in the parable who buried his ability when he should have used it to promote the Kingdom.

Every man, woman and child possesses enough interest in others to qualify as a purveyor of news. In this study the interest centers on ability to determine what will meet the editor's test of news values.

What to Write

Let us consider the possibilities for finding worthy news in a Sunday School class. Suppose it is a new class — one in the process of being organized. Certainly, it is timely and the news, which will meet an editor's

"That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works" (Psalm 26:7).

requirements, can begin with an announcement of plans for organizing the class.

The five W's of news writing fit into the picture in this fashion:

Who—The Rev. John Brown, pastor of the First Methodist Church,

What—has called a meeting

When—for tonight

Where—in the church

Why—to discuss plans for organizing a new Sunday School class for adults.

In this particular instance the five W's provide answers which flow into a sentence which contains the essentials needed in beginning any and all news items.

Simple, Isn't It?

Read those answers into sentence form and you have:

The Rev. John Brown, pastor of the First Methodist Church, has called a meeting for tonight in the church to discuss plans for organizing a new Sunday School class for adults.

Here in 30 words we have a complete news item. Few readers will be interested in additional details in an item of this nature. For the convenience of those who are interested we should name the city in which the church is located, and give the street address if it happens to be a large city. Also as a special service for those who will attend, the hour of the meeting should be inserted.

Any one of the five W's may be used to begin a news item. The others can, and should, be made to fit in to permit easy reading and clarity. It is desirable to begin a news item with the W which holds the greatest interest for the largest number of readers.

The item above could begin with the Why and read like this:

Plans for organizing a new Sunday School class for adults will be discussed at a meeting tonight in the First Methodist Church, it was announced by the pastor, the Rev. John Brown.

Or the What might be emphasized by saying:

A meeting has been called for tonight in the First Methodist Church by the Rev. John Brown, pastor, to discuss plans for organizing a new Sunday School class for adults.

The essential thing is to select facts which answer the Who, What, When, Where and Why, and then build a simple sentence embodying those facts.

Be certain that the names and initials are correct.

Shun Use of Nicknames

Shun the use of nicknames. They sound polite in addressing a friend, but in type they seem cold and can be construed to reflect poor taste. A reporter should not be expected to translate nicknames into the correct and proper initials without assistance from his news source.

Specify "Miss" or "Mrs." when writing about women if they are past high school age. Never use the given name of a married woman if she has a husband. Use the initials of her husband.

Do not write "Mr. John Doe." Make it plain John Doe. After he has been identified by his given name, or initials, then it is permissible to use "Mr. Doe."

Do not say that an "important meeting will be held." Write it so that the reader will know that it is to be an important meeting, but let him decide for himself that it is important.

Recently it was announced that "an important meeting of the Board of Stewards will be held." The only other information furnished was the time and the place for the meeting. The session actually was a start toward a \$300,000 project to give a city its largest church.

The follow-up item on the meeting filled more than half column. It was a report on an important meeting, but the readers did not have to take second hand judgment on the matter. The item contained sufficient

(CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT)

This article grew out of interest in and appreciation for a short course in church news writing sponsored by the Blytheville Ministerial Alliance. The class was conducted with the idea of encouraging closer cooperation between those who are potential news sources and the representatives of newspapers who are eager to publish more news of church activities.

It is hoped that pastors, church reporters, and others who prepare articles for the Arkansas Baptist or for the weekly or daily papers will find this material helpful.

This article has been put in booklet form and may be ordered from the paper office for 10 cents.

Church News Writing

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE SEVEN)

information to enable them to decide for themselves that it was a really important meeting.

The first thing that readers will want to know about any meeting is why it is considered important. Any trained reporter will obtain the who and the why of every meeting.

Make First Words Count

Writing the first paragraph is the hardest part of putting a news item on paper. With the five essentials stated in the fewest words, the rest of the item is handled by simple narration.

Always give the most important fact ahead of less relevant information. Every well-written news item is worded so that an editor can begin with the last paragraph and shorten the item knowing that it will deprive the reader of the facts of least importance and that the paragraphs which are left in the published report will stand alone and not leave some essential feature dangling in the air.

News writing is the very opposite of themes which usually build to a climax. The climax in a news item must be stated in the very beginning. News items are given only a casual glance until some especially interesting fact attracts special attention. Then the reader pauses to investigate beyond the headline and the first paragraph.

Writing a news item is like a swimmer diving into the deepest part of the pool and then working out into the shallow water to cover the area thoroughly.

Never wade into a news item as a swimmer might cautiously enter a cold pool at the most shallow point. Dive into the item. Grab the biggest and most interesting facts first. Then pick up facts of lesser importance. Always stick to the facts because accuracy is of first importance.

Never bother with trying to write headlines to accompany your news items. Leave that for the editors. They know just how many letters will fit into the space available for headlines and can do a better job of selecting words that will fit.

"Follow Up" Items

It is a sound rule for news sources never to ask a newspaper to announce a meeting unless it appears reasonable to expect that developments at the meeting will be more news worthy than an announcement that a meeting has been scheduled. This gives us an opportunity for a second news item about our announcement relative to the organizing of a Sunday School class.

Perhaps we can say that the meeting was held and a teacher selected. The item should identify the teacher by giving his name, his address, his business or profession, and perhaps his other principal connections with the church, and the community in which he lives. If the teacher happens to be the governor of the state, or the mayor of the city, his prominence gives additional value to the item.

News Consciousness Counts

When the first class meeting is held, still another item can be written, and perhaps it can be announced, along with how many enrolled as charter members, that an election of class officers is to be held.

When the class holds the election, there is an opportunity to publish the names of each of the officers and the reader interest will be broadened to include every acquaintance of the members elected to the office.

As the class grows, there will be opportunities for additional items when a membership drive is planned and executed; also for attendance at class parties, or arrangements for special speakers, and what those speakers said even though it may not be more than the listing of the subject of their discussion.

Most alert classes have social service projects, or special activities, which become newsworthy. What they do often brings citations which have interest outside the class membership.

