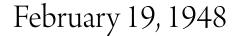
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Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1945-1949

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

2-19-1948



Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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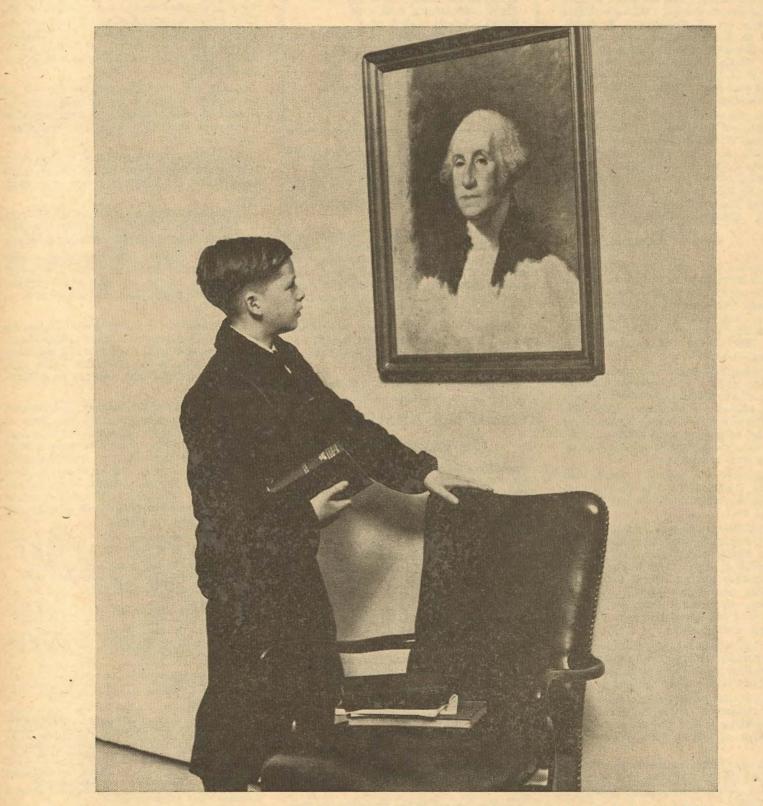
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VOLUME 47

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, FEBRUARY 19, 1948



"America Will Be Safe in His Hands"

-Photo by H. Armstrong Roberts

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

PAGE TWO

Brotherhood Marches On!

NELSON F. TULL, Secretary

Below is a letter from one of Arkansas' most gifted and capable young pastors, Brother Lloyd A. Sparkman, of the Southside Baptist Church, Pine Bluff:

"Dear Brother Tull:

Southside men are on the march. Friday night, February 7th, the Charter meeting of the Southside Baptist Brotherhood was held. Fifty-one men were present. All committees were set up with full membership. Every man was given a job. Already they are at work. Activities Vice-President Justin Compton has met with his chairmen and set them to their tasks. Enthusiasm is high. Officers elected and installed are as follows: J .E. Short, President; M. R. Hunter, Membership Vice-President; Horace Henderson, Program Vice-President; Justin Compton, Activities Vice-President; B. G. Mosley, Secretary-Treasurer; Alton Bush and Allen Meeks, Choristers; Bill Pool and Carleton Harris, Pianists.

We think the secret of the great beginning was the excellent ground-work laid. Adequate study and careful preparation were made. Your coming and very lucid explanations made all the difference in the world. These are wonderful fellows here in our church. It is a joy to be their pastor.

I felt that you would want to know about the results. Blessings on you.

Sincerely,

Lloyd A. Sparkman."

The following is a report of the Brotherhood of the First Baptist Church of Siloam Springs for 1947. The report was made by the president, Fay Kennedy, to the church at the close of last year. It is printed in this column because it shows the activities of a particular Brotherhood and its contribution to the program of its church.

"The Brotherhood meets one evening each month. We have a thirty-minute business session, at which time committee reports are given and business is discussed. Then follows the thirty-minute program arranged by the program committee; and after the program we have a thirty-five minute fellowship period with refreshments.

"Although our Brotherhood is small, with only twenty members enrolled, we feel that we have accomplished much for our Lord in the year of 1947.

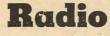
"The Brotherhood has organized three missions and is holding services regularly at each mission on Friday night. The first mission was organized in April at Robinson, where recently we have had an average attendance of thirty-five each Friday evening. We have definite plans to turn the Robinson mission into a full time Baptist church, with a pastor on the field, during 1948.

"The second mission was organized in October, at Martin school house. The attendance there is smaller, an average of fifteen being present at the Friday night services.

"The third mission was organized at Sequoyoh in December. An arrangement committee is working toward the opening of another mission at Prairie View in the near future.

"We find the people in the rural districts hungering for the Word of God; and we thank God that we have the privilege of taking the Word to them.

