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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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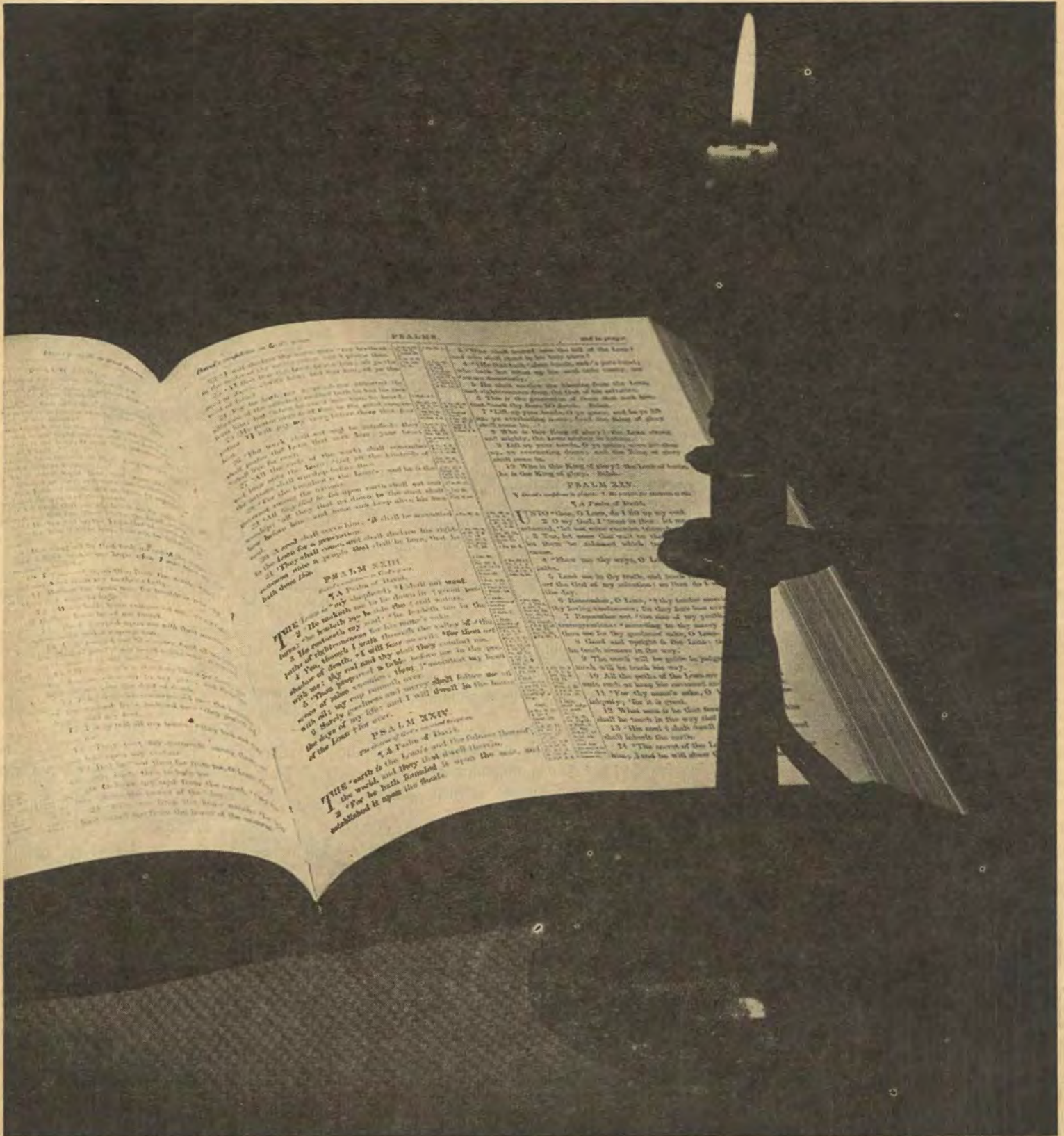
ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 47

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, JANUARY 8, 1948

NUMBER 2



"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

Let Us Amend It or Kill It

By L. E. BARTON

Senate Bill 472, sponsored by Senator Taft and seven other senators, has been recommended for passage by a committee of Congress.

The purpose of this bill is to aid public schools throughout the nation. But it also provides that where states have a law permitting the use of public money for sectarian purposes, tax money may be appropriated under this bill for parochial schools on a percentage basis in proportion to attendance, the same as for public schools.

This is, in my judgment, the most iniquitous and damnable bill ever considered seriously by our Congress pertaining to religious freedom and the inalienable rights of the spirits of a free people. I use strong language intentionally about this pernicious legislation to see if I can wake up our people before it shall be too late.

The Money Source Controls

It may be all right for the federal government to aid the public schools, although many thoughtful people fear that precedent, because there is a principle as old as human society that those who furnish money in large quantities for enterprises in the end will control those enterprises.

This bill provides that the money shall be controlled and administered by the states, but bureaus and committees and commissions can lay down conditions that may nullify the letter of the law.

The thing, however, argued here is that the bill should be amended so as to cut out appropriations for sectarian purposes or be killed. One is surprised that this amazing, monstrous un-American, unconstitutional bill has not aroused the people to the point of indignation.

The people who are pressing this bill with its provision for parochial schools are after a state church in this country, and the Supreme Court went the first mile in that direction in an alarming decision in a New Jersey bus case wherein they said it is constitutional to pay with public money bus fare of children who go to parochial schools. Any thoughtful person who reads the first amendment (to the Constitution) knows that the language plainly prohibits any measure which tends to "an establishment of religion or (and) prohibits the free exercise thereof," and paying bus fare does that.

Will Destroy Public Schools

Senate Bill 472 will, if adopted in its present form, turn many millions of dollars into parochial schools; which will not only blot out the distinction between church and state, but will in time destroy the public school system. This same vicious favoritism has practically destroyed the public schools in Ontario. School teachers and administrators are falling hard for this legislation.

Talk about permitting this in states which have approved the violation of religious freedom by appropriating tax money for sectarian purposes, and try to justify it on the plea of state rights! What about the 14th amendment and state rights? Why may not any state take its own money and circulate it as legal tender?

This government was founded on the principle of freedom of body, mind and soul. This bill in its present form is a betrayal of the principle sacred to those who died to make us free. If you love your religious free-

dom, your church, and your public schools you had better get busy with your senators and house members with some plain talk. The house is on fire and will soon collapse if you remain asleep. Then, you will pull out of your stupor and surmise: "What fools we mortals be!"

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Bible Society Gets Its Largest Budget

By Religious News Service

The American Bible Society will operate next year on \$2,981,645, the largest budget in the 131-year history of the organization, according to action taken by the society's advisory committee at its two-day annual meeting in New York.

Of the record-breaking total, \$1,200,000 will be devoted to world emergency work arising out of World War II, while \$1,781,645 will be used for the regular ongoing activity of the society in the United States and 40 other countries.

The Bible Society plans to ship thousands of Scriptures to Russia. The Philippines will receive 78,000 Bibles in eight dialects and 36,000 Testaments in four dialects. Thirty tons of paper each have been allocated to Hungary and India with 25 tons to Indonesia, to publish Bibles and Testaments.

The Bible Society's program for Japan calls for the distribution of 125,000 Bibles, 600,000 Testaments and 1,000,000 Gospels. By arrangement with the Toyohawa Printing Company at Nagoya, the plant will be given 300 tons of paper and large quantities of cloth, thread, board and glue in order to publish these Scriptures in Japan.

Other allocations planned by the Bible Society in 1948 include the following:

Bulgaria—130,000 Bibles, 130,000 Testaments, 690,000 Gospels.

Czechoslovakia—10,000 Bibles, 10,000 Testaments, 25,000 Gospels.

France—10,000 Bibles, 50,000 Testaments, 50,000 Gospels.

Greece—150,000 modern Greek Testaments and 50,000 ancient Greek Testaments, plus 20 tons of paper for 100,000 ancient Greek Testaments.

Germany—700,000 Bibles, 1,155,000 Testaments, 20,000 Greek New Testaments.

Korea—250,000 Bibles, 200,000 Testaments.

Romania—10,000 Bibles, 10,000 Testaments, 10,000 Gospels.

Serbia and Yugoslavia—10,000 Bibles, 25,000 Testaments, 100,000 Gospels.

Ukraine—10,000 Bibles.

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Gifts Triple Due To Tithe

PICKENS, S. C.—(BP)—Gifts to the Cooperative Program from the First Baptist Church here have more than tripled since October 5 when the church entered the Southwide tithing campaign.

Pastor E. R. Fuller said that the church voted to give 50 per cent of the increased gifts during the three months "prove me" period to the Cooperative Program, and in confidence that the members will continue to tithe indefinitely. The 1948 church budget includes a 33 per cent increase in Cooperative Program gifts.

The Delays of Love

A Devotion by the Editor

"He abode two days still in the same place where he was."

One of the most beautiful and intimate relationships of the life of Jesus was with His friends of Bethany — Martha, Mary, and Lazarus. In this home Jesus found companionship and understanding. He found that which rested Him from the strain of His contacts with the curious and selfish populace. This home was a haven to Jesus.

Evidently, Jesus enjoyed Martha's cooking — she was a domestic person. He must have appreciated Mary's quick spiritual perception — she was a deeply religious person. Surely He admired the manly courage of Lazarus — he must have been a dependable person.

Because of this intimate relationship, the sisters notified Jesus of the critical illness of Lazarus, their brother. But Jesus delayed His coming for two days. In the meantime Lazarus died. "Lord, if thou hadst been here my brother had not died," was the plaintive cry of the sisters.

The story is told of a fishing fleet which had gone out from a small harbor on the east coast of Newfoundland. In the afternoon a great storm arose, and when night came not a single vessel had found its way into port. All night long the wives and mothers and children paced up and down the beach wringing their hands and calling upon God to save their loved ones.

To add to the horror of the occasion, toward morning one of the cottages was found to be on fire. As all the men were away, it was impossible to save the building. To the joy of all, when morning broke, the entire fleet was found safely anchored in the bay. But the wife of the man whose home had burned, meeting her husband, exclaimed, "Oh, husband, we are ruined, our home and all it contained was destroyed by fire." To which he replied, "My dear, thank God for the fire; it was by the light of our burning cottage that the whole fleet found its way into port."

It may sometimes be necessary for God to burn a cottage of ours that others may find their way to Jesus.

"This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby" (John 11:4).

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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B. H. DUNCAN EDITOR
IONE GRAY EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

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Across the Editor's Desk

UNIVERSAL MILITARY TRAINING

Will universal military training, as advocated by the administration in Washington, maintain our military establishments in sufficient strength to give our country the maximum degree of security from a military standpoint? To claim that the 17-year-old young men of our nation, with six months schooling, would provide that maximum military security is to perpetrate a deception on the American people.

The military value of the year's training would begin to diminish the next day after the young men had been released from the service and it would almost reach the vanishing point within a year. If these young men were called up for military service after the lapse of one year or more, a second period of training would be necessary to prepare them for combat service.

The idea has been advanced that universal military training should be adopted so as to build a great mass army to match the mass army of Russia. Hence it becomes a program of desperation and fear, and it fails to recognize realities. Russia is not afraid of our mass army, however large we may build it. But Russia would have proper respect for a thoroughly trained and highly skilled force which could strike quickly and powerfully, and for naval and air power, and for other forms of military power in which the United States excels.