Eventually it will be time to elect new class officers, stage another membership campaign, and plan other parties. The news possibilities are many, and when they are multiplied by the number of classes in the church school, by the number of units within

"Read the Bible until you have a glimmering of how its writers condensed. Paul's address on Mars Hill takes up little more than a 'stick' of newspaper type. The entire story of the crucifixion is told in two sticks. No book in the world contains such powerful, dramatic English. No book in the world is so much quoted. No book in the world will help the newspaperman to learn to write for newspaper readers so much as the Bible."
—Harrington and Frankenberg, *Essentials in Journalism*.

the women's organizations, the groups for men, the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, and the many activities of the pastor, it is not unreasonable to expect that a church of one thousand members in any city could have one or more items each day in the daily paper.

Avalanche of Items Possible

Suppose that each item contained only one paragraph (many will have more); it would add up to at least 20 columns of news at the end of a year. If the city has no more than 10 churches and each would make the best possible use of its opportunities, we would have a total of 200 columns of church news—enough for 25 whole pages with nothing but activities of the churches.

Church news production on this scale would swamp many of our publications, but not for long. Editors would quickly arrange to handle such news because of its reader interest, and they would find their subscription lists growing.

There are, however, some things editors should not be expected to do. Do not ask them to do work properly falling to the lot of an attendance committee; do not expect them to do your soliciting for anything less than city-wide causes, and then let them do it their way. It is their business to have a better perspective than any promoter of a project can have and they must consider how much space other promoters might seek for similar pet schemes.

Do not expect newspapers to call attention to a future event, unless you are going to be sufficiently interested in the event to give them a report when the event takes place.

It is not news that a church has prayer meeting every Wednesday night. It is news that such services are to be inaugurated, or discontinued for lack of attendance. It is news when the church has a special speaker.



In furnishing church news to newspapers, do not take it for granted that the casual reader, or the reporters on the newspaper, will be as familiar as you are with the organization you represent. Give the reporter sufficient information to enable him to write intelligently. No one person can be an expert on all denominations represented in a single city, not to mention the countless groups within a single church. A little extra time in furnishing information for a news item will pay dividends for the church in accuracy and in clarity.

It is the unusual that most readily qualifies as news. Goodness still is the usual thing in the lives of most men, and that means that church news must compete with the unusual. But, it does not mean that only bad news gets into the paper. Check any paper and be convinced.

Thrillers Found in Bible

Church news can compete with the unusual. Some of the most thrilling events of all time have been church events. The announcement of the birth of Jesus was heralded with acclaim equal to headlines across the front pages of our modern newspapers, and the news of His death on the cross was a banner story of the year, except for the fact that we had no newspapers in those days to chronicle the event.

We can look to the Bible, too, for examples of brevity in writing.

Consider the first verse of the Old Testament. Only 10 words were used and they contain four of the five W's essential for a lead for news items as they are written today.

The verse: "In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth."

Apply the five W's for a first paragraph for a news item and we find:

When—In the beginning,

Who—God

What—created

Where—the heaven and the earth

Why—

Only the Why is lacking, and it is easy to supply, for it was given by the author of that first book of the Bible. The Why of the creation was to give "man a place of abode before and after death."

News Values Deteriorate

Nothing is more out of date than yesterday's newspaper. News to have value must be published while it still is fresh. Two-day old events do not belong in a daily paper. It must be today's news, or certainly nothing older than events of yesterday.

Many afternoon newspapers have noon deadlines for the submission of items. The earlier they are submitted the better. Often one person in the newsroom must handle 20 or more items in a single day. He should not be expected to handle all of the items just ahead of his deadline. It is an impossibility.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWELVE)

Ouachita College

Arkadelphia, Arkansas

October 16, 1947

Dear Friends of Ouachita:

This letter is written in the interest of Christian education, especially in Arkansas. I am a native Arkansas Baptist minister; for more than 30 years I served as chaplain with our Army. The chaotic condition of the world today makes me want to spend the rest of my life working for Christian education. World peace awaits Christian education.

The world is looking to our Christian colleges for educated Christian leaders. I am for any Christian college that can and will train such leaders. At present I am naturally thinking of Ouachita College and her many opportunities. There are right at 850 potential leaders on the campus, the finest group of young people I have ever seen.

For one month I have been student counselor here at Ouachita. My opportunities for studying Ouachita have been many—I eat in the college dining hall, my office is in the Student Center Building. I see the students in the morning watch, in their daily prayer meetings, in the chapel programs, in the library, laboratory and class rooms. I have seen them at football games, and I have seen them at church. They come to me for personal conferences. All this enables me to say that Arkansas Baptists have a great training ground here.

Ouachita College, like many homes and churches, may not be a sinless place, but no college is fighting evil harder than it is being fought here. The Christian teachers and the Christian atmosphere on the campus make it easier for students to develop into Christian leaders. This environment makes it harder for them to go the low road.

Ouachita has serious problems; I regret that we are over-crowded. All rooms on the campus are too full, but the administration has not seen fit to close Ouachita's doors to our Baptist boys and girls. I regret, too, that Ouachita is not able to guarantee at least an average salary to the faculty. It is doing all it can with what it has. Our state schools get nearly four times as much money as Ouachita.

Ouachita is growing rapidly. It could be one of the South's most useful colleges. It may continue to grow or it may weaken, depending upon what the Baptists of Arkansas do for it. If Ouachita gets the buildings and the endowment, so unanimously voted by the State Baptist Convention, it will go on rendering a great service.

I regret, very much, that Dr. Otto Whittington is sick. He has shown us the way out. Ouachita was built by our parents for about 350 students. They sowed; we are reaping. We all but reverence the founders for their sacrifices. Today three times 350 of our fine young people want training at Ouachita College. How the world needs them! No people ever had a greater opportunity than is ours today. Let's face it honestly and courageously. With God's help and blessing we will do the great task that is ours today.