"Every Friday night the Brotherhood meets at the church, divides into three groups to go to the different missions. A man who can



"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—Texarkaha, 8:45 a. m. KFFA—Helena, 1:30 p. m. KWFC—Hot Springs, 1:30 p. m. KGHI—Little Rock, 10:15 p. m. KELD—El Dorado, 3:30 p. m. KVRC—Arkadelphia, 4:00 p. m. KUOA—Siloam Springs, 4:15 p. m. KWHN—Ft. Smith, 4:45 p. m.

lead singing is sent along with each group. There are two ministers in our church who are members of the Brotherhood. These help the pastor preach at the missions. However, we have laymen who can bring a Gospel message.

"During 1947 we had six professions of faith in the mission services. That alone has made our Brotherhood program worthwhile. The Brotherhood also sponsored two revival meetings during the year; and in addition, the men of the Brotherhood have donated many hours of labor on our new church building.

"We are proud of our 1947 Brotherhood record; and we are praying that we will have more and greater things to report to the church at the end of 1948.

"We covet your prayers to that end."

___000____

Dances Not Allowed On Ouachita Campus

Recently the Arkansas Gazette carried a news item stating that there was to be a Valentine Formal Dance on the Ouachita campus. This led people to believe that there are dances on the Ouachita campus. In commenting on this report, Dr. J. R. Grant, president, says, "There are no dances, formal or informal, on the Ouachita College campus. The affair is known as the annual Valentine formal. It is a party at which students appear in their best clothes and engage in social activities in a formal manner. Ouachita is owned and operated by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, which does not sanction dancing."

Dr. Grant further stated that there are no fraternities or sororities at Ouachita.

The above statement was carried in the Arkansas Gazette on February 11.

-000-

Pastoral Changes

Wilford Lee has resigned as pastor of the First Baptist Church, Crossett to accept the pastorate of the Baptist Church of Lealand, Miss.

J. F. Bow, pastor of the Green Forest Baptist Church has accepted a call to the Baptist Church of Success, Ark. Bro. Bow has been pastor in Green Forest for the past two years.

"Was Gandhi a Christian?"

By LOUIE D. NEWTON

Time and time again, since the tragic assasination of Gandhi I have been asked, "Was Gandhi a Christian?" I have listened to the statements on the radio that he was the greatest living Christian, and I have read many similar statements in the newspapers.

Sorrowfully, I have to cite his own words to Mr. A. W. Baker, a lay preacher, after Mr. Baker explained the plan of salvation. "If this be Christianity I cannot accept it. I do not seek redemption from the consequences of my sin. I seek to be redeemed from sin itself, or rather from the very thought of sin. Until I have attained that end, I shall be content to be restless." Page 131, Mahatma Gandhi—His Own Story, MacMillan Company. Thus the most influential man in the world spoke.

Gandhi did say: "I regard the Sermon on the Mount as one of the greatest religious statements ever uttered. If only everyone would seek first the kingdom of righteousness!"

But there is no record, that I have been able to find, that he ever believed on the Lord Jesus Christ. "I shall be content to be restless."

But why, someone is asking, did he not turn to Christianity? Perhaps it was the way Christians treated him. He indicated as much.

But how, another will ask, could a man live like Gandhi lived, and not be a believer? How could a man so marvelously embody the teachings of Christ, and not accept Him as Saviour?

I have read again a half dozen volumes on his life and work since his tragic death. I marvel that anyone could think and talk and serve like that, and not be a Christian. How anyone could pray like that, and not be a Christian.

What, let me ask you, even as I ask my own heart, what if some Christian had been at his best rather than his worst at the crucial moment when Gandhi might have been won? What, let me again ask, if those so-called Christian teachers in the seminary at Gori had mediated Christ to Stalin, when he was studying for the priesthood? What might have been the story today, had Gandhi and Stalin been won to Christ?

ARKANSAS BAPTIST 206 BAPTIST BUILDING, LITTLE ROCK Official Publication of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention

B. H.	DUNCAN	¥	 DITOR
MRS.	LESLIE	w.	ASST.

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PAGE THREE

Across the Editor's Desk

Protestant Call For Freedom

(Editorial in the Watchman-Examiner January 29, 1948)

A timely warning has been sounded to the American people by the new nation-wide organization known as Protestants and other Americans United for Separation of Church and State. The time has come to mobilize patriotic and religious citizens throughout the nation into a "front and concerted resistance to the encroachments" which the new organization condemns with strong words and resolutions. It is affirmed that this movement is not controlled by a motive of religious intolerance. It is a frank facing of the fact that "one of the long-range purposes of this Church (the Roman Catholic Church) is to secure total support of its extensive system of parochial schools from the public treasury."