The original purpose underlying the universal military training proposed was not primarily to make the nation strong militarily because it obviously could not do that. The original concept was voiced by the late President Roosevelt who said that the youth of the nation owed their government a year of their lives. Even the young women were included in the original proposal.

Although the present emphasis is on the military value of the proposed program, because the military aspect is calculated to carry greater weight with the people generally, the original idea still persists; and once the system were adopted, that original idea would become dominant.

That the program envisions something more than military preparedness by its original sponsors, as well as its present advocates, is evidenced by a recent statement by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt as quoted by George E. Sokolsky: "I have never been quite sure," says Mrs. Roosevelt, "that in the atomic age it is quite necessary to have what is known as basic training, but I am quite sure it would be good for us to spend a year learning discipline checking on ourselves physically and mentally, and learning such things as are needed by a citizen of the United States no matter what our service may have to be."

Mr. Sokolsky comments: "This is a dangerous concept, for what Mrs. Roosevelt ad-

vocates is the subjection of the individual to be disciplines of the state, not only physical but mental disciplines. This was, of course, Hitler's concept of the relationship of the individual and the state, and it has always been the basis for the nurture and education of children in Soviet Russia."

Should the proposed program be authorized by Congress and put into practice, it would provide the perfect opportunity for the extreme left-wingers, socializers, pinks, and fellow travelers to infiltrate into the teaching staffs placed over these 17-year-old boys. And you may be sure that Communists would be among the instructors.

The basic idea in the whole scheme is to create a certain pattern of thinking, which is designed by the government, to regiment the thought habits of the youth of the nation into certain desired channels. Under such a system by which all the young men of the nation would be subjected to the proposed mental discipline and regimentation, the complexion of our national life would be changed within a period of 10 years. At the end of 25 years, the transition would be complete and the characteristic American way of life would be no more.

It is a danger signal of tremendous significance when any government concludes that it cannot risk the youth of the nation with the homes, schools, churches, and other agencies of community life; that it, the government, must therefore take over the youth of the nation for a year in order that they may learn "such things as are needed by a citizen of the United States."

The Unobserved Christ

Our powers of observation are among our most valuable personal assets and the enrichment of our personalities is quite largely determined by the development of these powers. The more we observe and appreciate the values and blessings and graces and beauties of life about us, the richer and happier our lives become.

Every day is alive with countless friendly presences which are endeavoring to help us to a more worthy, fruitful, and contented existence.

The most stimulating presence by which we are surrounded is the presence of Jesus. What a difference it will make with any life when He is discovered, when His presence is felt, when the beauty of His life is seen, when the strength of His grace is realized, and when His message is heard and obeyed!

The greatest loss one can sustain is the loss of the presence of Jesus. Without a vivid consciousness of His presence life is one long fruitless struggle, hopes come to a dead end,

faith has no anchor, and all values are lost unless they are secured in Him.

A committee from the Sanhedrin in Jerusalem approached John the Baptist with certain prepared questions. The ministry of John had created considerable excitement. Great multitudes were attending his ministry.

Prophecies of the coming Messiah were remembered by those who heard him. Hopes which had long slumbered undisturbed by any prophetic message were awakened. The question got around, "Could this man be the Messiah?" That was the question the committee came to ask, "Are you the Christ?"

John stoutly denied that he was the Messiah. He claimed to be no more than a voice proclaiming the arrival of the Christ. And he declared: "There standeth one among you whom ye know not."

There are at least three things the discovery of Jesus will do. First it will reveal the folly of man's assumed sufficiency. This committee and those whom the committee represented were quite well pleased with themselves. The reason they didn't recognize the Christ in Jesus was because they didn't want the kind of Christ that Jesus came to be. They were self-righteous and demanded a Christ who would approve their lives instead of calling them to repentance.

The discovery of Jesus will give us power in proportion to our weaknesses, grace in proportion to our sin, hope in proportion to our despair, faith in proportion to our doubts. Have you been tempted to despair of human life? Have you felt that there was little use in trying to achieve anything worthwhile?

To the despairing hearts about to give up hope, shrouded in the darkness of despondency and gloom, the announcement comes, "There standeth one among you."

We need to discover Jesus when weary with life's toil, when under life's burdens, when struggling with life's responsibility.

Dr. A. J. Gordon of Boston, one of the truly great preachers of the past generation, gives us an interesting chapter out of his own experience. Dr. Gordon relates that he had worked and labored in his Boston pastorate until he had reached the point of exhaustion. He was undertaking to do a world of things in his own strength. At the same time the results of his labors were disappointing. And just when he was on the verge of collapse these words came to his mind, "There standeth one among you whom ye know not." At once he experienced a calm strength and courage, he leaned heavily upon Him who stood by His side. And from that day, not only did his ministry increase in fruitfulness and effectiveness, but he could do a greater amount of work with less fatigue and nervous exhaustion.

Have you been trying to do many things, even in Christian service, and are you burdened and tired and worn out, almost ready to collapse? Then why not do as Dr. Gordon did, realize that there standeth one by your side who will provide the strength, the wisdom, and the calm courage to do far more in His service than you could possibly do in your own strength and without His sustaining power.



Miss Ione Gray, editorial assistant of the Arkansas Baptist for the past four years, has resigned to accept a position with the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Miss Gray will be associate editor of the Baptist Bulletin Service which has a circulation of 412,000, and will be assistant to C. E. Bryant, former editor of the Arkansas Baptist, who is now publicity director for the Southern Baptist Convention. Miss Gray will go to Nashville, Tenn., February 1 to assume her new duties.

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First Church, Dermott, has called Dillard S. Miller, of Texarkana, as pastor. He is a graduate of Ouachita College and attended Golden Gate Southern Baptist Seminary, Berkeley, Calif. He served as pastor of Immanuel Church, San Leandro, Calif., South Texarkana Church, and Wake Village Church, Texarkana. The Dermott Church observed its first Student Night at Christmas Program December 28 with Daniel Grant as student speaker. The church has adopted a new budget of \$480 per month in 1948.

Radio

"The Voice of Arkansas Baptists," a radio program produced by the Radio Commission of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, presents "The Meteor of Light Series" by B. H. Duncan.

All broadcasts are by transcription and may be heard every Sunday over the following stations:

KLCN—Blytheville, 8:00 a. m.
 KHOZ—Harrison, 8:30 a. m.
 KCLA—Pine Bluff, 8:30 a. m.
 KTFS—Texarkana, 8:45 a. m.
 KFFA—Helena, 1:30 p. m.
 KWFC—Hot Springs, 1:30 p. m.
 KGH—Little Rock, 1:45 p. m.
 KELD—El Dorado, 3:30 p. m.
 KVRG—Arkadelphia, 4:00 p. m.
 KUQA—Siloam Springs, 4:15 p. m.
 KWHN—Ft. Smith, 4:45 p. m.

NOTES OF ADVANCE

Fifty-four additions, 45 by baptism; were counted in revival services at Bloomer Church, Concord Association. Among the new members there are nine married couples and three entire families. Rural Evangelist M. E. Wiles did the preaching. He reports: "This church was affiliated with the Landmark Baptists for many years until recently when they erected a new building and came into Concord Association. The church adopted its first budget which amounts to more than \$150 per month with \$10 going to the Cooperative Program. Lowell Ledford is the fine young pastor. The people love him."

Dr. S. A. Murphy, general chairman of entertainment for the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in May 1948, requests that all future correspondence for hotel reservations be sent direct to the committee chairman, Codie D. Bell, 2119 Hallwood Drive, Memphis, Tenn.

Pea Ridge Church presented a play, "The Nativity," on December 21. Following the program the church presented Pastor Phil J. Beach and family with a radio.

Pastor Ed F. Vallowe, Mallory Heights Church, Memphis, Tenn., writes concerning his work: "We believe we have one of the ripest fields in Memphis and we are very happy in our work. We had 58 additions, 37 for baptism, in our first two months here. Our offerings jumped from \$825 in October to \$1,694 in November. We adopted a budget of \$22,000 for this year and have increased our mission giving from 10 to 21 per cent. We have a beautiful new parsonage costing \$10,250."

First Church, Jacksonville, had 49 additions, 44 for baptism, during recent revival services in which Evangelist Joe Hankins, Little Rock, did the preaching. Pastor H. W. Ryan reports that it was the best meeting in the history of the church.

There were more than 1,500 additions to the 53 Baptist churches of St. Louis during a simultaneous revival under the leadership of Dr. C. E. Matthews, superintendent of evangelism of the Southern Baptist Convention. Several hundred persons made profession of faith who were not received into the churches.

Pea Ridge Church has had 22 additions since Phil J. Beach became its pastor September 1. Six persons were baptized December 28.

PASTORAL CHANGES

Russell K. Hunt from Grandview and Oak Grove Churches, Boone-Carroll Association, to enter Ouachita College.

H. S. Coleman from First Church, Bearden, to Caroline Association as missionary.

Walter N. Hill from Almyra Church to First Church, Pine Bluff, as associate pastor.

First Church, Luxora, organized a Brotherhood in October with 11 charter members. Nelson Tull, state Brotherhood secretary, was the speaker of the evening. The following officers were elected: J. W. Cady, president; J. M. Majors, program vice-president; Gilbert Lynch, activities vice-president; Ancel Montgomery, membership vice-president; Ray Olive, secretary-treasurer.

Missionary Allen McCurry, Delta Association, reports: "I have been on this field three months, and in that time I have preached 44 sermons, taught two study courses, and preached in one revival, visited 201 homes, had prayer in 109 homes, attended eight denominational meetings, collected \$103.34 for associational missions, collected \$311 to build a mission, mailed 144 cards and letters, made and printed two programs for workers conferences, visited one revival, led one church to call a full-time pastor, made three appointments for other preachers, preached three funerals, helped one church to tabulate a religious census, visited 21 churches and pastors, had two additions to a church by letter and one by baptism."

First Church, Bearden, adopted resolutions expressing appreciation for Pastor H. S. Coleman, who left the church in December to become missionary of Caroline Association. The resolution says: "Through Pastor Coleman's splendid leadership we have built a 15-room educational annex to our present building, and it is all paid for. We have paid off an old debt of long standing which amounted to \$1,301. Brother Coleman left our church in better condition financially than it has been for several years."

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16-Months-Old Church Adopts \$45,000 Budget

Sixteen-months-old Gaines Street Church, Little Rock, has adopted a \$45,000 budget for 1948. Of this amount missions will receive \$8,000; the building fund, \$20,000; and operating expenses, \$17,000.

The church had its loyalty campaign in December, and on the 28th more than 500 of its 750 members had turned in their pledges, 95 per cent of which were tithers' pledges. It is expected that the budget will be over-subscribed at least 25 per cent.

The second story of the educational building was recently made available for four departments of the Sunday School and Training Union. The ground floor of the building, which seats 700 people, is being used temporarily for an auditorium. Total value of buildings, grounds, and equipment now is approximately \$100,000. Plans are being made to completely finish the educational building and to begin construction of the main auditorium within the next 12 months.

During the first year of its existence the church baptized 104 persons. Total offerings, were more than \$63,000. Charles E. Lawrence is pastor.

Outstanding Facts Summarized...