Sincerely,

JAMES L. BLAKENEY
Student Counselor

Woman's Missionary Union

Auxiliary to Arkansas Baptist State Convention

209 Radio Center Building, Little Rock

Mrs. J. E. SHORT
President

MISS LAVERNE ASHBY
Young People's Secretary

Mrs. C. H. RAY
Executive Secretary and Treasurer

ALVIN HATTON
Royal Ambassador Secretary

Quarterly Reports Due

Reports on the work for the third quarter are now due. Please send your report at once for we need the statistics of this quarter to include in the report of this organization to the State Convention in November.

Royal Ambassador Fellowship and Recognition Service

The state Royal Ambassador fellowship supper and recognition service will be held this year on Tuesday, November 18, 5:30 p. m. at Immanuel Church, Little Rock. Tickets are now on sale at the State WMU office, 209 Radio Center, for 75 cents each. We are planning for at least 200 to attend. All boys, regardless of age or rank are eligible to attend, as well as pastors, parents, and others interested in Royal Ambassador work.

Those boys who have passed a rank within the past year, whether it be Page, Squire, Knight, Ambassador, or a higher rank are urged to send their names, address, and rank (along with 75 cents to the RA secretary as soon as possible. We wish to print on the programs the names of all boys who will be participating in the recognition service.

J. I. Bishop, our Southwide Royal Ambassador secretary, will be here to speak at the Fellowship Supper and to take charge of the recognition service. We have many boys in Arkansas who have worked hard and advanced in rank the past year. Surely we should have a good number of these boys present for a great time of inspiration and fellowship. Counselors, make plans now to bring a group of your boys to this meeting.

You may use the blank below to send the names of those who wish to attend the fellowship supper. Give rank of boys who wish to participate in the recognition service.

NAME	ADDRESS	TO BE RECOGNIZED AS (RANK)
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____

Enclosed is \$_____ for tickets for _____ (number) who wish to attend Fellowship Supper (75c each).

Good News About State Mission Offering

We are happy to report that a total of \$4,485.13 has been received for the Dixie Jackson Offering for State Missions as of October 8. This amount is over \$1,200 more than was received on the same date last year. This is good news. We would urge every organization to make an earnest effort to secure a gift from every member and from every resident woman member of your church so that each may have a share in the great mission program of our state. We suggest that this offering be completed during October and November in order not to conflict with the Season of Prayer and offering for foreign missions in December. Glean carefully for the very best offering your organization has ever made and remit by check or money order to the State WMU treasurer at above address.

District WMU Conferences

The eight district WMU conferences are scheduled for October 21 through November 4. Miss Irene Chambers, field representative of the Home Mission Board and former WMU field worker in Arkansas, will be the speaker for each meeting, and the two state secretaries and state chairmen will conduct two conferences in each district. There will be helpful information for every WMU officer and chairman. Don't let anything prevent your attendance. The following meetings are scheduled for next week:

Northwest District — Springdale, October 21.

West Central District—Clarksville, October 22.

Southwest District—Arkadelphia, October 23.

Southeast District—Fordyce, October 24.

ORGANS GIVEN TO CHILEAN BAPTISTS

MEMPHIS, TENN., — (BP) — Twenty-four old-fashioned parlor organs, gathered from homes in the South, have been shipped by First Baptist Church here as gifts to Baptist congregations in Chile.

Dr. R. Paul Caudill, pastor of the local church, said that the organs will be reconditioned at Temuco, Chile, by a Swiss organ maker and then distributed to the Baptist churches. The crated organs weighed 10,000 pounds, and shipping cost was \$1600.

The shipment is a result of Dr. Caudill's visit to South American mission fields last year, when he found many congregations without musical instruments. He found the First Baptist Church of Santiago using a street type organ. It will be many years, he predicted, before the churches can afford modern organs or pianos.

When he returned from South America he told the story of his discovery to his own congregation here. Later he visited the First Baptist Church of Sanford, N. C., and repeated the story. The North Carolina church purchased eight of the old-style organs and shipped them to Memphis. At Myrtle, Miss., the Rev. Percy Ray heard of the movement and rounded up three instruments, loaded them on a truck, and brought them to Memphis. The remainder of the 24 organs were secured by the local church.

The church recently has sent \$1,200 to aid ministerial education in Argentina, Columbia, and Chile. All this and the organs, Dr. Caudill said, is in addition to the regular church contributions to the Cooperative Program.

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THE PASTOR'S MANUAL

James R. Hobbs \$1.00

A pastor with years of experience presents vital information about articles of faith, covenant, organization, officers, business session, deacons' meeting, public worship, reception of members, discipline, councils, baptism, the Lord's Supper, laying of cornerstones, dedication, weddings, funeral services, etc. 287 pages.



PASTOR'S RECORD OF FUNERALS

Jerome O. Williams \$1.00

Adequate, dignified, sturdy, and beautiful, this little book provides space for complete records of 132 funerals and data connected with this important ministry. Alphabetical index.

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Jerome O. Williams \$1.25

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Church Music Director



829 People, 28 Churches Enrolled During Church Development Week

During the week of September 21-26 a successful Church Development Week was conducted for all of the churches of Pulaski County at First Church, Little Rock. The central training school was begun with a rally at First Church on Sunday afternoon, September 27, with Dr. T. L. Holcomb as the principal speaker.

For five nights during that week 34 study courses were offered to the large number of people who attended. Mr. Earl Mead, minister of education of Cliff Temple Church, Dallas, Tex., was the inspirational speaker each night.

During the week there were 829 enrolled in the classes and the average attendance was 600. Twenty-eight churches were represented.

Important Information

The 1948 Intermediate Sword Drill tracts and Speakers Tournament tracts are now on hand. Please write to your state Training Union director for as many copies of these tracts as you need, immediately. Contact your associational Training Union director and urge him to set a date for your associational elimination Tournament which should be not later than March 1, 1948.

The state Tournament will be held at the State Training Union Convention March 19-20, 1948, at Immanuel Church, Ft. Smith. The Southwide Tournament will be held at Ridgecrest during First Training Union week, July 8-14, 1948.