The First Amendment

The manifesto declares: "The plain meaning of the First Amendment to the Constitution which forbids Congress to make any law 'respecting an established religion' has been obscured by specious propaganda tending to confuse in the public mind the clear-cut line of separation which the amendment draws between the church and state. We shall endeavor (1) to revive in the public mind a clear understanding of the constitutional basis upon which religious liberty has been guaranteed, (2) to repress the specific violations which have recently come into force, and (3) to resist further encroachment upon this constitutional principle. It is no part of our purpose to propagandize the Protestant faith or any other, nor to criticize nor oppose the teaching or internal practices of the Roman Catholic Church or any other. We have no connection or sympathy with any movement that is tinged with religious fanaticism." The manifesto further states that "we are not deceived by the disguise under which the appointee to this ambassadorship (referring to the appointment of Myron C. Taylor as envoy to the Vatican) was labeled as the President's personal ambassador." There is also added that "our controversy is not with any church, Roman Catholic or any other. Our controversy is with those lawmakers and law administrators who would yield to the demand of any church for a relation to the state which the Constitution forbids."

The day following the publication of the manifesto, representatives of the Knights of Columbus issued a wordy fulmination charging the signers of the manifesto with "bigotry" and "intolerance," designating them as "wolves in sheep's clothing." No attempt whatever was made to answer the manifesto in its practical phases, as would be expected. The Knights would rather shriek intolerance than discuss whether or not principle of vast importance to the American people is being violated.

Signers of Manifesto

The signers of the Protestant manifesto are Dr. Edwin McNeill Poteat, president of Colgate-Rochester Divinity School; Dr. Charles Clayton Morrison, editor emeritus of The Christian Century; Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, Methodist, New York; Dr. John A. Mackay, president of Princeton Theological Seminary; Dr. Louie D. Newton, president of the Southern Baptist Convention. None of these gentlemen in any sense whatever could be classed as intolerant.

The ideas which are being introduced into this country to employ public money for sectarian purposes and to cause our government's foreign policy to be influenced by the Vatican are innovations of a menacing nature. True patriotism will be best served by public and political representatives defending the great principle of separation of church and state. All political aspirants who make concessions to the Roman Catholic bloc-or any other sectarian bloc-in this country should be marked men, and our distrust of their policies should be made known unto them. Unless we do this now, sectarian pressure may make it impossible for us to vote for a candidate in the forthcoming presidential election who has not already pledged himself to some form of violation of separaof church and state. This is the issue of the year, and we must fact it courageously with clarity and fairness.

Liquor or Bread, Which?

Does it not seem strange that, while men and nations are struggling with hunger which threatens the life of little children, the aged, and infirm, and while short rations reduce the energy and efficiency of the worker, millions of bushels of grain should be diverted to the manufacture of alcoholic liquors?

All limitations are taken off American distillers and they may use as much grain for the manufacture of spirit liquors as they desire. At the same time our government asks the American people to reduce their consumption of bread so that we may ship wheat to the needy nations of Europe.

But that is not the whole story. The European nations, which are depending so heavily upon American aid to raise their standard of living and increase their ration of bread, are themselves using millions of bushels of grain for the manufacture of liquors.

But the manufacturers of liquor will go on making their deadly stuff, even though children are starving and workers are undernourished and production of essential goods is slowed up.

Somebody is being held responsible for this situation, and somebody will have to give an account to an holy God for taking bread from the starving and turning it into liquor.

FINISHED AND UNFINISHED

A Devotion by The Editor

We are constantly coming to the end of things. But with each end we reach there is also a beginning. Life is continuous; there may be stages, accomplishments, reverses or sharp turns, but if we live there is no complete cessation! this is the meaning of immorality, though death ends one phase of our existence, we begin at death another phase of life.

Someone has said that it takes but few words to say that a thing is finished, ended, done. But it takes a book of words to tell what is finished, and how, and why. And then when everything is explanied and the explanation ended, what seems to have ended, if the event is significant enough, proves not to have ended at all.

Jesus came to a time in His experience when He said, "It is finished." But we know from the subsequent events, from the testimony of the disciples, and from the record of Christianity, that with the completion of whatever Jesus had in mind, He entered upon a greater work, into a wider realm, a more far reaching ministry to the human race.

A thing is finished when it is entirely achieved and entirely fitted to its purpose. Jesus had brought His best and His all to the work of salvation. He had spared nothing in the accomplishment of His life work. And it was now finished, complete, and would never have to be done again.

What He had been, and done, and sought, had brought Him to the cross. His life work was finished. There were no flaws in the completed task. Love and goodness had become the revelation of the divine nature, and the divine redeeming purpose. No one would ever have to die on any cross again to reveal what love is or what it can do for sinful and depraved humanity.