HIGHLIGHTS OF 1947

By PORTER ROUTH

Secretary of Information of the Baptist
Sunday School Board

Facts of Interest

..... Most significant development of the year has been the gradual division of the world into East and West. United Nations continues to function, but has lost prestige in its failure to iron out international differences.

..... United Nations did face a knotty problem in Palestine and General Assembly voted to partition Palestine into Jewish and Arab states. However, decision remains to be executed in the face of mounting Arab opposition.

..... Inflation continued a world problem in every land, with the exception of Russia where Joe Stalin devalued the ruble with a stroke of his pen, and wiped out most savings. In China, one American dollar would buy 104,000 Chinese dollars. Biggest increase was in cost of food, with world shortages still existing.

..... The American birth rate continued to climb during the year with an estimated 3,750,000, but the marriage rate started leveling off during the year.

..... School bells rang for some 32,000,000 American children, college enrollments reached a new high to send the median educational level for the American adult into the second year of high school. It is now estimated that nearly 50,000,000 American adults, 20 years and over, have some high school education. Thirty-seven per cent are high school graduates, compared with 27 per cent in 1940, and 7 per cent in 1920.

..... Independence came to India during the year as Great Britain turned more and more of her assumed world responsibilities over to the United States.

In the World of Religion

..... The year has been marked by growing tension between Roman Catholics, Evangelicals, and secularists. Roman Catholics sought to brand all as secularists who opposed her expansions. Evangelicals refused to agree that only alternative to secularism was Roman Catholicism.

..... Tension between religious groups was sharpened in the United States by the 5-4 decision of the Supreme Court making it legal for New Jersey to transport pupils to parochial schools in buses, operated at tax-payers' expense.

..... All American religious groups have opened their pocketbooks and their hearts to the world's needy. Hunger and cold have known no creed as they have stalked over much of the world. Church groups have been sympathetic with the U. S. Government's plan for aid, but have been insistent that it not be used to promote sectarian interests.

..... Those interested in ecumenical movements have pointed to the launching of the United Church of South India, the Oslo Conference, and the nationwide tour of E. Stan-

ley Jones during the past year as indications of closer Christian fellowship.

..... Conferences continued between the Evangelical and Reformed churches and the Congregational Christian churches, looking toward union.

..... All religious groups have reported increased interest in evangelism and stewardship. Many groups reported the first increase in Sunday Schools shown in a decade.

..... The International Missionary Council met for the first time since the war in Whitby, Canada, to give new impetus to the world missionary effort, and the Protestant Film Commission issued its first full-length film, "Beyond Our Own," on world evangelism.

Baptist Highlights

..... Baptist event of the year was the Baptist World Alliance in Copenhagen, the

movement of the world headquarters from London to Washington, and the election of A. T. Orhn, Oslo, Norway, as the new world secretary.

..... Northern Baptists launched a new evangelistic crusade, and Southern Baptists reported the largest number of baptisms in any one year in their history.

..... The tithers movement, adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention, and promoted through the Executive Committee and all of the state conventions, enlisted thousands of new tithers and was reflected in increased gifts during October, November, and December. The Cooperative Program receipts of the Southern Baptist Convention passed the \$5,000,000 mark.

..... Southern Baptist Sunday Schools climbed close to the 4,000,000 mark and Training Unions showed their largest gains. Home Life was launched and reached 250,000 circulation.

Church and State

By J. M. DAWSON, Executive Secretary
Joint Conference Committee on Public Relations

In Europe two totalitarian systems are in mortal grapple. The Russians represent political totalitarianism; the Roman Catholics represent ecclesiastical totalitarianism. Baptists find in both these systems most serious defects which compel disapproval.

To state the case: in Communism, on the one hand, Baptists cannot abide its atheism, materialistic philosophy and denial of freedoms, particularly of religious freedom. In Catholicism, on the other hand, Baptists cannot consent to its official lands wherever it has continued dominant, nor can they consent to its insistence on clerical participation in civil government and demand for governmental support, including financial aid out of tax funds for church institutions.

As to the true relationship existing between church and state, Baptists hold the two should be entirely separate. This does not mean that state and church should be hostile toward each other, but to the contrary, they should be sympathetically cooperative. They are two different orders with distinctly different functions and operating on differing bases.

The state has to do with civil relationships and derives its authority from law, empowered with force. The church has to do with moral relationships among men and spiritual relationships with God, and its authority is purely moral, dependent upon reason and love, using means harmonious to them, without resort to force.

• Civil government is divinely sanctioned, though no particular state can claim to represent the infallible will of God. Obviously when Paul wrote: "The powers that are ordained of God," he was not asserting the Roman Empire as such constituted the express agency of God, but only that it stood on

God's recognition of the necessity for civil government.

The exact form of government is left to man's judgment, to be guided by divine principles as men may conceive them. Thus our cherished democracy itself must construe "the voice of the people is the voice of God" only when it is clearly the embodiment of divine principles.

The tense rivalry between the Communist theory and the Russian program on one side and the aggressive campaign of the Roman Church to retain its influence by claiming to be the Supreme, absolute Christian ideal and program has produced a situation unprecedented. Without clear, discriminating thought and loyal adherence to fundamental principles, decisions exceedingly hurtful to human progress may be pressured.

The danger is all the more serious in the fact that the Soviets assume that the United States is linked for economic and political imperialism with the Roman Church ambition for ecclesiastical imperialism. The Roman Church encourages this Soviet claim by aligning the power and prestige of the United States in its vigorous fight against Communism and Russia, as if the United States had become a great advocate and promoter of Catholicism.

Baptists in refusing to march under the Catholic banner in order to stand against the evils we see in Communism feel we must never lose sight of basic freedoms, especially religious liberty as guaranteed through separation of church and state. We cannot, therefore, afford to abandon our historic, espoused principle of religious freedom under a mistaken idea that temporary expedient surrender of them to the Catholic group, which has historically denied such freedom, will prove the most effectual deliverance from the dire Communist threat.

CHRISTIAN HORIZONS

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

Foreign Missions: A program calling for 595 new missionaries and an additional \$3,000,000 annually for mission purposes was presented to the Board of Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Church meeting in Buck Hill Falls, Pa.

Appointment of 595 new missionaries in the next few years would about double the number now stationed in foreign lands. The greatest increase in mission personnel was asked for Latin America as an implementation of the "good neighbor" policy, and as a counter to "the growing atheism and secularization of life" there. Additional missionaries are also sought for Africa, China, India, and Japan.

Lay Participation: "Laymen don't want to hear a lot of high-falutin' theological terms," Rev. L. E. Esteb, home mission secretary in Greater New York for the Seventh-Day Adventists, said at the first formal meeting of the Council of Men's Work Secretaries, composed of lay leaders of 20 different religious groups and denominations. "Laymen want to be told what to do in simple language, then they'll do it," he said.

Use of the advertising techniques of modern business in advancing the cause of religion was advocated by Clifford W. Scott of Washington, D. C., executive director of the Home-Church-School Foundation. Frederick J. Michel of Chicago, national secretary of the Layman's Missionary Movement, told the Council that "missions is the task of men as well as women." "If you sell laymen on missions," he declared, "then there are no arguments over the little tasks they are asked to do locally in their own congregations."

Church Attendance: Some people must think the Sunday-service is like a convention; many families just send one delegate.

Viewpoint: When you look at the world in a narrow way, how narrow it seems! When you look at it in a mean way, how mean it is! When you look at it selfishly, how selfish it is! But when you look at it in a broad, generous, friendly spirit, what wonderful people you find in it.

Short Speech: Members of the House of Representatives recently heard what no doubt is the shortest speech ever made in that body. Representative Matthews, Jr., (R., N. J.), asked for and received permission to address the House for 30 seconds. He said: "What this world needs is fewer plans and better principles."

Gift to Hungarian Seminary: Students of Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky., have started a drive to raise funds for the purchase of a station wagon to be given to their

fellow students in the Hungarian Baptist Theological Seminary at Budapest.

The campaign opened spontaneously following an address by Dr. Bela Udvarnoki, president of the Hungarian seminary, while visiting the Louisville school, of which he is an alumnus. Dr. Udvarnoki said that a serious problem of food shortage at his school would be solved if transportation could be secured to and from farms in the Budapest area.

Improve Methods: Christians have "placed too much emphasis on the goal of their ideals and too little on methods," the Conference on the Church and Economic Life, sponsored by the Council of Churches of Buffalo and Erie County, was told at Buffalo, N. Y., by Arthur S. Fleming, of the United States Civil Service Commission.

Mr. Fleming urged the church to improve its methods rather than "dream about the goal of its ideals and pass resolutions that haven't been grounded in an intelligent public opinion." He described the church, "particularly the local church," as the one institution through which to work toward "the goal of our Christian ideals in economic life."

Religion in Politics: Religion should enter politics to combat the evils of the time, Kensey N. Merritt, of New York, president of the Railway Express Agency, told the annual administration conference of the Young Men's Christian Association of the United States and Canada.

"I do not recommend the church getting into politics," said Merritt, "but I would like to see religious principles getting into the community and the national political life. Our talent for building Christian character must not be confined to institutions, but must find expression in the business and political life of the community," he declared.

Counseling Center: A community counseling center for all races and religions began to materialize at a meeting of the Columbus-Phenix, Ga., City Ministerial Alliance. Tentative plans call for its establishment in a wing of the city hospital in Columbus, Ga.

Industrial Internes: The American Friends Service Committee of Philadelphia is sponsoring their second "interne-in-industry" project for students, clergymen, or other interested persons who would like to gain a first-hand picture of industrial social problems.

Internes will live cooperatively in the city, each seeking his own job, preferably in the lower-paid industries. Each lives on his own wages, learns what it is to be a part of an industrial machine. On time free from their jobs, they study under the project director who is familiar with problems of industrial

relations. Then, they meet with representatives of both labor and management to ask questions and discuss significant problems. The point of their study will be to seek a common ground between capital and labor so that conflicts may be mutually understood and thus solved.

Prayers for Peace: Young people of the Church of the Brethren throughout the nation have decided to extend a five-month vigil of prayers for peace for an additional five-month period.

The vigil began last August, with youngsters in the Southeast, Northeast, Central, Rocky Mountain and Pacific areas praying continuously, in turn.

The plan was first put into practice at the last General Conference of the Church in Orlando, Fla., when youngsters met in an upper room of the conference auditorium and prayed throughout the week-long sessions. The current five-months' vigil was to have ended in December, but the decision to continue will carry the prayer crusade through May, 1948.

Greatest Story: The 1948 Public Relations Award, for the greatest contribution to the national welfare through public relations during the year, has been won by Paul Weeks Litchfield, chairman of the board of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co.

Given by the National Association of Public Relations Counsel, Inc., New York, the award went to Litchfield primarily because of sponsorship by his company of the weekly broadcast, "The Greatest Story Ever Told," a dramatization of the Bible.

Profits to Charity: Rev. Perry McArthur, Methodist preacher of Lawton, Okla., is using 50 per cent of the profits from his 11 new oil wells for charitable purposes. Mr. McArthur and his wife have already bought three buildings for use as a Negro hospital and nurses' school. The hospital, a 50-bed institution, will be the only one for Negroes in Lawton.