November 10 is the date for the state planning meeting for all associational Training Union officers at Baring Cross Church, North Little Rock. The expense of one car from each association will be cared for on the basis of three cents per mile both ways. If any association wants to bring two cars of people they can share in this three cents mileage.

During the week of December 8-12, eight teams will go into 40 associations for associational Training Union rallies. Information will be sent out soon concerning the date for each associational meeting that week.

The State Training Union Con-

vention meets with Immanuel Church, Ft. Smith, March 19-20, 1948.

Attention! Associational Sunday School Officers

Due to rapidly rising costs, the promotional funds of the Sunday School Board have been necessarily reduced. It has become necessary for the Board to change its offer regarding the payment of car expense for associational officers to attend the annual State Convention.

Instead of paying for two cars filled with associational officers at the rate of three cents per mile to Little Rock and return, the Board will pay for one car filled with associational officers, at the rate of three cents per mile to Little Rock and return. The only change is that the Board will pay for one car instead of two at the rate of three cents per mile to Little Rock and return.

Keep this in mind: Three cents per mile for one car will pay for the gasoline for two cars getting 15 miles or more to the gallon at 25 cents per gallon. Why not bring the two cars and share the three cent mileage for one car?

Conference Leaders For State Sunday School Convention

The following workers from our Sunday School Board will lead Department Conferences during our State Sunday School Convention at First Church, Little Rock, October 20-21:

Administration—J. N. Barnette; Extension—Mrs. W. S. McGraw; Music—Mrs. B. W. Nininger; Adult—Herman L. King; Young People—Phillip Harris; Intermediates—Mrs. W. O. Benson; Junior—Mrs. Lillian Moore Rice; Primary—Miss Allene Bryan; Beginner—Miss Pauline Hargis; Nursery—Mrs. Edgar Williamson; Cradle Roll—Miss Willie Merle O'Neil; and Vacation Bible School—Homer L. Grice.

Thanksgiving Hymns

Try these beautiful hymns for the Sundays preceding and follow-

- ing Thanksgiving Day:
- Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart—Messer
- For the Beauty of the Earth—Kocher
- O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing—Mason
- Come, ye Thankful People, Come—Elvey.

These fine songs all appear in The Broadman Hymnal and will vary the service of praise for any day, especially at the season of Thanksgiving.

If "Thou Crownest the Year" by Maker, a fine Thanksgiving anthem, is not in your choir library, order it soon and begin to sing it.

Required Selections for Youth Choir Festival

- January, 30, 1948, Ouachita College
- Lo, My Shepherd's Hand Divine, Haydn, E. C. Schirmer 1019.
- While By Our Sleeping Flock We Lay, 17th Century Melody arranged by Hugo Jungst, E. C. Schirmer 989.
- Fanfare For Christmas Day, Martin Shaw, G. Schirmer 8745.
- Praise The Name Of The Lord, P. Ivanoff, J. Fischer 4125.
- Bless The Lord, O My Soul, Ippolitof-Ivanoff, Boston Music Co. 106.
- Battle Hymn Of The Republic, arranged by Ringwald, Shawnee Press, 1697 Broadway, New York, Waring Mixed Chorus Series.

All this music is arranged for Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass and may be ordered from the Baptist Book Store, Little Rock. In addition to these numbers, each choir will sing one number of its own choice for adjudication. This selection may be two, three, or four-part arrangement, according to the voice balance in your group. There will also be one number for sight-reading, the name of which will not be made known.

Members in the Youth Choir should be between the ages of 13 and 20. Register your choir with Mrs. B. W. Nininger, 203 Radio Center, Little Rock.

WHEN IN DALLAS
Worship with Ross Avenue Baptist Church
Ross and Moser
HOMER B. REYNOLDS, Pastor

Figures To Inspire

October 5, 1947

Church	S.S.	T.U.	Add.
Fort Smith, First	1146	393	6
Little Rock, Immanuel	1001	316	5
Including Missions	1372	590	6
El Dorado, First	845	210	6
Pine Bluff, First	753	210	4
Including Missions	821	263	
Fayetteville, First	701	194	17
Including Missions	736		
North Little Rock,			
Baring Cross	693	270	10
Including Missions	726	293	
McGehee, First	687	210	41
Fort Smith, Immanuel	646	152	41
North Little Rock,			
First	585	119	7
Benton, First	554	124	7
Including Missions	612		
Hot Springs, Second	547	183	13
Including Missions	600	217	15
Camden, First	537	174	
West Memphis, First	531	260	1
Arkadelphia, First	521	237	5
Little Rock, Tabernacle	467	85	
Hot Springs, Park			
Place	434	162	1
Pine Bluff, Immanuel	415	177	
Paris, First	387	171	1
Little Rock, Gaines			
Street	382	250	5
Hot Springs, Central	380	106	1
Fordyce, First	376	138	
Searcy, First	354	105	
Rogers, First	352	109	3
Springdale, First	350	211	3
Including Missions	500		
Malvern, First	350	87	
Hamburg, First	348	193	1
Stuttgart, First	339	172	
Including Missions	389		
Bauxite, First	336	139	
Fort Smith, Calvary	331	81	1
Hot Springs, First	322	70	2
Conway, First	321	70	
Fort Smith, Grand			
Avenue	304	112	6
Siloam Springs, First	303	162	4
Stamps, First	271	114	
Little Rock, South			
Highland	266	100	7
Gentry, First	255	100	
Mena, First	255	91	2
Including Missions	310	137	
Monticello, First	245	131	1
Norphet, First	225	133	1
Greenwood, First	217	86	2
North Little Rock,			
Central	206	92	
Texarkana, Calvary	194		5
Fort Smith, Bailey			
Hill	192	90	
Fort Smith, Oak Grove	183	76	
Pine Bluff, Matthews			
Memorial	155	78	
North Little Rock, Pike			
Avenue	148	64	1
Monticello, Second	130	120	8
North Little Rock,			
Grace	111	29	1
Tuckerman, First	94	37	
Warren, Immanuel	90	57	
South Fort Smith,			
First	88	35	
Van Buren, Oak Grove	83	59	
Monticello, North Side	79	50	
Texarkana, Trinity	76	42	
Fort Smith, Bethlehem	65	15	

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Like Sampson, Southern Baptists will be forgetting the source of their strength if the rural churches are forgotten. For the sake of those without Christ, for the sake of rural society, for the sake of the world, Southern Baptist rural churches must become lighthouses in the years ahead.—Porter Routh in The Teacher.