There is a sense in which the cross was not the end. The cross, instead of becoming a terminal, became a point of departure. Time begins anew and life begins anew for every penitent heart at Calvary's Cross. "The descent from the cross" will never be finished so long as sin-burdened hearts lose their burdens at the cross, so long as devout spirits bow in devotion at the foot of the cross.

It has been said that the world will never be done with the cross until the cross is done with the world. "There is a power in love and goodness, raised to the power of the cross, with which every other power must deal and before which every other power in the long last is powerless." Hatred and evil and illwill never finish anything. Love and goodness, brought to completion at the cross, have the power to shape victoriously all the unfinished continuity toward its appointed end.

We are to take up the work of Christ at the cross and carry it on from there. We cannot begin elsewhere. Where the work of Christ in the flesh ended, our work in the flesh begins, and any other starting point for us becomes pure presumption.

"When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost."

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

Mission Study Reported

Mrs. Clyde H. Finley, mission study chairman of Concord Association sends an interesting report on mission study for the past year There were 77 classes held, 70 among the women and 7 in auxiliaries for young people. The largest number of classes was reported from the First Church, Ft. Smith 34 having been completed. Mrs. Finley indicates that perhaps there were many others not reported to her. We are grateful to Mrs. Finley for this splendid report and for the fine work she is doing.

Southern Baptists Can Make This Dream Come True!

Baptist Centers of Evangelism in Strategic Cities of the World



I he Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention fosters evangelism abroad through local bodies of baptized believers. Wherever a church shows courage and initiative in witnessing to its community with all its resources, the Board offers help to minister more effectively to that community. Because Christ went about teaching, preaching, and healing, each church attempts to witness to their faith in the same way.

Orleans Center all garments they

can possibly spare. Shoes, stock-

ings, bedding, clothing, blankets,

felt hats to make children's shoes,

leather purses filled with needles

and thread are some of the things

needed so badly. In purchasing

a new suit or a new dress, please

remember our unfortunate friends

and send your used clothing to the

Southern Baptist Relief Center,

740 Esplanade Ave., New Orleans,

La. The number of duffle bags

necessary for shipment to New

Orleans may also be had upon re-

quest."

Many a Baptist congregation in countries where public education and public health services are unknown supports a school and a dispensary. As the church grows it gives birth to daughter churches, and with

Continue to give

their help the school becomes a college, the dispensary a hospital, and the Vacation Bible school perhaps a home for homeless children. A strong center of Christian evangelism de-

Southern Baptists have assumed a share of the job of evangelizing twenty-five nations by gifts of men and money to such centers of indigenous Christianity. From Christian institutions, where missionaries work shoulder to shoulder with fellow Christians, new-born men and women and boys and girls go forth to witness to the reality of God in human life.

Woman's Missionary Union

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

MRS. J. E. SHORT President MRS. C. H. RAY

Executive Secretary and Treasurer

MISS LAVERNE ASHBY Young People's Secretary ALVIN HATTON Royal Ambassador Secretary

Day of Prayer

Mrs. W. C. Newberry, president of the W. M. U. at Light expresses appreciation for the program material for the Community Missions Day of Prayer. Her organization observed the Day of Prayer the latter part of January and reports a very inspirational program. The program material was prepared by Mrs. F. E. Goodbar, State Community Missions Chairman.

News from Chile

"Our second copy of Good Housekeeping has just come and it is hard to say which of us enjoy it most. Allen loves to find different things in them. Tonight we had a cake that I got the idea of from a picture in the issue that came today. This American contact really gives us a lift. I want to thank you again and again not only for the magazine but for the Arkansas Baptist which you can be assured that we read every word of every line.

"Hugo is spending most of his time studying these days. We plan to leave soon for Temuco and he wants to be able to understand what will take place in the Chilean Baptist Convention. He is also to speak there to the encampment of all missionaries to Chile. All denominations come together orice a year for a get-together and English is spoken, so that is why he can speak to them."—Ruth Culpepper.

Clear Creek Rally

Mrs. Roy Van Horn, superintendent of Clear Creek Associations reports a good meeting of her association recently regardless of the ice and snow. Five churches were represented. The Rev. W. L.

> SECOND SEMESTER February 2, 1948

East Texas Baptist College

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

> H. D. BRUCE, PRESIDENT MARSHALL, TEXAS

Yeldell, pastor at Clarksville, brought a wonderful message. Mrs. Van Horn plans to visit in the churches in her association to help promote W. M. U. work as soon as possible.

Misionary Round Tables

We are very anxious to have a complete report on the number of Missionary Round Tables for the past year. We would also be glad to receive the names of missionary societies where every member has read a mission book in 1947. Please send all this information to the W. M. U. office at once.