"My wife and I once saw a Negro woman nearly lose her life because we could not get her into a local hospital," the clergyman said. "We knelt down after that and made a vow to help the Negro race if ever we had the opportunity. This is our opportunity."

All-Missions: "The time has come for the world to cease thinking in terms of 'foreign' and 'home' missions," said Congressman Walter Judd, of Minnesota, at a meeting of the North American Student Conference of Christian Frontiers in Lawrence, Kan. "We must begin thinking in terms of 'all-missions,'" he said. "The United States must be strong, sound and solvent, and to have this we must be safe in other countries as well as our own. The solution to our problems offered through Christianity is the same both at home and in foreign countries."

More Churchgoing: Americans are going to try to be more religious and go to church more often in 1948, according to a nationwide survey conducted by the Gallup Poll.

The survey also disclosed that among other New Year's resolutions of Americans was the determination "to improve my character and live a better life."

The Responsibility of the Newspapers

By LOUIE D. NEWTON

In bygone days we occasionally heard some great newspaper editor acknowledge the definite responsibility which he felt toward the public. It was a wholesome attitude and accounted for what we gratefully refer to as the golden era of American journalism. There has been an alarming indication of complacency on the part of newspapers in these latter times—indication that they were chiefly concerned with profits rather than disinterested service.

Now comes a hopeful sign or two. Publisher Elzey Roberts of the St. Louis Star-Times, after reading a revolting story in his paper reporting the death of a teen-age girl as an aftermath of tavern hopping and sex orgy," wrote an editorial in which he said:

"Would it have been better to suppress this sordid story? It is time that society as a whole faced the fact that through negligence and apathy this postwar period has become a hog-wallow of eroticism."

He felt that the mud in this wallow was contributed by some movies, fashion designers, plays, radio programs, books, perfume advertisements and "unwholesome comic strips with provocative poses." He left it to his readers to tell him what should be done. They told him—in more than 350 letters—to remove the beam from his own eye by cleaning out the dirty comics in his own paper. He replied that he couldn't very well do that, since his competitors would grab them, though he did drop two strips.

Another Hint of Improvement

Then followed the Louisville, Ky., Times with the policy of printing the names of juveniles arrested for vandalism, which brought a quick decline in juvenile delinquency in Louisville, reflecting increased parental discipline. The Times has also started printing the names of women charging rape if the defendant is found not guilty, "thus providing justifiable protection for men from frustrated women."



—Religious News Service Photo

This suggestion from Louisville of printing the names of juvenile vandals may appear rather severe, but has the time not come when these youngsters must begin to suffer if lawlessness is ever curbed? One feels deeply for parents in every such instance, but maybe the parents themselves need some discipline to arouse them to their duty.

"Revenue vs. Morals"

The finest expression of this sense of newspaper responsibility that I have lately come upon was the editorial in the Anderson, S.C., Daily Mail, December 3, in which Publisher Wilton Hall devoted his leading editorial to "Revenue vs. Morals," citing the fact that the city of Anderson takes in something like \$50,000 a year from liquor, wine and beer taxes, which is the equivalent of three mills of their present taxes.

"But," he asks, "aren't we paying a terrible price for those paltry thousands when an average of one in seven persons in the city's population is jailed in a year for drunkenness, or for crimes growing out of drunkenness? Isn't the saving of three mills of taxes a terrific price to pay for the social decay and moral decadence that is gnawing away at the vitals of our society through the continuing and unlimited use of liquor, especially by the young men and women of our community?"

That, I repeat, is the finest note I have anywhere come upon in a daily newspaper's acknowledgment of what is going on in this country. Perhaps I am forgetting all the strong and uncompromising editorials of that grand old editor, Mr. Josephus Daniels, of the Raleigh, N. C., News and Observer. I had just as well pause here to say that he has never once failed to ring true on every moral issue, letting the chips fall where they may.

Where the Water Hits the Wheel

With full appreciation of the slight intimation of responsibility on the part of the publishers of the St. Louis Star-Times and the Louisville Times, and the forthright position of men like Mr. Hall and Mr. Daniels, I am bound to say that the newspapers and magazines must continue to bear much of the blame of our present down-hill tumble in morals so long as they carry page after page of liquor, wine and beer advertisements. That is where the water hits the wheel.

Also, of course, they are very definitely encouraging the downward trend so long as they carry obscene comics and play up rotten films that daily flow from the "hog-wallows" of Hollywood. Nor am I forgetting the responsibility of the radio chains in their putrid "soap operas" and other outputs of "dirt."

If the newspapers and radio will stop advertising the causes of crime and moral decay, they will not only be doing their duty, but helping very definitely to save this country from the doom that now confronts us. Will they?

Prayer, Evangelism, Stewardship and Enlistment Listed as 1948 Emphases

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—(BP)—The year 1948 will have four great emphases for Southern Baptists, Dr. Duke K. McCall, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, announced as 1947 passed into history.

These emphases, according to Dr. McCall, are:

1. Prayer
2. Evangelism
3. Tithing
4. Stewardship Enlistment

The realization of all four will mean a great revival among all the denomination's constituency, Dr. McCall predicted.

Outlining of the 1948 program was accomplished by the Executive Committee at its December meeting, as leaders viewed 1947 victories in soul winning and tithing. In soul-winning, 1947 witnessed an all-time record in baptisms, an estimated 280,000 being reported as compared to the previous high

of 269,155 in 1939. In the tithing emphasis, indications are that more than a million Baptists were tithing their income through the church at the year's end.

Dr. McCall said there will be several focal points in the year's work, but that the first will be Baptist World Alliance Sunday, February 1. The first Sunday in February has been designated for several years as a time for world Baptist fellowship through prayer and study, he said. But the emphasis will be strengthened this year through an appeal for all American Baptists to give liberally in a special offering to be divided equally between relief of stricken fellow-Baptists and the enlargement of activities of the world Baptist organization.

The special emphases to which Dr. McCall referred were approved by the Executive Committee in adoption of the following promotion proposals:

1. That our people be urged to give much time to prayer in 1948, cooperating in the

suggestion that every Baptist of the world "Pray at eight each morning in 1948."

2. That an effort be made for a spiritual revival among our people, directed through the department of evangelism of the Home Mission Board.

3. That emphasis upon tithing be continued and 'Every Baptist a Tither' be the goal for this year and all the years to come; and that churches be urged to continue their wholehearted support of the Cooperative Program, increasing their gifts to missions in proportion to increased receipts from the tithing appeal.

4. That one Sunday in the year be designated as Enlistment Day in the churches, at which time every member will be asked to pledge loyalty to the church program, to offer personal service for places of church leadership, to pledge the tithe, and to pledge to the 1949 church budget.

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The gospel is not primarily something to go to church to hear but something to go from church to tell.

Hospital Pastor Tells Of Opportunities For Rendering Pastoral Help or Counsel

By J. F. QUEEN, Pastor
Baptist State Hospital

While I am the pastor of the Baptist State Hospital I feel a pastoral relationship to all our churches because the hospital belongs to the Baptists of Arkansas. January of the new year of 1948 brings me to the close of three years as hospital pastor.

From 30,000 to 40,000 people enter the doors of the Baptist State Hospital annually. One third or more of them are patients and the others are visitors and relatives of patients. More and more I find it to be a tremendous task to administer to the needs of all who come this way, all who need spiritual help, or pastoral counsel. The pastoral attention of relatives of patients is almost as great a responsibility as it is of those who are sick.

Giving Spiritual Help

There is no adequate way that I have found to keep a record of counseling with relatives of the sick but I do have in visiting the patients. My records show that I have made 10,241 visits with them during 1947. I do not try to appear ecclesiastical or professional when approaching a patient, but as a friend who is interested in the patient's welfare. From that approach a search is made as to what is needed most in pastoral counsel. If the person is not a Christian the conversation is so directed that a door may open to show a need of Christ or a desire to be a Christian. Unless that is done there is a danger of doing more harm than good to the patient. If no particular interest is found in becoming a Christian the plan of salvation may be explained and the patient left to reflect on it.

Some interesting results have been derived by just planting and leaving the fruitage to take place later on. A few weeks ago a lady who had been in the hospital several months ago as a patient was visiting a patient. When she saw me as I approached the bed of the patient she was visiting she exclaimed with joy that she had become a Christian since she was here as a patient. She said she had never thought seriously about becoming a Christian until I talked with her and explained the plan of salvation. Then she said, "About three months ago I surrendered my life to Christ, and He saved me."

It is our desire to help grow a spiritual atmosphere here that will cause the lost to want to be saved. This is done by noon-day services in the chapel, tray cards with suitable Scripture verses placed on the breakfast trays, which cards are furnished by the women of various churches of the city, the personal counsel and help Miss Elma Cobb gives the student nurses as student secretary, and the teaching of the Bible, a required subject, to the student nurses by the hospital pastor.

One student nurse said a few days ago that the Bible course had been a great help in causing her to accept Christ. Since then she has presented herself for baptism and church membership in one of our churches.

Another way we are trying to make our hospital a greater Christian institution is by causing the churches over the state to become conscious of the hospital, to speak a good word for it, and to pray for it. It has been my privilege to speak in approximately 100 churches, missions, and club meetings during the three years of this pastorate. On Sundays all who are not on duty and want to be in a church service attend the church of their choice.

Working Among Churches

Also Sunday is the day the patients have more visitors than any other. It is not a suitable visiting day for the pastor, neither is it suitable to try to have a service in the chapel. Therefore, many calls come through the year to supply pulpits which I am glad to answer. The past year there were only six Sundays that I was not called to supply somewhere and I had many more calls that I could not accept because of previous engagements.

During the months of associational meetings it was my privilege to visit 10 district associations and present the hospital to these meetings. All of this outside work or visitations among the churches and associations has given us the opportunity to acquaint our Baptist people over the state with their own hospital. We believe it is paying in spiritual dividends in interest of the hospital.

This is the first year since 1939 that our churches will have had the privilege of saying: "We are paying to the Baptist State Hospital through our church budget." This year the Baptist Convention has allocated \$5,000 to help pay the amount it takes to operate a school of nursing. It helps the hospital only indirectly. The school of nursing is in reality a separate institution from the hospital. The student nurses are worth much to the hospital but it costs about \$184,000 per year to operate the school, and the service rendered by the nurses to the hospital lacks about \$60,000 per year in paying for its operation. We believe the day will come when our churches will recognize our school of nursing as one of our leading Baptist schools of the state and will support it as we do our colleges of arts. Place the Baptist Hospital, your hospital, on your prayer list for 1948, and you will be a blessing and be blest.

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Norwegian Accepts World Alliance Post

Dr. Arnold T. Ohrn of Oslo, Norway, has announced his acceptance of the appointment as general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance which will have headquarters in Washington, D. C. The appointment, to become effective July 1, was made by the Alliance's executive committee in October.

Dr. W. O. Lewis, general secretary for many years, will remain as associate secretary and will have an office in London. He will spend most of his time superintending the Baptist relief program in Europe.

Committee Makes Study Of Baptist Seminaries

By JOHN H. BUCHANAN, Chairman

At the last meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention a special committee was appointed and given a two-fold task: To deal with a memorial from the Golden Gate Baptist Seminary, Berkeley, Calif., which requested that a committee be created by the Southern Baptist Convention to study the advisability of accepting the Seminary as a Southern Baptist Convention institution, and to report its findings at the next meeting of the Convention; and, second, to make a study and a survey of the whole field of theological education as committed to Southern Baptists.