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THESE CHURCHES REPORT TITHERS

Church News Writing—

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE EIGHT)

Association	Church	Pastor	Tithers
Arkansas Valley	Barton	J. B. Measel	52
Arkansas Valley	Beck's Chapel	J. J. Franklin	9
Arkansas Valley	Helena, First	Ralph Douglas	122
Bartholomew	Crossett, First	Wilford Lee	200
Bartholomew	Hamburg, First	Stanley Jordan	245
Bartholomew	Monticello, Second	Wesley A. Lindsey	108
Benton	Rogers, First	Rel Gray	300
Big Creek	Mammoth Spring	Alphus Capps	32
Black River	Tuckerman, First	Ray Rhyne	25
Boone-Carroll	Blue Eye, First	E. Allen Bressler	6
Caddo River	Concord	J. P. Emery	11
Caddo River	Oden		30
Caddo River	Refuge	J. P. Emery	15
Carey	Bearden, First	H. S. Coleman	49
Carey	Dalark	Claude Stewart	7
Carey	Fordyce, First	J. T. Elliff	251
Carey	New Hope	Roy Hilton	30
Caroline	Carlisle, First	Guy D. Magee	115
Caroline	Des Arc, First	Ernest Baker	23
Caroline	New Hope	W. M. Pratt	10
Centennial	DeWitt, First	Douglas M. White	144
Centennial	Eastside Mission	James W. Johnson	24
Centennial	Stuttgart, First	Ralph D. Dodd	203
Central	Benton, First	Virgil A. Rose	240
Central	Hot Springs, First	John L. Dodge	161
Central	Hot Springs, Second	O. L. Bayless	338
Clear Creek	Ozone	F. B. Painton	19
Clear Creek	Van Buren, First	T. H. Jordan	101
Concord	Charleston	A. L. Hart	20
Concord	Fort Smith, First	B. V. Ferguson	440
Concord	Greenwood	George H. Hink	80
Concord	Oak Grove	P. J. Crowder	56
Concord	Paris, First	H. C. Seefeldt	207
Current River	Moark	David C. Applegate	12
Dardanelle-Russellville	Atkins	Cecil Archer	52
Dardanelle-Russellville	Baker's Creek	Claude Stewart	5
Delta	Daniel's Chapel	J. Fred Wesner	10
Delta	Parkdale	Claud Hughes	40
Faulkner County	Beryl	P. E. Turner	40
Faulkner County	Brumley's Chapel		17
Faulkner County	Conway, Second	Hugh Owen	43
Faulkner County	Pleasant Grove	P. E. Turner	15
Gainesville	Mt. Hebron	W. H. Horn	21
Harmony	Harmony	Clyde Cutrell	42
Harmony	Matthews Memorial	L. G. Whitehorn	50
Harmony	Oak Grove	R. D. Hughes	49
Harmony	Pine Bluff, Immanuel	Paul Fox	130
Harmony	Pine Bluff, Second	D. C. McAtee	86
Harmony	Plainview	G. E. Nethercutt	56
Harmony	Star City, First	Luther F. Dorsey	72
Hope	Texarkana, Beech Street	Bruce H. Price	280
Independence	Desha	Hal Gallop	11
Liberty	Camden, First	T. L. Harris	226
Liberty	Elliott	Garland Anderson	51
Liberty	Galilee	Grant Pickens	57
Liberty	Junction City	J. P. Burgess	47
Liberty	Louann	G. Paul Starnes	28
Liberty	Parkview	H. B. Marks	30
Liberty	Strong, First	R. O. Ekrut	91
Liberty	Village	John E. Hargett	27
Little River	Mineral Springs, Central	J. E. Harris	23
Little River	New Home	Norvin Jones	6
Mississippi County	Blytheville, First	E. C. Brown	386
Mississippi County	Manila, First	C. J. Rushing	13
Mississippi County	New Liberty	L. G. Miller	68
Mississippi County	New Providence	R. F. Liddell	50
Mississippi County	Number Nine	Howard H. King	36
Mississippi County	Whitton	H. M. Robertson	15
Mississippi County	Woodland Corner	Arnold Clayton	31
Mt. Zion	Brookland	S. J. Meador	21
Mt. Zion	Caraway	R. W. Johnson	22
Newton County	Boxley		10
Newton County	Deer		12
Newton County	Jasper		6
Newton County	Moore		6
Newton County	Parthenon		10
Ouachita	Cove	Joe C. Hall	27
Pulaski County	Baptist Tabernacle	L. H. Roseman	182
Pulaski County	Bellevue	J. E. Poindexter	9
Pulaski County	Geyer Springs, First	E. D. Estes	16
Pulaski County	Grace	E. S. Ray	25

To enable any newspaper to handle the large volume of items which are newsworthy, the news sources can use to advantage the five W's of news writing and get their copy into the editor's office as early as possible. It is desirable to have the items written on a typewriter and the lines double spaced.

Items may be mailed to the newspaper, but it is worth the extra effort and saves valuable time to deliver them to the office. Always put your name and telephone number on the copy. It might be necessary to contact you for additional facts, or verify names or places.

Many items are transmitted by telephone today. The same rules apply in giving information over the telephone and your familiarity with the five W's will prove advantageous in presenting news over the telephone.

If you are inclined to discount the importance of the time element in the transmission of news, consider the speed with which world news gets into your daily paper. Should we expect an editor to use something of minor importance that happened last week when he has important events from all over the world at his fingertips?

Who Should Write?

Who should be responsible for getting church news into the hands of the editors?