Southern Baptist Relief

Thousands of Southern Baptists contributed clothing, bedding, and shoes to the Southern Baptist Relief Center in New Orleans during the month of December. The Reverend Clovis A. Brantley, Director, gives the following information:

"Approximate number of pounds received 648,434, number pounds baled and wrapped for shipping, 282,000, at an approximate cost of 8c per pound to receive, store, process and ship. By working a day and night crew in the processing department, about 15,000 pounds of clothing are being processed per day and shipped overseas without delay.

"Each bale of clothing carries copies of the scriptures printed in the language of the country to which the clothing is consigned, the scriptures being furnished by the American Bible Society. In addition to these Gospels, all future shipments will carry tracts furnished by the LeTourneau Evangelistic Center.

Baptists are urged to go through their closets and send to the New

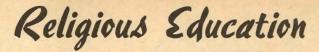
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PAGE FIVE



EDGAR WILLIAMSON, DIRECTOR R. O. BARKER Sunday School Superintendent RALPH W. DAVIS Training Union Director Bapitst Building, Little Rock

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

Intermediates in **Great Numbers to B.T.U.** Convention

Sectional meetings on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning will be of great interest to all Intermediates and Intermediate leaders who attended the State Training Union Convention which meets with Immanuel Baptist Church, Fort Smith, from 10:00 A. M. Friday, March 19 until noon Saturday, March 20. Mr. Versil Crenshaw, Director of Intermediate Work, Training Union Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, will preside over the sectional meetings.

On Friday afternoon the Intermediates will hear the testimonies of former Summer Field Workers. This will be followed by conferences on "Follow Me" through better leadership, better programs, visitations and enlistment. Christian fellowship, missionary activities, Daily Bible reading, and accurate records.

At the sectional meeting on Saturday morning the Intermediates will hear Rev. W. O. Vaught, Jr., pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Little Rock. This message will be followed by Life Interest conferences on such subjects as:

"How Can I Follow Him in My School Relationships?"

"How Can I Know I am a Christian?"

"How Can I Follow Him in My Home Relationships?"

"How Can I Follow Him in My Church Relationships?"

"How Can I Follow Him in Courtship and Marriage?"

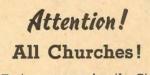
"How Can I Know What is Right and What is Wrong?"

"How Can I Follow Him in My Social Relationships?"

"How Can I Follow Him in Preparing for Life's Work?"

"How Can I Follow Him in Better Leadership?"

The State Intermediate Sword Drill will be conducted in the main auditorium on Friday morning at 11:10, and will be under the direction of Mr. Versil Crenshaw. Mrs. Carl A. Clark will be in charge of the selection of the judges.



Posters announcing the State Training Union Convention have been sent to the churches of Arkansas. If your church failed to get a poster, please write to Rev. Ralph W. Davis, 212 Baptist Building, Little Rock, Arkansas, and you will receive a poster.

New Date for **Youth Choirs**

Due to icy roads the Youth Choir Festival scheduled for January 30 had to be postponed. February 27 is the new date. It is expected that all the 400 people who were registered for the event will be much better prepared to sing the interesting program of music by having this extra time for rehearsals. (Additional groups who felt they were not ready to participate then may now complete plans for attending the Festival.) Several churches are making arrangements to send Youth Choirs on the new date. These should communicate with the state director saying how many are in the group-singers, accompanists, and listeners so that provision can be made for two meals in the College Dining Hall. Dr. Warren Angell has agreed to be present and to direct the Festival according to previous plans ..

FEBRUARY 27 IS THE NEW DATE.

Summer Music Schools

Dates are now being scheduled Summer Music Schools. for Churches wishing to have such a school during the summer, are urged to write the state director at ONCE, and request a worker. It would be well to give first and second choice of dates.

Workers in these schools, serve the department on a part-time basis and are recruited from Baptist Colleges and Seminaries. They are all splendid musicians and fine Christians. Their service will greatly bless the churches. They receive no salary and are paid by the church a minimum honorarium of \$35.00 a week, plus travel expenses and entertainment.

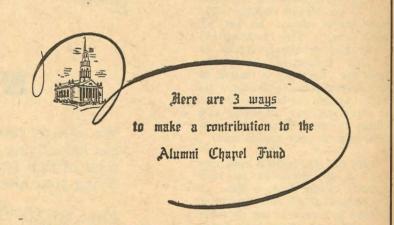


Figures to Inspire

Sunday, February	y 8,	1948	
Little Rock, Immanuel	1101	315	
Including Missions		544	3
Fort Smith, First	920	352	9
Little Rock, First	821	449	11
El Dorado, First	682	170	1
North Little Rock,			
Baring Cross	544	218	4
Including Missions	577	227	6
Hot Springs, Second	534	169	1
Fayetteville, First	503	176	7
Including Mission	547		
Camden, First	494	116	2
Including Mission	573	110	
Fort Smith, Immanuel Including Mission	488 514	112	2
Benton, First	476	117	1
Including Mission	484		
North Little Rcok, First	472	98	
Paragould, First	462	203	
Arkadelphia, First	443	228	6
Hot Springs, Central	424	152	1
Including Missions	460		
Little Rock, Tabernacle	423		
Magnolia, Central	410	126	1
Little Rock, Gaines	404	000	-
Street	386	263	52
Hope, First Malvern, First	367	77	4
110110111, 11150	001		T