The committee has had one full meeting at which time it divided itself into subcommittees to deal with particular phases of this survey. Several of the subcommittees have met a number of times.

It was the feeling of the committee as a whole that we ought to make a scientific and comprehensive survey of the whole field of theological education in the territory of the Southern Baptist Convention. This survey contemplates a careful study of the work of the existing institutions of the Southern Baptist Convention, the work of the colleges and universities in their Bible Departments, the number of young ministers seeking theological training, etc.

The committee has sought the guidance of Dr. Hartshorn of Yale University and Dr. Froyd of New York, who recently conducted a survey of theological education throughout the north. We have secured the services of Dr. J. E. Dillard and Mr. Porter Routh, both of Nashville, to actually conduct this survey.

When the data has been assembled, the committee will, on the basis of the facts of the situation, seek to bring to Southern Baptists recommendations as to the pattern of theological education which will best serve the needs of the Convention in the present and future. No member of the committee felt that we ought to attempt any recommendation until we had, as far as humanly possible, a complete grasp of the situation which obtains.

The committee most respectfully requests that no Baptist convention or association take action in the establishing of theological seminaries or Bible schools, if such action is based on the assumption that such institution can become a Southern Baptist agency, until this special committee has made its report to the Convention. The committee does not mean by this request to infer that any Baptist group should be limited in establishing any agency for which that group will assume the full responsibility; but our committee has unanimously voted that, we will make no commitment or give any assurance to any institution of Southern Baptist Convention support until this survey has been completed and a careful consideration of its findings has been made by the committee and all other interested Southern Baptists whose counsel we can obtain.

The committee wants the brotherhood to know that it is working at the task seriously and as intelligently as we are capable.

Observation of the Ouachita Campaign

Great progress has been made in the campaign for expansion of Ouachita College. This is true from the standpoint of the efforts made to raise a million dollars among Arkansas Baptists and friends of the college. When we consider the fact that in less than three years \$750,000 has been pledged to this program, this should be an occasion for gratitude and thanks to the people and to God. The support given the campaign has enabled the college to build needed buildings and add equipment which was sorely needed. Other buildings must be built and other equipment bought if the college is to serve in the best way possible the interest of all concerned.

A Baptist Responsibility

Ouachita College belongs to Arkansas Baptists. Had it not been for the faith and loyalty of her friends she would have passed out of existence long ago. Through the years this great school has justified her existence through the services of sons and daughters taught and trained in the school. The history of the school, in the life of Arkansas Baptists, is romantic, thrilling, and heart-moving.

The ministry of the college, by no means, has been restricted to Arkansas Baptists. Her ministry reaches into other states and around the world. The continuation of growth and expansion in the college will be determined to a large extent by the support Arkansas Baptists give in this campaign. Ouachita College should have a larger income through the Cooperative Program to help meet the operating cost of the school. With an en-

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By J. G. COTHRAN
First Church, Arkadelphia

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larged student body and a need for more teachers, the school must have a larger income to meet adequately her needs.

An Arkansas Baptist Opportunity

Many of us have longed for a day when our senior college would be crowded with students. This day has arrived. The demands on the part of our young people who would like to enter our Baptist school necessitates further expansion and enlargement. Every Baptist church in the state should count it a privilege to help meet the urgent needs at Ouachita College.

There are many individuals in our churches who have been blessed with abundant wealth who can give over and above their church contributions to the campaign. Give through your church to help meet the needs for new buildings, needed equipment, and a larger endowment. To give to the cause of Christian education in Ouachita College is not a penalty, but a wonderful privilege.

As we make it possible for our senior Baptist college to take care of our young people, teaching and training them in a Christian environment, we are having a share in one

of the most vital parts in our denominational work.

Arkansas Baptists must see to it that Ouachita College is a standard college doing high class work in every department. To do this we must furnish the buildings and the equipment needed. We must have the best trained teachers possible. We must have on the staff teachers who are truly Christians and loyal beyond question to the faith of our fathers. We must pay these teachers in keeping with the load they carry and our ability to pay.

Arkadelphia Supports the Campaign

Ouachita College is a distinct asset to Arkadelphia. This is true from a business standpoint as well as from a moral and spiritual viewpoint. The friends of the college willingly responded in their support of the Million Dollar Campaign. So far, more than \$50,000 has been pledged to the campaign. About \$27,000 of this amount has been pledged by members of the First Baptist Church. A little more than \$23,000 has been pledged by local business concerns, and individuals who are not Baptists.

The expense of hauling material for the new buildings was taken care of as a gift by one of the deacons of the First Baptist Church.

We should do our best to bring this campaign to a successful conclusion before the meeting of the State Convention next fall. It is imperative that we furnish the necessary means for the program of enlargement at Ouachita College.

Pastors, Sunday School Teachers, Deacons, Parents...

ARE THESE YOUR YOUNG PEOPLE?



What Provision Shall Arkansas Baptists Make For Hundreds Of High School Graduates Who Belong To Our Baptist Family?

A young person's college years are very important. They are the years when permanent attitudes are formed, when social habits are established, and when life partners are chosen. Shall they in these years be entrusted to the care of and associated with those who do not care about their moral convictions or spiritual life?

Can We Afford To Be Indifferent?

Christian Education Is Denominational Life Insurance

WMU Will Answer Call of Magnificent Christ To Be Magnificent Christians

By MRS. F. E. GOODBAR,
State Chairman

We come again to the time for the observance of the Day of Prayer for Community Missions. If your society has observed it the past two years, I feel sure the blessing received will create the desire for another such Day of Prayer. If your society has not observed this Day of Prayer, let me urge you to do so this year.

With material things so filling our lives that the most important of all is crowded unconsciously into the background there is a need for each of us to go apart for a new vision and a recommitment of self.

The Purpose is through prayer, meditation and a new vision to (1) awaken from our lethargy, (2) feel a divine concern for the lost about us, (3) answer the call of our magnificent Christ to be magnificent Christians.

The Plan: While there will be one day set aside for a Day of Prayer I am suggesting that the whole week be one when our minds and hearts are centered on our personal relation to Christ as His personal witnesses. Start on Sunday by asking your pastor to preach on "The Magnificent Christ is Calling for Magnificent Christians." Observe the Day of Prayer on Monday or Tuesday.

For the rest of the week may there be a time of individual meditation and heart-searching each morning at 9 o'clock as is suggested in the program. If possible, have neighborhood prayer meetings, praying definitely for the lost and the needs of your community. Spend the afternoons with prayermates going out in personal visitation. Have a supply of tracts for distribution. The following week or the first regular meeting of the missionary society have a report of the week's activities.

Preparation For The Day of Prayer

Much of the success will depend upon the preparation. It is highly important to have a meeting of the community missions chairman and her committee, the executive committee of the WMS and the pastor at least two weeks in advance. These people should:

1. Pray earnestly and definitely not only for the Day of Prayer but for the church that the three-fold purpose may be realized in the life of every individual member of the church.

2. Study the program material for the Day of Prayer, its purpose and plan.

3. Plan prayerfully to have every woman of your society at the Day of Prayer.

4. Extend an invitation to every interested woman in your church who has a desire to be a soul-winner.

5. Discuss conditions that need changing in your community—how to reach the lost, the unenlisted and indifferent. Appoint someone to find out how many people are attending church in your community (this can be done by checking the Sunday School attendance in every church in your town on an average Sunday).

Discuss dividing your community in blocks and having block-visitors (a couple or one person who will be responsible for reaching the lost and unenlisted in her territory). Maybe plan a survey. Use this information in the afternoon's session. Your pastor could be asked to give this part.

Suggestions For Presenting Program

1. Have your community missions chairman preside, assisted by her committee.

2. Assign the different topics to your most consecrated members and urge them to make most prayerful preparation. The discussions should be brief but the success of the meeting will depend upon their messages.

3. Make the meeting informal, encouraging every woman present to take part during the Day of Prayer. No offering is suggested except the giving of self.

4. The periods of silent prayer and heart-searching can be conducted by the leader who may read the questions followed by silent prayer, each individual praying for herself. Close by singing a prayer song.

This program is suggested with the prayer that every member of Arkansas WMU will answer the call of our magnificent Christ to be a magnificent Christian.

The presiding officer leads in reading the following Scriptures which have been copied and handed to each one present: John 17:18; Acts 1:8; John 15:16.

Period of questions and heart-searching.

Silent prayer followed by repeating together with bowed heads: "Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts and see if there be any wicked way in me and lead me in the Way everlasting" (Psalm 139: 23, 24).

Hymn—"I Am Thine, O Lord" as a prayer (First and second verses).
"To Be the Magnificent Christian One Must Have—"

- The attributes of the Magnificent Christ.
 - Selflessness (Philippians 2:5-8; Matthew 20:28).
 - The Compassionate Heart (Matthew 9:36).
 - Jesus went about lifting, helping, changing, winning. (Acts 10:38).

Season of silent prayer and heart-searching.

Hymn—"More Like the Master" as a prayer.

- The Spirit-filled Life.
 - The Abiding Life. (John 15:4, 5, 7, 8; John 17:20-21).
 - The Life of Power. (Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:18, 20b).

Season of Prayer.

Season of silent prayer and heart-searching.

Hymn—"Holy Spirit, Breathe on Me," as a prayer.

- Lose His life in service to the Magnificent Christ. (Matthew 16:24-25).

Season of silent prayer and heart-searching.

Hymn—"I'll Live For Him," as a prayer.

Closing period of testimony.

Hymn—"I Surrender All."

Prayer—On bended knees for personal rededication and a willingness to be used without reservation.

Afternoon

Hymn—"Close To Thee."

Period of Meditation—"How may I be the magnificent Christian?" (Review briefly the morning theme that "Our Magnificent Christ is Calling.")

Prayer for the afternoon session.

"Our Magnificent Christ is the all-sufficient Saviour and the only hope of the world.

- His supreme love for the world's man. (John 3:16-17).
- He saves to the uttermost. (Hebrews 7:25).
- He is the exalted, ever-living, reigning Christ. (Philippians 2:9-11).

Silent prayer and heart-searching.

Hymn—"Jesus is All the World to Me," (first verse).

"Your Community Needs Our Magnificent Christ."

- There are people all about you who are lost and condemned (John 3:36).
- There are large numbers of indifferent and unenlisted church members.
- There is sin of every kind, the effects of which destroy both body and soul. There are conditions that will have to be changed before yours is a Christ-centered community.

Silent prayer and heart-searching.

Dr. R. G. Lee says that the greatest need of the Christian church today is a "Campaign for Concern," a compassionate concern which is almost wholly lacking in the life of the average Christian. Most lost people can say: "No man careth for my soul."

Silent prayer and compassionate concern of Jesus.

Hymn—"Lead Me to Some Soul Today."

"Make Our Magnificent Christ Known in Your Community."

- Announce plans for remainder of week.
- Select prayer-partners who will also be visiting partners.
- Ask each one present to list name or names of lost or indifferent to whom she will witness this week.
- Have your pastor or someone who has made previous preparation to discuss "How to Reach our Community for Christ," (Number 5 under "Preparation for The Day of Prayer could be used as a basis).
- Make your prayer plans large—individual and united. The 9 o'clock prayer hour for daily devotion; prayer mates; prayer lists; prayer groups. At every meeting of the missionary society or circles there should be a definite time for a season of prayer for the lost (by name) and for the community, for an out-pouring of the Holy Spirit to convict the lost, for power in the life of the church and members of the missionary society.