The presidents and the secretaries of classes in the church

school, the officers in the women's organizations, the men's organizations, and the pastors, too, should ever be on the alert for news items. They should send the items direct to the newspaper offices. To delegate this work to other persons may mean delay, inaccuracies, and possibly neglect to the point where the information fails to reach the newspaper office until it has become stale news.

Every church should have a committee to work diligently to keep all leaders on the alert to the opportunities to use this long-overlooked talent. But, the casual selection of reporters seldom is enough, unless they can be given special training. Presidents, secretaries, and committee chairman need to be so keenly interested in their church work that they will use every opportunity to get newsworthy information into the hands of editors.

Diligent effort in this direction will pay dividends for the church, for the newspaper, and for the whole community.

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A church member says of prayer meeting: "The mid-week prayer service is not only one of the spiritual powerhouses of the church program, but it presents to each church member his chance to exercise the prerogative which is his as a member of a democratic body—to have a voice in the work of the church. If a church member is not well informed, it usually means he has not been attending the mid-week service."

Association	Church	Pastor	Tithers
Pulaski County	Hebron	W. Dawson King	66
Pulaski County	Little Rock, First	R. C. Campbell	641
Pulaski County	Little Rock, Gaines Street	C. E. Lawrence	534
Pulaski County	Little Rock, Immanuel	W. O. Vanght, Jr.	1265
Pulaski County	Little Rock, Second	M. Ray McKay	350
Pulaski County	North Little Rock, Baring Cross	H. A. Elledge	255
Pulaski County	North Little Rock, First	O. W. Moran	376
Pulaski County	North Little Rock, Park Hill	Taylor Stanfill	60
Pulaski County	North Little Rock, Pike Avenue	Raymond Strickland	130
Red River	Arkadelphia, First	J. G. Cothran	339
Red River	Beirne	Marvin Gennings	26
Red River	Fair View	Graham Fowler	21
Stone - Van Buren - Searcy Counties	Mountain View, First	Gus Poole	37
Tri-County	Barton Chapel	J. H. Griffin	33
Tri-County	Crawfordsville, First	Ray Y. Langley	20
Tri-County	Forrest City, First	Minor E. Cole	450
Tri-County	Riverside	W. M. Thompson	12
Tri-County	West Memphis, First	Aubrey Halsell	408
Trinity	Marked Tree, First	W. F. Carlton	55
Trinity	Weiner	C. F. Barnett	30
Washington-Madison	Lincoln	A. J. Scott	38
Washington-Madison	Prairie Grove	John B. Stephen	16
White County	Crosby	H. M. Dugger	20
White County	Rescue	Sidney W. Holcomb	14
White County	Westpoint	L. B. Edwards	35
White River	Blooming Grove		2
White River	Bruno		5
White River	Mountain Home	D. W. Stark	110
White River	Rea Ridge Mission		6
Woodruff	Cotton Plant	R. H. Dorris	50
Woodruff	Pleasant Grove	J. M. Hitt	20

Newton County Baptists Will Double Membership in Year

Newton County Baptists are making history. Missionary Ottis Denney reports 54 professions of faith for September. Before he began his work there in June those 100 Baptists, in the five little churches, had set a goal "to double the membership during the associational year." From the reports which have been coming from there the last few months, they will do it, too.

Next Sunday, October 12, they begin simultaneous revivals in all the churches and about a dozen houses. Brother Denney has secured the services of pastors over the state to give one week in conducting a revival in his association. Pray for these meetings. The day the revivals close, October 19, moving pictures will be made of many of the services. Later on you may see these services as some state worker comes to show them in your church.

Now, here is a record which cannot be excelled in the state. A layman in Deer Church, Newton County, has written your mission superintendent that the members are 100 per cent in signing to tithe. They are looking for a pastor, too.

Yes sir, Newton County Baptists are on the march. Simultaneous Sunday School campaigns will be launched in December. Then stewardship meetings will be held in January. Thank God for Ottis Denney and the faithful Baptists of Newton County.

State Mission Day

October 26 is State Mission Day in the Sunday Schools. The places mentioned in the following paragraphs should be remembered on that day. Be sure to present the missionary needs in your Sunday School and make an offering to this worthy work. Envelopes will be furnished on request. Your offerings will go to the destitute areas of Arkansas.

Other Needy Fields

There are other sections of Arkansas which need the prayers and interest of all Baptists in the state. There is Sharp County for instance. The Baptists are weak in numbers. Those who are there are true blue. But there is not a

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MISSIONS

C. W. Caldwell, Supt.

resident Baptist pastor in the county.

The same is true of Perry County. And in the latter the majority of the churches are pastorless and there is no missionary to help them in any way. Some aid ought to go to Perry County for they are worthy. Some of the finest laymen of the state are there, but they need some pastors.

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"You see this Bible?" said the chief man of a heathen village to a missionary. "A few months ago men trembled before me; boys ran to hide when they saw me; no one dared to stand before me. Today my arm is broken, my heart is wax; I am a little lamb; the children look on me in wonder. This book has done it all."

Preaching . . . On the Home

By JOE W. BURTON
Editor, Home Life

Not long since I was in an open-air summer time revival. Thursday night of the second week had come before the meeting broke. Then God's spirit came into the people's hearts in a wonderful way. Backslidden Christians were mellowed and repentant. Lost sinners confessed Christ as Saviour. Many came forward to the altar.

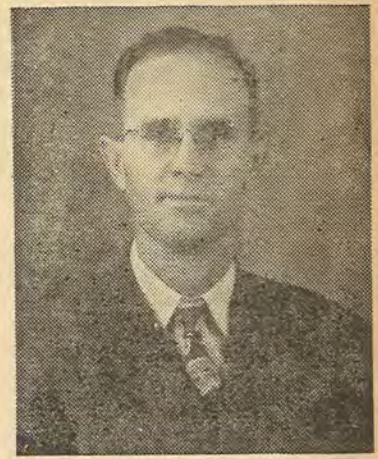
Now that great service of the revival was on Family Night. The service which made a revival of what could have been just another meeting was one in which people were brought closer to God through the ties of home.