	Heights	363	93
	Hot Springs, Park Place	358	107
	Bauxite, First	356	114
	Conway, First		
			198
	Springdale, First Including Mission	447	200
	McGehee, First		100
	Paris, First		174
	El Dorado, Second	320	39
	Fort Smith, Calvary	316	101
	Harrison, First	305	156
	Including Mission	404	200
	Hot Springs, First	291	48
	Siloam Springs, First	290	188
	Smackover, First	283	95
	· ville	262	84
	Little Rock, South		
	Little Rock, South Highland	256	76
	Hamburg, First	243	99
	Rogers, First	237	86
	Monticello First	225	67
	Stamps, First North Little Rock,	217	101
	North Little Rock,		
e .	Central Pine Bluff, Second	401	0.5
	Pine Bluff, Second	207 197	71
	Fort Smith Oak Grove	181	78
	El Dorado, Westside	179	69
	Texarkana, Calvary	168	86
	Greenwood, First Fort Smith, Oak Grove El Dorado, Westside Texarkana, Calvary Fort Smith, Balley Hill North Little Bock	168 167	91
	North Little Rock, Pike Avenue		
	Levy First	158 137	58
	Levy, First Little Rock, Reynolds		50
	Memorial Fort Smith, South Fort Smith North Little Rock, Grace Douglasville, First	135	41
	Fort Smith, South		
	Fort Smith	110 99	41 25
	Douglasville First	85	40
	Eureka Springs, First	85	26
	Eureka Springs, First Warren, Immanuel	82	61
	Monticello, Second	80	42
	Monticello, Second Little Rock, Westside	49	40
	Douglasville, Second	43	23
	Little Rock, Biddle	41	28
	Little Book Mt Mierr	30	14 14
	Douglasville, Second Little Rock, Biddle Fort Smith, Bethlehem Little Rock, Mt, View Texarkana, Trinity	29	24
	a contraction, a little by	20	

Little Rock, Pulaski



1. Make a Personal Contribution: Every alumnus can give something. It may not be as much as you would like to give - but give what you can. Let your love and loyalty to The Southern Seminary have a concrete expression during this campaign. The goal is to enlist every alumnus in one or more of these methods of giving.

2. Lead Your Church in Giving: Again - every alumnus is pastor of a church or is a member of a church. This is an opportunity for doing something definite. Pastors and churches are free to do anything they want to do. Why not contribute to the Seminary Chapel Fund?

3. Enlist Wealthy Christians to Make Special Gifts: Surely every alumnus has one or more wealthy Christian friends to whom he may speak a word of encouragement in giving to this cause. Pastoral leadership in giving is one of our greatest privileges. Let us approach these persons for liberal gifts to the chapel.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY **ALUMNI ASSOCIATION** LOUISVILLE KENTUCKY

MISSIONS

C. W. CALDWELL, Superintendent

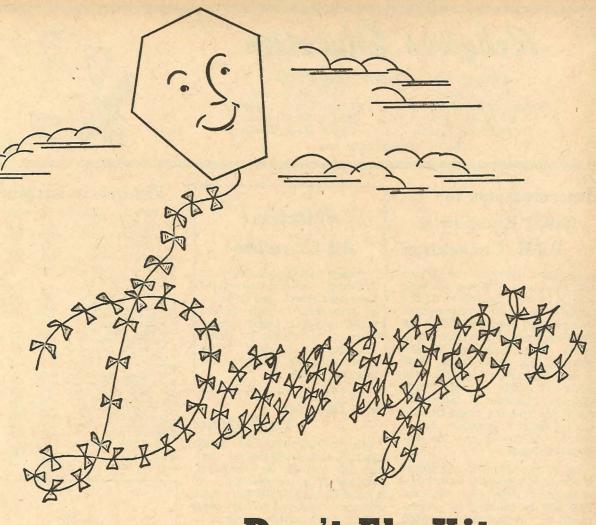
Announcement has been made over in Texas that a fine consecrated Baptist couple have made a gift of \$15,000 to the Baptist State Convention to be used as a loan fund for rural churches in building new houses of worship. This shows that people are getting interested in strengthening our rural churches. The money given cannot be used for any church except a rural one. It will not be a gift to the churches but a loan which may be paid back to the foundation and then loaned to others.