Closing period of meditation and heart-searching (Use copies of the Scriptures distributed at the morning session). After reading in unison, give opportunity for expression and also requests for prayer.

Hymn—"Ready" (first verse).



Community Missions Program

Theme: "Our Magnificent Christ is Calling for Magnificent Christians"

Prepared by MRS. F. E. GOODBAR, State Chairman

Morning

Hymn—"Jesus Calls Us."

Prayer for the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit throughout the day.

Statement concerning the purpose of the Day of Prayer.

"Our Magnificent Christ is Calling."

Period of meditation and heart-searching.

Religious Education

EDGAR WILLIAMSON, DIRECTOR

R. O. BARKER
Sunday School Superintendent
RALPH W. DAVIS
Training Union Director

T. D. McCULLOCH
Student Union Secretary
MRS. B. W. NININGER
Church Music Director

Baptist Building, Little Rock



Figures To Inspire

December 28, 1947

Church	S.S.	T.U.	Add.
Little Rock, Immanuel	893	285	8
Including Missions	1244	514	
Fort Smith, First	884	381	2
El Dorado, First	661	147	
North Little Rock,			
Baring Cross	531	180	2
Including Missions	555	202	
Fort Smith, Immanuel	498	113	
Including Missions	575		
Hot Springs, Second	497	158	1
Paragould, First	490	199	
Benton, First	480	108	3
Including Missions	497		
Camden, First	394	112	
Including Missions	448		
Little Rock, Tabernacle	386	114	1
Hot Springs, Park Place	372	120	1
Paris, First	347	175	1
Hot Springs, Central	342	114	
Including Missions	393	142	
McGehee, First	329	94	2
Malvern, First	318	72	
Fort Smith, Calvary	311	89	1
Springdale, First	307	170	
Including Missions	425		
Siloam Springs, First	304	149	
Hot Springs, First	295	69	
Stuttgart, First	291	124	
Including Missions	317		
Rogers, First	276	82	2
Little Rock,			
South Highland	272	77	4
Hamburg, First	260	136	
Gentry, First	250	141	1
El Dorado, Immanuel	248	105	
Including Missions	294		
Greenwood, First	241	118	1
Smackover, First	232	96	1
Cullendale, First	228	74	
El Dorado, West Side	210	91	
Pine Bluff, Second	205	59	2
Norphlet, First	197	134	2
Texarkana, Calvary	180	3	
Fort Smith, Bailey Hill	178	92	1
Monticello, First	175	100	1
Monticello, Second	144	87	3
Elaine, First	137	108	
Tuckerman, First	120	41	
Pine Bluff,			
Matthew's Memorial	113	79	
South Ft. Smith, First	112	53	
Eureka Springs, First	108	32	
Walcott, First	96	52	
Warren, Immanuel	78	60	2
Ft. Smith, Bethlehem	60	28	
Monticello, North Side	47	66	

MEET YOUR STATE BSU OFFICERS

The state BSU vice-president in charge of enlistment is Miss Bob-bye McAlister, a sophomore in the College of the Ozarks at Clarksville. Miss McAlister is also secretary-treasurer of her Sunday school class, first vice-president of the Home Economics Club, secretary of the Training Union, member of the church choir and a member of the college choir. She attended Ridgecrest during Student Week last summer and plans to attend again this year.



Miss McAlister

State officers under the leadership of the state Student Union secretary will conduct a January Planning Conference, January 16-17, in Little Rock, a State Student Union Spring Retreat in Little Rock, April 23-24, take a group of Arkansas students to Student Week at Ridgecrest, June 9-16, and plan a State Student Union Convention for October 8-10. The special work of the State BSU first vice-president is to encourage the enlistment programs on the different college campuses. Our denominational future depends upon the enlistment, training, and conservation of our college young people.

As we face the new year these monetary needs confront us—\$100 per month to print an attractive state Baptist Student Union paper, \$250 for movie film of the work being done by the Baptist Student Union, \$500 to send an Arkansas Baptist student to Hawaii to do mission work during the summer vacation period.

One of the greatest needs is for Baptist Student Centers adjacent our state school campuses. We have several times as many Baptist students in state schools as there are in our Baptist schools. These young people need a Christian home at college, with daily, attractive, worthwhile programs of religious activity designed to meet their spiritual needs.

Many Baptists in other states are seeing this appalling need. Valuable pieces of property are being given and new buildings are being constructed, and large residences are being converted into Baptist Student Centers — spiritual light houses for each future student generation. Our young people today are our church and denominational leaders of tomorrow. Our future progress and ef-

fectiveness depends upon how efficiently we enlist, train, and use them during these formative years of their lives.

Individuals or student groups desiring to contribute to this program may do so through their church or state office by designating their contribution for student work.

Concerning the State Tournament

1. Three-fourths of the material found in the 1948 Intermediate Sword Drill tract will be used at the State Sword Drill, to be held at the State Training Union Convention, March 19-20, at Immanuel Church, Fort Smith. Material from July 1, 1947 through March 31, 1948 will be used.

2. All of the material found in the Junior Memory Drill mimeograph sheets will be used in the State Memory Drill at the State Convention.

3. Subjects for the Young People's Speakers Tournament are found in the 1948 tract.

4. Memory Drill sheets, and Sword Drill and Speakers' Tournament tracts may be secured free of charge by writing to the State Training Union Director, 212 Baptist Building, Little Rock.

5. Sword Drill and Speakers'

Tournament winners will be sent to Ridgecrest next summer with all expenses paid.

6. Church tournaments should be held not later than February. Associational tournaments should be set for the first part of March. Contact your associational Training Union director and urge him to set a date and place in your association for the tournament.

Ozark Celebrates Music Week

Opening with the dedication of the new Estey organ on Sunday night, the first week of church music emphasis was enthusiastically promoted by the people of the First Church, Ozark, led by Pastor Don Hook, and by Director Faber L. Tyler.

Mrs. William Patton, organist of First Church, Van Buren, was guest organist for the dedication recital, and the pastor led the impressive service of dedication in which the entire congregation participated. Mrs. B. W. Nininger directed the singing. Ninety-two people were enrolled in the school of church music for the week, and there was an average attendance of 50. Forty-eight singers consisting of junior, youth, and adult choirs participated in the hymn festival on the final night of the school. This was held in conjunction with the Workers' Conference of Clear Creek Association and was well attended by members of seven churches in the association.

Parkin in Church Music Emphasis

First Church, Parkin, under the leadership of Pastor Seibert Haley celebrated Church Emphasis Week with a large enrollment of people of all ages in a school of church music. This was also the occasion of installing the new Hammond Organ, which was beautifully played at the Sunday services by Mrs. Haley. Two choir groups including juniors and adults prepared several new selections of Christmas music for use during December.

Prepare Now for Church Planning Meeting

OUR TASK: The development of our 26,000 churches into active, aggressive, and evangelistic

churches is the unmistakable responsibility of Southern Baptists. Progress has been made, but our unfinished task is a challenge to every Southern Baptist.

OUR OPPORTUNITY: The present generation of associational Sunday School workers accept this challenge as a major opportunity, and are committed to a program through the district associations that will help every church do better Sunday School work.

OUR GOAL: We believe that the answer to this challenge is the church planning meetings to be promoted in every church under the direction of associational Sunday School workers.

The December 1947 issue of the Sunday School Bulletin is dedicated to this program and carries the guide material in planning and promoting the meetings.

Promote the meetings in your association. Plan to reach every church. Help the churches in your association "attempt great things for God."

OUR CENTENNIAL OBJECTIVES

The Arkansas Baptist State Convention voted last November to set up certain specific goals of achievement for 1948, which is the Centennial year of the Convention. These goals are:

I To win to Christ (and baptize) no less than 25,000 people;

II To complete successfully the campaign for \$1,000,000 for Ouachita College;

III To pay off, through the Honor Club, all of the old debt of the Convention.

These objectives are sufficient to challenge all Arkansas Baptists to earnest and continued prayer, to careful and comprehensive planning, and to the noblest and loftiest endeavors of our lives. Each one of these goals is worthy, and each one makes a strong appeal to all our people. Certainly every Baptist in Arkansas ought to be informed about these denominational objectives; and every Baptist should be enlisted in the effort to attain them all.

It will be well for every church Brotherhood in the state to dedicate a Brotherhood meeting to a study of these goals, setting them before the men, and then making plans to help reach them all.

Let's look at the objectives for the Centennial year.

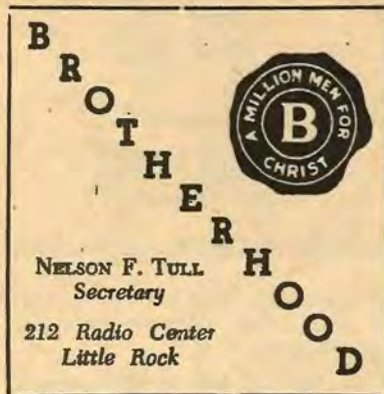
I. To win to Christ (and Baptize) no less than 25,000 people.

There are almost 200,000 Baptists in Arkansas to do this task; and the goal looks pitifully small when we consider that it represents only one soul to be won by every eight Baptists in the state. However, during 1947 it took between 17 and 18 of our people to win one soul to Christ; and the goal for 1948 is more than twice as many as we have ever reached for Christ in any one year of all our history!

Think of what it will mean to our state to have 25,000 new creations in Christ Jesus among its citizenship! Think of what it will mean to our denomination to have this transfusion of new life! Above all, consider what it will mean to the Saviour who died for everybody in Arkansas and the whole world! Consider, also, what it will mean to the missionary spirit of our people! Think of the spirit of revival that will be engendered! Think of the awakening of our people to the God-given tasks that are perennially ours!

Our church Brotherhoods should work mightily to help reach this goal. Here are some suggestions:

1. Enlarge the evangelistic committee of your Brotherhood to provide enough men to lead the Brotherhood out into a continuing program of personal soul-winning, household evangelism, community mission projects, institutional missions, street missions, and any other mission opportunity offered in your community. Make your evangelistic program entirely comprehensive.



2. Get the men of the Brotherhood thoroughly into every revival sponsored by your church.

3. Sponsor mission revivals.

4. Sponsor a Brotherhood revival in your church.

5. Assist weak churches in revival efforts.

6. Work with the associational missionary to see that every church in the association is able to report baptisms for the year.

7. Work to help make every organization in your church positively, aggressively, and continuously evangelistic.

8. Present the claims of Christ to everybody in your community.

II. To complete successfully the campaign for \$1,000,000 for Ouachita College.

Ouachita is our senior educational institution. Facilities there are crowded. Ouachita's very standing with accrediting agencies is threatened by lack of funds to provide minimum facilities for the growing student body. Ouachita needs more buildings, more endowment. And Ouachita needs these things now!

A greater Ouachita means a greater denomination!

Every Baptist man in Arkansas ought to be sold on the Ouachita Campaign and enlisted in the drive to raise \$1,000,000 to provide the facilities to help Ouachita to meet the enormous demands that are being made upon her. What a challenge to the Brotherhoods of our churches!