This joyful experience leads to two comments.

First, revival preaching can well focus on Christian home life. Warm evangelistic messages can be given an added heart tug by an occasional revival sermon aimed at cultivating Christian home ties. Such a home service may be the making of a great revival.

Second, the pastor's Sunday by Sunday pulpit ministry can include a similar emphasis. Such preaching on the home will meet the needs of the people where they live.

Leaves State



Pastor Paul Aiken, First Church, Warren, resigns after three and one-half years to accept the pastorate of Kirkwood Church, Atlanta, Ga. Under his leadership the Warren Church has added more than 300 members. Total contributions have amounted to approximately \$125,000. The church has tripled its gifts to the Cooperative Program and \$56,000 has been added to the building fund.

Pastor Aiken says in leaving: "The fellowship of this church is a thing of beauty and a joy forever. This is indeed one of the truly great churches in the state of Arkansas."

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If God Is Eternally Love . . .

The Tithe Is Eternally God's

By L. M. KEELING
First Church, Judsonia

"And here men that die receive tithes; but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth" (Hebrews 7:8).

The reference here is to the payment of tithes by Abraham to Melchizedek, who is identified as "King of Salem . . . and priest of the most high God." It is said that he was "without father and mother," meaning that his genealogy was unknown, even as the genealogy of Christ cannot be traced to His origin by human parentage.

A further reference "having neither beginning of days nor end of life" means that history does not record the beginning or the end of his kingship and priesthood. In this respect also the kingship and the priesthood of Christ is comparable to that of Melchizedek.

Melchizedek and Christ

The Aaronic priesthood filled in the interlude between Melchizedek and Christ; it was parenthetical and temporary. Through Abraham, the spiritual race father of all believers in Christ, the Aaronic priests potentially paid tithes to Melchizedek.

Since "he who had no Levitical genealogy actually tithed Abraham" (Moffatt), it stands to reason that Christ would "actually tithe" all believers. For His priesthood is superior to the priesthood of both Melchizedek and Aaron. This superiority is inherent in His personal character and in the eternal efficacy of His ministry.

Four hundred years before the tithe was written into the law of Moses, Abraham paid tithes to one whose priesthood is continued in Christ. If "here men that die (the Levitical priesthood) receive tithes," under the reign of law, is it not all the more imperative that "there one . . . that liveth," the "priest after order of Melchizedek" should receive tithes of all believers under the reign of grace?

There are certain inescapable conclusions drawn from the teachings of the Scriptures on tithing.

The same Bible which says, "God is love," also says, "The tithe is the Lord's." If God is eternally love, then by the same reasoning, the tithe is eternally the Lord's.

The Tithe Is Minimum

Throughout the Bible, when reference is made to man's material obligations to God, the tithe is basic minimum; in fact, no other percentage is mentioned anywhere in the Scriptures. The only departure from the tithe as meeting man's full material obligations to God is the invitation to bring voluntary offerings above the tithe.

Referring to the practice of tithing, Jesus said, "This ye ought to have done." If the Scriptures had said nothing more about the tithe except to report that Jesus commended it, that should be sufficient ground for the practice of tithing as the minimum which we should give of our material possessions to God.

If under law, the Jews were required to give the tithe to God, Christians, under grace, should not think of doing less. Some one has said for one to do less, "He is not under grace, but under disgrace." The additional revelation, privilege, and responsibility which belongs to Christians, instead of weakening the requirement and

lessening the appeal for the tithe, should strengthen both the requirement and the appeal in the Christian consciousness.

One writer says: "From the days of Adam and Abraham God has taught men that one-seventh of time and one-tenth of property are sacred against selfish uses. We may give more of both, but that much is not ours to keep. It is God's part as our partner, not taken for Himself, ultimately, but for ourselves really, our nobler selves, and for the use of the brotherhood. Liberty under the gospel does not mean liberty for the Christian to give less than the Jews gave under law. How easy is giving when it is not a new struggle every time, but only a draft on the Lord's money."

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Southern Baptists Plan Separate Drive

The Relief Committee of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has changed the name of its relief depot at New Orleans to Southern Baptist Relief Center and will devote the center's facilities to channeling relief from Southern Baptists to co-religionists in Europe and Asia.

The New Orleans depot heretofore has operated as a part of

Church World Service, interdenominational relief agency, but has been promoted basically by the Southern Baptist Relief Committee.

Cause of the change was attributed to observation at various points in Italy. Dr. Duke K. McCall, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, had publicly observed that relief channeled through general agencies was not reaching Baptists to any appreciable degree.

The Baptist relief committee declared in a statement it "will continue to appropriate funds for the ministry of Church World Service to needy people beyond the reach of our churches, and will not discourage the sending of gifts of used clothing through the Church World Service centers at New Windsor, Md.; Webster Groves, Mo.; Modesto, Calif., and elsewhere.

"But the need of a center for processing such clothing for Baptist groups who have been neglected by the other relief agencies in Europe prompted the action of the committee," the statement added.

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Children brought up in Sunday School are seldom brought up in court.

* * *

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Faith in God Gives Strength, Hope, and Joy for Daily Living

By R. PAUL CAUDILL

Beginning with the Patriarchs and coming down to the martyrs, we have in chapter 11 of the epistle to the Hebrews a graphic portrayal of the achievements of faith in the annals of ancient Israel.

The author has already set forth the necessity of faith as a basis for a righteous life. He now illustrates the creative power of faith by showing how "the fathers of the race were able to work righteousness and to endure their trials."

The Character of Faith

The chapter opens with a statement as to the character of faith, or rather a definition of faith: "Now faith is assurance of things hoped for, a conviction of things not seen."

The word rendered "assurance" seems to convey the idea of "a giving substance (or reality) to," or "a guaranteeing" (Alexander Souter). Possibly in the sense of "title-deed." The idea is that faith is that something which brings to the individual "assurance or certainty of things still in the future" (Dummelow).