After the moving picture on rural missions was shown in Little Rock a' leading attorney in the state stated that it was his desire to build, not only a country church house, but a pastor's home and help to pay the pastor's salary as a memorial to his brother who was killed in the recent war. So, not only is there interest in the state of Texas in behalf of the rural churches, but in Arkansas as well.

Many associations in the state have already set their dates for Simultaneous Evangelistic Crusades in 1949. Likely the majority of the associations will engage in such crusades during the first year of the second century. The organization should be set up The associational right away. leader and missionary should go to the Ridgecrest Conference June 1-8. Arkansas is limited to 70. Several missionaries have already written giving the names of those who are attending and asking for reservation. Has this been done in your association?

Have you started that local mission to be sponsored by your church? From time to time we are going to give a write-up in this column in regard to the churches over the state which have begun new missions during this year. Let us hear about the one you have organized. If you would like to have any help from anyone in the Mission Department, feel free to write for it. The film of local mission work certainly stimulates interest along this line. It should be kept busy.

Your Superintendent of Missions will attend a Southwide meeting in the interest of churchcentered missions at Toccoa, Georgia, February 24-27. This conference is sponsored by the Home Missions Board. All missionaries in the cities and others promoting local missions will be there to discuss ways and means of establishing more missions and reaching more people for the Lord. Dr. Vaught, of Immanuel Church, will be on the program. We will also show the film prepared by our Mission Department on local mission work.



Don't Fly Kites Near Electric Wires!

We were all young once ... and we know how much fun a fellow can have flying a kite ... And while we don't want to take away a bit of that fun, we DO want to give you fellows some tips on flying your kites safely.

First, don't EVER fly kites in any area where they might come into contact with wires. That's Rule No. 1.

Second, don't use wire on your kite—good strong cotton string is much better and much safer.

Third, if your kite DOES get tangled in wires, by all means DON'T climb a pole in an attempt to recover it. Just keep your kite out in the open and you'll have lots more fun—with safety.



Fellowship of Believers

By MRS. ROLAND LEATH

The Greek word, "koinonia," is translated communion, partakers, association, community, or fellowship, and basically means " to share with one another." This word occurs many times in the New Testament, having reference to that intimate bond of fellowship which draws Christian people together in service for God, in mutual love, understanding, and sympathy. Last week we studied the power of the Holy Spirit, learning of Jesus' promise that He was to come and that He did come in the fulness of time, miraculously covering with the mantle of power, the 120 followers of Jesus, in so much that they spoke in tongues and became quickened, zealous, joyous, enthusiastic, witnesses. The Christian church was formed by this Spirit on the Day of Pentecost and since has been the center of true fellowship. There are social, educational, civic, political relationships existing in the world today in which there may be found associations and fellowships of varied descriptions. Some, no doubt, are lasting and of very fine character but even the best can not compare with the fellowship between children of the Living God.

Repentance and Faith in Christ Necessarily in Fellowship

Let us examine the lives of the early Christians recorded in Acts II for our own instruction in Christian Fellowship. The little band of 120 who received the Holy Spirit increased to the unbelieveable number of 3,000 or more almost immediately. How was this accomplished, one may ask, the answer is that it was all done through the preaching of one man. Peter stood and with boldness wrought by the power of the Holy Spirit he preached that Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah, crucified in that very city by those before him in his audience. We do not know all contained in this sermon but we read that he used the words of the prophet Joel, (Joel 2:28-32), the very miracles which Jesus had recently performed, the 16 Psalm, (Psalm 16:8-11) of David and the 110 Psalm, (Psalm 110:1) as basis for his preaching. He preached Truth, he preached Christ, His incarnation, crucifixion and resurrection and great were the results! The men listening were pricked

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Sunday School Lesson For February 22, 1948

Acts 2:37-47; Ephesians 4:16 February 22, 1948

in their hearts, meaning they were pierced through with the truth from the Spirit from which there is no escape, no denial. They asked "what shall we do?" Peter did not compromise in his message: neither did he fit his answer to what he thought might please his listeners, but in a straightforward manner said, "Repent"-that is, change your mind about Jesus, leave self and with sorrow toward God for your sins accept this Messiah, then, be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus for the remission of sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." A person is not truly baptized until he is born again. No one can know true Christian fellowship who has not experienced this divine procedure.

Peter revealed the great plan of salvation when he told them this promise was for them, their seed, Gentiles, all who will accept. He urged that they would be different from this "untoward" or "crooked generation," those unbelieving Jews whom Peter knew would never repent. Many are the "untoward" people about us in our land today from whom the Lord calls us to "come out from among them" and be different. After this "acceptance" and baptism we are ready to experience oneness in Christ.