III. To pay off, through the Honor Club, all of the old debt of the Convention!

During the depression of the 30's, the creditors of the Convention offered to accept 35 cents on the dollar in settlement of the de-

nominal debt. Arkansas Baptists raised the required amount to do this, and the debt was legally paid. But our denominational leaders were not content to forget the balance of the debt.

The Honor Club was set up, a voluntary organization of Baptists throughout the state, and payments were begun on the remaining principal of the old debt. There remains a balance of about \$280,000 to be paid during the Centennial year.

Any person may become a member of the Honor Club by his (or her) agreement to pay \$1 or more each month to be applied to the retirement of the Honor Debt. Payments may be made as designated gifts through the local church, or they may be sent in to Baptist Headquarters in Little Rock.

Every Baptist man in Arkansas should be enlisted as a member of the Honor Club. Such a membership will not only pay off the debt in a short time, but also give every Honor Club member a part in all

that Arkansas Baptists have done through the years. The Brotherhood has a task here that it can enter with all zeal!

Central College

Another sacred objective of Arkansas Baptists for 1948 is to insure the total success of Central College in its move to the Little Rock area. As a co-educational institution located in a densely populated area, Central will be able to provide Christian educational opportunities to a host of young people, and to make a distinct contribution to the denomination and to the state. Prospects are exceedingly bright for Central.

Our church Brotherhoods should inform the men of our churches concerning Central College, its move to the Little Rock area, its possibilities for growth and development there, its new opportunities and its needs. One of our Brotherhood objectives is "liberal support and patronage of our denominational institutions."

Book Binding	Single Copy	Doeer	Hundred
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THE MODERN HYMNAL	1.15	12.50	95.00
THE BROADMAN HYMNAL	1.15	12.50	95.00
THE AMERICAN HYMNAL	1.15	12.50	95.00
VOICE OF PRAISE	.85	10.15	75.00
PRECIOUS HYMNS	.85	10.15	75.00
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LOOK AND LIVE SONGS	.75	9.35	72.35
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Matthews and McKinney To Be Among Leaders Of Evangelistic Conference



C. E. Matthews



B. B. McKinney

One of the outstanding features of the state-wide meeting on evangelism will be the conference periods. Dr. C. E. Matthews, director of evangelism of the Home Mission Board, will lead the entire congregation in a conference on simultaneous associational revivals.

Each person will be furnished with an outline of an organization and plan of setting up and carrying out such a campaign. This will enable those who attend to get a practical side of evangelism along with the inspirational. It will also help to direct the spiritual impetus into direct and practical channels of service.

Following the conference led by Dr. Matthews associational group conferences will be held. It is hoped that there will be a sufficient number from each association to justify holding an associational conference. The purpose of these conferences will be to decide as to whether or not a simultaneous campaign will be held in 1948 and if so, to set the date and set up the organization to promote same.

Even if the association does not have a simultaneous campaign it will probably be wise to have an organization to push evangelism so that no section will be neglected and that the centennial year will be made one of great soul-winning efforts. Hence, it is very important that all pastors, and educational and music directors, be present and take part in a conference in order for each association to help make the centennial year a year of outstanding evangelism. It is hoped that 15,000 people may be won to the Lord in 1948. To win this number will take plans as well as prayer and preaching.

Another inspiring part of the evangelistic conference will be the music under the direction of

Dr. B. B. McKinney of Nashville, Tenn. Mr. McKinney is well known throughout the Southland as a writer of gospel songs and an outstanding director of music in evangelistic campaigns. He knows how to make music contribute to the spiritual atmosphere of any meeting. His presence at the conference and the music under his direction will certainly add great inspiration to every service.

A letter has gone out this week to all of the pastors urging them to attend this important conference. The people in Little Rock will furnish bed and breakfast Monday and Tuesday nights for those who attend. However, it will be necessary to have the names of those who plan to attend so that proper assignments may be made. Every preacher is urged to notify the Mission Department at once if he expects to attend and desires a reservation in some home.

—oOo—
NEW BOOK

"Great is the Company," by Violet Wood, Friendship Press, New York, 1947, 169 pages, paper 75 cents, cloth \$1.25.

Dr. W. O. Carver, professor of missions, Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky., says of this book:

"Here is a most fascinating little book of 12 chapters in which

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West Plains, Mo.

the Bible is seen in its actual work among peoples in many lands. In a series of stories, vitally told and picturesquely presented, the author has succeeded in giving essential facts about the nature of the Bible, about its translation into thousand tongues of men, and at the same time about its power for transmitting the life of the Spirit, who gave the Word, into the lives of men in all lands and under all conditions. The romance and tragedy of the production and the transmission of the Bible are found here.

"Here are thumbnail sketches of some of the great missionaries who translated the Word of God into the languages of people who as yet had no literature. Here are the graphic pictures of the way in which the peoples received the Word of God when it came to them for the first time. Here are fascinating accounts of the changes which were wrought in the lives of primitive peoples, and of the cultures which sprang out of their knowledge of the Bible.

"I was amazed at the vast amount of material which is crammed in such limited space."

Southern Baptists Can Make This Dream Come True!

A Baptist Medical Ministry for South America at Asunción



The missionary doctor, so beloved in Asia and Africa, has had little chance to serve Latin America because of legal restrictions. Now Paraguay may have a mission hospital to minister to those who need medical aid but cannot pay for it. In this still bruised and bleeding battleground in the heart of South America, Southern Baptists can demonstrate the gospel of healing love. So far as is known, it will be the first Baptist mission hospital project on the continent and the first general hospital opened by evangelical

Christianity in that country.

One nurse is already at work; a doctor is on the way. Other volunteers for this type of pioneer Christian service are now in training in the States. They deserve to be appointed when they qualify.

But medical work is expensive. To enter this wide open door into the hearts of the neglected, long-suffering masses of Latin America, a mission board must have a big increase in funds for its medical work.

Continue to give

through the CO-OPERATIVE PROGRAM

Southern Baptists Can Help European Baptists

By ERWIN L. McDONALD
Publicity Director, Southern Seminary

What can Southern Baptists do for their fellow Baptists in war-stricken Europe?

Answering this question in a talk recently at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Dr. Bela Udvarnoki, president of the Baptist Seminary in Budapest, Hungary, offered the following suggestions.

1. Southern Baptists must see Europe as a great and needy mission field. Food and clothing must be sent immediately for emergency relief, but the real need in Europe is for the gospel of Christ.

2. Southern Baptists can greatly strengthen the work of European Baptists by helping to organize new churches. The Baptist churches of Europe are making a great impact for Christ, but there must be more churches for a greater ministry.

3. Southern Baptists can be of great service in helping to unite the Baptists of the various nations on the Continent, where national boundaries are like walls that keep the various national groups segregated.

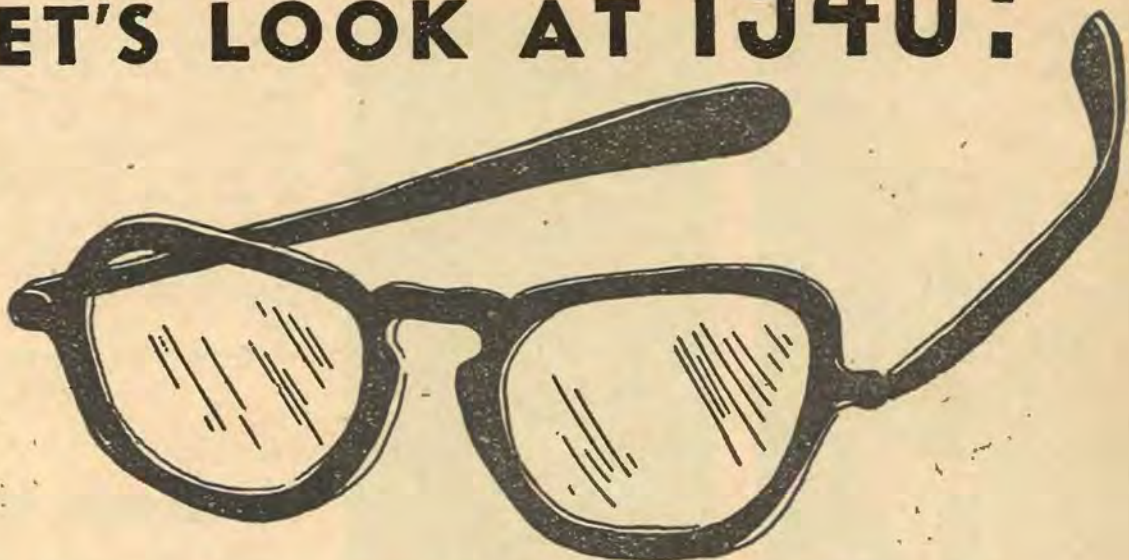
4. Southern Baptists could make a real contribution by helping to establish and maintain an English-language Baptist paper for Europe as a medium of disseminating information, promoting unity of fellowship and service, and for the teaching of the great doctrines of the Bible. (Dr. Udvarnoki suggests as the title of such publication, "The European Baptist").

5. Southern Baptists are already considering plans for the establishment of a strong, Continental Baptist Theological Seminary that would train European Baptists for maximum Christian leadership and service. Possibly the best location for such seminary would be Switzerland.

6. Baptist seminaries in the various nations of Europe are greatly in need of the strengthening support of Southern Baptists. None of the present seminaries have adequate facilities, and the most of them have only part-time professors. "We work among people of culture and not among witch-doctors," Dr. Udvarnoki said. "We must either provide schools that can come up to the high scholastic standing of the Catholics and Protestants in their state-supported institutions or be laughingstocks."

Pastor L. D. Eppinette, East Avenue Church, Springfield, Mo., writes concerning revival services in which Pastor L. H. Davis, Calvary Church, Ft. Smith, did the preaching. He says: "Pastor Davis did some excellent Gospel preaching."

LET'S LOOK AT 1948:



Now that we have a brand new year ahead of us—a year that will be one day longer than last year—we would like to take a minute or two to point out some of the things we hope to accomplish in 1948:

CONCERNING OUR EXPANSION PROGRAM:

During the war we formulated plans of an expansion of our facilities so that we might serve thousands of new customers. Those plans, which represented an expenditure of many millions of dollars, were carried forth last year to the fullest possible extent consistent with the supply of materials, many of which are still scarce. 1948 will see no let-up in this greatest expansion program in our history.

CONCERNING IMPROVED SERVICE:

Perhaps the most important part of our program of expansion has been the millions of dollars spent on new lines, generating equipment, and additional sub-stations. This means that in 1948 we will be able to create more electric power—and deliver it more dependably than ever before, a point of extreme importance to the many new industries that are coming to our state.

CONCERNING THE COST OF YOUR ELECTRICITY:

As very nearly everyone knows by now, electric power is almost the only major item in today's cost-of-living budget that has not skyrocketed! Fact of the matter is, our customers are now receiving more than TWICE as much electricity for their dollar as they did 20 years ago. What accounts for this? Just plain hard work—plus intelligent BUSINESS-MANAGEMENT! And you may be sure that on every one of the 366 days in 1948, we will KEEP on working to keep electric service your biggest bargain!