The word rendered "faith" signifies "the leaning of the entire human personality upon God or the Messiah in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom and goodness" (Souter).

The word rendered "conviction" means, literally, "a truth" possibly with the idea of a persuasion. In other words, it is a sort of testing that results in conviction.

Unbelief is the fundamental sin of humanity. If men had faith enough in the promises of God, they would never be distracted by material needs. They would rely upon the words of Him who said, "But seek ye first his kingdom, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matt. 6:33). In their hours of woeful need, they would rely more and more upon the promise, "and my God shall supply every need of yours according to his

Sunday School Lesson For October 19

Hebrews 11:1-10, 39-40; 12:1-2

riches in glory in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:19).

It is "through faith" that salvation comes (Eph. 2:8). It is "by faith" that we have justification and therefore "peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Rom. 5:1).

Faith's Triumphs

In order to illustrate the achievements of faith the writer turns back through the annals of Israel to the faithful men of God under the old dispensation. In the roll call of the heroes he mentions first the name of Abel and declares that his was "a more excellent sacrifice" unto God than that of Cain, but he does not elaborate on the character of that excellency. Some have suggested that the excellency lay in the fact that Abel had a "fuller consciousness of the claim of God to the best."

The reference "yet speaketh" perhaps harks back to Genesis 4:10 where Abel's blood is represented as crying from the ground after his death (Dummelow). Through faith even the power of death was overcome—a sustaining and comforting thought for those who walk in the valley of the shadow of death.

Enoch, as the reward of his faith, experienced translation: "by faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and he was not found, because God translated him: for he hath had witness borne to him that before his translation he had been well-pleasing unto God" (Heb. 11:5).

Likewise in Noah, faith triumphs: "By faith Noah, being warned of God concerning things not seen as yet, moved with godly

fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; through which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith" (Heb. 11:7). The faith of Noah had as its foundation a direct revelation of things not seen as yet."

By faith Abraham realized the promises and demonstrated to the world the meaning of obedience to the call of God: "By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed to go out unto a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing whether he went" (Heb. 11:8)

Because of his life of faith, Abraham became the "father of the faithful" and spent his life as a sojourner, dwelling in tents, waiting patiently for the fulfillment of the promises that had come to him by God. He looked constantly for the realization of the ideal which by faith had become to him already a reality.

Besetting Sins

In the opening verses of chapter 12 (Hebrews) the writer sets forth a grave warning. "Therefore let us also, seeing we are composed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us . . ."

Jesus is our perfect example. There is no fault in Him. He is both "the author" and "the perfecter" of our faith. The word rendered "looking unto" carries the idea of looking away from (something else) to. We must never lose sight of the fact that the great cloud of "witnesses" who have triumphed before us are round about us. The testimony of their victories is ever ringing in our hearts. The demonstration of their triumphs is ever before us.

Therefore, our obligation is all the greater to lay aside "every weight" and the "easily encircling" sin. We cannot run the race victoriously without having our lives rid of the incumbency of sin, for the wages of sin is death, defeat, and the end to every high and holy purpose in life.

Methodists Propose Home Building Plan

By Religious News Service

A five-point program by which Methodism may help overcome the rising divorce rate and give youths and adults the true conception of the ideal Christian home was presented at Springfield, Mass., at the seventh Methodist Ecumenical Conference.

Provision of marriage clinics and greater use of "Christian movies" were suggested by the committee making the report.

Terming "unadulterated selfishness" the primary cause of divorce, the report offered five possible solutions for meeting the present situation which is "undermining the Christian home."

"1. Supplant the pagan ideal of the home by encouraging the production of motion pictures which reveal the true Christian home. We should cooperate with Mr. J. Arthur Rank of London in his worthy project of making Christian movies.

"2. Train our children early in life as to the basic religious instruction and also as to ideals of a Christian home.

"3. Establish marriage clinics to guide youth in the course of happy marriages. This should begin in the high school years with special emphasis and instruction in our churches.

"4. Adults should teach the purpose of marriage to youth by being the kind of Christians whose example could profitably be followed. Christian parents can also help by inviting into their homes youths who have not known the atmosphere of a Christian home.

—000—

The greatness of a church is not in how many members it has, but in how many missions it has.—Duke McCall, at Ridgecrest.

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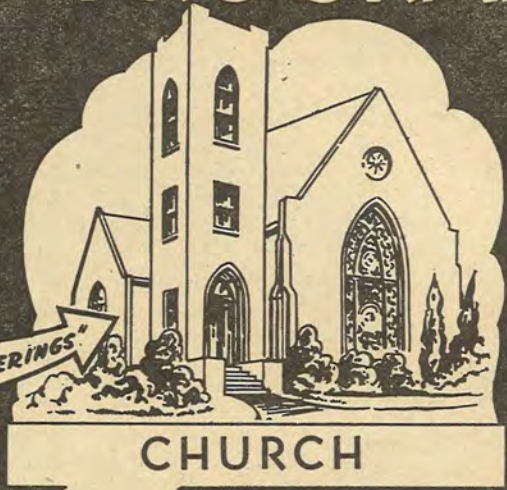
B. L. Bridges, General Secretary, 200 Radio Center, Little Rock, Ark.

COOPERATIVE PROGRAM



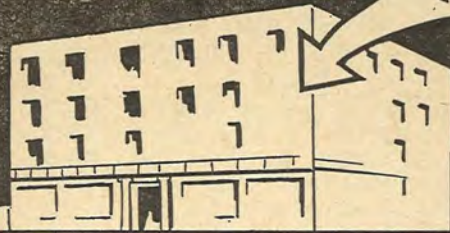
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

"TITHES and OFFERINGS"



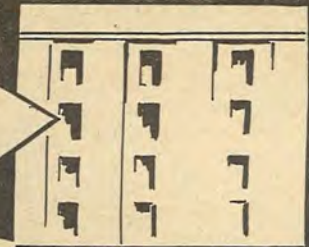
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STATE HEADQUARTERS

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