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Most Vital Need of World Is Belief In God Through Faith

By MRS. ROLAND LEATH

In this series of lessons on great Christian teachings we shall find ourselves seriously considering many great doctrines of the Bible. Following the lesson last week on the importance of our beliefs, we logically ask the question, What do we know or believe about God? May I say, the most vital need of this world at the beginning of a new year is not money, or even food, but it is belief in God.

Those of us who are Christians have no serious difficulties as to our belief in God or as to our knowledge concerning Him because of our faith in the Son, the revelation of the Father. But, the majority of the peoples of the world, with no experience of grace, have a great deal of difficulty in believing that there is a God at all.

"We believe ourselves," a group of young people in our church recently said, "that the Bible is God's Word, but what can we say to unbelievers who do not have what we do so as to lead them to see the error of their belief and show them our assurance and faith?" Just such an attitude as that group possessed should be ours as we teach "Belief in God." We have the key to men's hearts, we have so much to give sin-sick, weary, discouraged people who know not our God.

God Leads Men to See Him

We all want to get closer to our God, to be more mindful of Him, and to love Him with a new fidelity. God is so good, so merciful, so long-suffering, so conscious of the needs of weak, sinful man. He has not left man without some guideposts by which He might be reached.

The living spirit within every human being bears witness to an eternal God. Remember the words of the Proverb, "The spirit of man is the lamp of Jehovah . . ." (Proverbs 20:27). With this lamp within man has that constant companion, conscience. That strange inner sense, whether it accuses or approves, reveals to man the presence of a higher power, although the conscience can be definitely led astray or oftentimes seared.

Then the universe itself with all the beauties and wonders thereof proclaims aloud the glory

Sunday School Lesson For January 11.

Scripture: Isaiah 40: 28-31; John 14: 8-14.

of an almighty God. His diety is "clearly seen" so Paul says by all: "For the invisible things of him since the creation of the world are clearly seen, being perceived through the things that are made, even his everlasting power and divinity: that they may be without excuse" (Romans 1:20).

The very food of which we daily partake is a witness to Him (Acts 14:17). The seasons, day and night (Genesis 8:22), the perfectness of the constellations, and the mechanism of the human body itself bespeaks the presence and power of God.

So we turn to the Old Testament and then the New for our definite views of the eternal God. What do you know about God? From the depth of my soul I pray that we who attempt to teach the Word of God shall give our people Truth. So much of our energies are spent on countless things while our people starve for Bread. We need to give them a clear idea of God. The Christian Century recently published an article in which the author said too many Christians have "fantastically fuzzy ideas about God." In our discouraged and chaotic world of today we need a clear, concise, enlarged idea of God's power and goodness.

Isaiah Knew and Described His Power

Surely all realize knowledge of God does not suffice. One is not a Christian who merely believes that God exists; one is a Christian who believes through faith that He is (Hebrews 11:6) and that He provides a Saviour, the Son, as the Bible teaches. Isaiah knew Him in all His glory and

power and he leads us to see Him as he describes their great God to dark, discouraged Israel.

In the second division of his prophecy, which begins with the 40th chapter, Isaiah turns to a new theme as he seeks to deliver a message of redemption and hope to Israel. He is an eloquent, fiery, faithful preacher of God's truth and his heart yearns over his people. In these verses he exhorts them to look up and behold the majestic greatness of their God.

"O blinded Israel," Isaiah seemed to be trying to say, "you who should know Him so well, can you not realize who He is—the creator of the ends of the earth, the giver of all things, the eternal God who never tires, never falters, never fails!" Isaiah is reminding them of all their forefathers had passed on to them, of all they knew as a nation concerning their God."

Had He not led them out of bondage in Egypt? After this miraculous deliverance He fed them, gave them water, constantly hovered over them in the cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night. He gave them laws, the way of approach to Him, opened unto them a land, ruled over them, punished their sins only to forgive and re-establish them in His love when they repented. Surely Israel had known this mighty God, had heard of this gracious loving care.

What mighty things can happen in men's lives when God gives renewed life and hope. Not only that but as the eagle, swift and proud, dominates the skies so shall man soar above the pettiness and smallness of carnal spirits in all their vindictive, prejudiced, ugly actions. And men shall live and serve without becoming weary or faint. What blessed hope for Israel and for people today!

How is it that God is able to help thusly? "They that wait upon the Lord receive from Him." What does waiting on the Lord include? "Keep near Him; keep still; expect. Keep hold of God's hand in expectation, in submission, in close union, and the con-

tact will communicate something of His own power" (Alexander McLaren).

Jesus, the Perfect Revelation

Jesus did not have to depend upon descriptive words or any of the things which men frequently use to teach of the Father because He and the Father are one and through Jesus we have our knowledge of God. Religion is experience, not knowledge, as the world regards facts. Those who know the Son, know the Father. This was the one truth which Jesus desired so greatly to burn into His disciples' souls.

To know Jesus as Saviour, to trust Him completely as Master and Lord, to love Him devotedly and walk hand in hand with Him in crisis and every day existence is to know the perfection of love which is our Heavenly Father. The promise, both of service and prayer, which Jesus gave to His inner circle that night has been kept and increased over and over again.

The followers of Christ since Pentecost have witnessed of the love of the Heavenly Father to countless billions. Today from the Father through the Son we have the promises of service, answered prayer and unbroken fellowship kept and demonstrated to the glory of our Saviour. The only limit is that which we place ourselves by our sins and stubborn wills.

In answer to our objective we find from Isaiah's knowledge and Jesus' revelation that in order to have the clear idea of God which we need we must, first, know the Son, the perfect revelation, as Saviour and Lord; and second, wait upon God our Father that He might lead and guide our ways.

SECOND SEMESTER

East Texas Baptist College

February 2, 1948

A few rooms available for both young men and young women. Applications should be made at once to:

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A Young Preacher Provides For His Loved Ones

The Ministers Retirement Plan was brought into being for the express purpose of providing means whereby, through the cooperative effort the pastor, the church, and the denomination could make provision for the retirement of the minister as might be necessary either for age or disability. No attempt was made in that plan to provide any benefit to his dependents in case of his premature death, except to refund the accumulation of dues and interest that had accrued to his personal account.

The Widows Supplemental Annuity Plan now undertakes to provide for the pastor's wife if she should be left a widow during the days of the pastor's active ministry by providing a regular monthly income during all the days of her widowhood instead of just refunding the accumulated dues of the minister.

Thus with the Ministers Retirement Plan and the Widows Supplemental Annuity Plan, every contingency of life is covered—old age, disability, and death.

Let us consider now an illustrative case:

A member of the Ministers Retirement Plan, age 30, with salary basis of \$250 per month studies the salient features of the Widows Supplemental Annuity Plan. This is what he sees:

Benefits

(If you delay entering after you are first eligible or if your wife is more than 10 years younger than you, the benefits will be slightly reduced.)

If your death should occur within one year after entry into Plan, your widow would receive refund of all payments (average salary is computed only on the time that you are paying dues on the Widows Supplemental Annuity Plan); if death should occur within one to two years, your widow would receive 10 per cent of your average salary; two to three years, 12 per cent; three to four years, 14 per cent; four to five years, 16 per cent; five to six years, 18 per cent; six or more years after entry into Plan, 20 per cent of average salary.

Cost

When you are under 60 years of age, your dues will be one and one-half per cent of your salary basis; between 60 and 70 years, two per cent; over 70, two and one-half per cent.

When you retire from age, the Widows Annuity Plan ceases to operate and no further dues are paid. Protection for the wife may be continued at your option under the terms of the Ministers Retirement Plan.

When you retire from disability, the Widows Annuity Plan protection is contin-

ued in effect without further dues on your part.

In event of your death the Widows Supplemental Annuity Plan assures that as regular as the mail your wife would receive \$50 every month of her widowhood (graduated benefit during first six years of participation in plan).

For this protection you would pay only \$3.75 per month (on your salary basis) and at no extra cost all dues will be waived in event of total and permanent disability.

Best of all the Plan is available to every member of Retirement Plan regardless of age or physical condition.

Compared With Life Insurance

At age 30 for \$3.75 per month you could buy only \$2,300 of whole life insurance, which would give your widow \$50 per month for only 46 months. For a small additional cost you can have all premiums waived in event of total and permanent disability. But these benefits are available only to those who can pass a physical examination!

You recognize that if you should die and your wife at age 44 began to receive \$50 each month and lived a normal life span of only 69 years she would receive a total of \$15,000. She might live longer and receive even more. She could not out-live her income.

You know that the Ministers Retirement Plan is primarily a savings plan building cash values to provide for: first, the minister and his wife in old age; or, second, the minister in case of disability.

You see that the Widows Supplemental Annuity Plan is entirely a protective plan (having no cash values) to provide for the minister's wife in event of his premature death.

You recognize that together these plans offer complete security.

Protect Your Loved Ones

Your loved ones look to you for their needs of today and their security tomorrow. You cannot fail them.

Through the years the Widows Supplemental Annuity Plan brings peace and security.

... Assures the basic needs year after year.

... Continues income on regular monthly basis as family is accustomed to receive it.

... Income is definite and certain.

... Unaffected by fluctuating conditions; guaranteed against shrinkage.

... Requires no administration, no fees, no delay, and no red tape.

Put your mind at rest now; keep theirs at rest then.

Oak Grove and Hughes

It was the writer's privilege to be with the Oak Grove Church recently as it celebrated the opening of an addition to the church building. Oak Grove is a rural church in Harmony Association.

The brethren who established this church had vision and foresight enough to locate the building in a prominent place, facing highway 65. They could have found cheaper property, but they wanted the Lord's house in the best place. The church has been going several years, but recently it erected an annex which gives rooms for the organizations and classes of the church.

Pastor R. D. Hughes is a progressive leader and a tireless worker. He not only knows how things ought to be done, but he is also forward in helping to do them himself. It would have been difficult indeed for the church to have made this forward step without a man like Pastor Hughes to lead them and help them.

This little church has a baptistery which not many rural churches have. We believe that more people would be baptized into the fellowship of our rural churches if they had baptistery accommodations. It is getting late in the season now for people to go to the streams for baptismal services. Many rural churches will baptize no more until next summer. But Pastor Hughes was to have baptized several people three weeks ago. He will baptize others this winter. They can warm the water as they pipe it into the baptistery.

We were there on a rainy day, but a house full of people gathered. Hughes is making an unusually fine leader.

Young Preachers Ready For The Pastorate

The authorities at the seminary in Louisville report that several men will finish their work at the seminary this year, and will be available for the pastorate. We suggest that pastorless churches, and churches that will become pastorless soon, take these names and contact any man whom they feel led to approach. Here they are:

Garland H. Allen, Tuckerman, Th.M.; Derward William Deere, Malvern, Th.D.; Henry Jackson Flanders, Jr., Little Rock, B. D.; Barney R. Freasier, Little Rock, B. D.; J. Leland Hall, Little Rock, B.D.; Thomas E. Lindley, Pine Bluff, B.D.; Weldon E. Marcum, Jonesboro, Th.M.; William Franklin Montgomery, Donaldson, Th.M.; John H. Parrott, Tuckerman, Th.M.; Charles Frank Pitts, Harrisburg, B.D.; John Edward Steely, Arkadelphia, Th.M.; Alfred C. Vansant, Jacksonville, Th.M.; Lehman Franklin Webb, Tuckerman, Th.M.; Glenn C. Womack, Almond, B.D.