Living in The Glow of Christian Fellowship

The next step in the lives of these converts is that they energetically learned of the truths and blessings that were now theirs for they learned of "the Apostles" doctrine." Many people never learn of the doctrine. Never know anymore than they do on the day of conversion if they live for years in the church. How barren are

The famous "World Book Encyclopedia" is an excellent tool for preachers.—Otto Mathis, El Dorado, Ark. Adv.

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their lives of the knowledge of the Word of God and how empty of the fellowship which could be theirs. This was not the case of these 3,000 new-born souls; they did not have the Bible; they had the doctrine of the Apostles which was no less than the teachings of Jesus.

Let us look at the love and fellowship of these Christians who steadfastly learned of their Lord. It was a miracle to the sin cursed world of their day that they loved one another. If a Christian wants to be lonely he can do so, but these people of different backgrounds, interests and positions were drawn together in this new bond. They did not return to those who would not believe, but stayed with those new friends in Christ and learned to work for Him. That is the only way for a Christian to be happy.

In verses 44 and 45 we see this group of believers had all things in common, even to the selling of their possessions. Very apt is the interpretation of Dr. W .R. White concerning this phase of their lives: "This was not compulsory or done under pressure. The policy did not last through the apostolic era. It met an emergency and served a purpose. It was love meeting a crisis the best way it knew." Certainly there was nothing communistic, as we know it today, involved in this life of these people. How happy they were as they praised God, kept close in singleness of heart and enjoyed their friendships. As a result of their abounding joy in the Lord, souls were saved daily (Acts 2:47).

Basic Unities Which Maintain This Fellowship

In the first 6 verses of chapter 4 of Ephesians, the Apostle Paul gives us a perfect picture of wholesome Christian fellowship. We have been looking in on the first century Christians, seeing them as they lived the actuality of their profession of faith. The

DALLAS INVITES YOU ROSS AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH INVITES YOU Ross and Moser

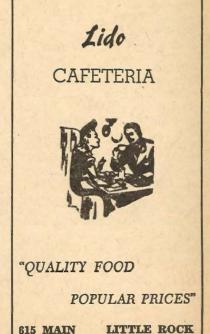
Homer B. Reynolds, Pastor



Christian life surely does not end with repentance and baptism for we are cautioned to walk carefully in order to show forth that inward change which we possess. Paul, the prisoner for the sake of Christ, calls upon us to consider our vocation or calling as God's children. When he speaks of "walking worthily", we realize he is saying that we are to live everywhere. everyday in such a way as to honor the Lord. Congenial Christians working together for the Lord is the church's strongest appeal and best advertising. It is our business as Christians to aid in the unity of believers. By persistent effort, by being willing to 'give and take,' by being courteous and thoughtful of others, by praying without ceasing, unity can be maintained even among diversities of opinions and personalities.

Paul gives the basis for such a worthy walk. It is the seven unities which he lists (vs. 4, 5, 6,) "There is one body, one spirit" that is, we of the church make up the body of Christ in the one hope which is ours through the spirit. "A Christian who is filled with the Holy Spirit is never factious, disagreeable, or fond of contention"

The second group of these unities constitutes the instruments of our fellowship is One Body: "One Lord, one faith, one baptism." Recognizing Christ as the Head of the Church and Lord of each individual life, Christians are brought into harmony and respect one for the other. Our one one faith in the saving power of the Risen Lord is that which makes us brothers, regardless of creed, nationality, sect, or denomination. The final unity spoken of by Paul is the fact of one God and Father over all. This is the great truth upon which all the five mentioned rest. What a privilege to have fellowship with the Father and our fellowman.



Executive Board - STATE CONVENTION

B. L. Bridges, General Secretary, 200 Baptist Building, Little Rock, Ark.

YOU KNEW YOU WOULD DIE in six years and leave your wife a widow, would it not be a gloriously blessed thing if you could leave a \$40.00 per month pension for all the years of her widowhood— • for HER

YOU HAD \$2,000 LIFE INSURANCE and you knew it would last your family only two years after your burial expenses were paid, wouldn't it be a gloriously blessed thing if you knew \$40.00 or more in pensions as long as she lives in widowhood would come each month— for HER

YOU THOUGHT YOUR WIDOW would have to ask your brethren to give the support through the R&A Board which you could have provided through the WIDOW'S SUPPLEMENTAL ANNUITY PLAN, wouldn't you be ashamed— for HER

YOU KNEW YOUR WIDOW would worry "year in and year out" about her "living", wouldn't it be a gloriously blessed thing if you could give her the assurance that a permanent income for her distressing years had been arranged for—for HER

YOU HAD SOME PRECIOUS CHILDREN and you knew that your widow might have to "park them" with a disinterested "child sitter" while your widow works, would it not be a gloriously blessed thing if you knew that as long as she lives \$40.00, or \$50.00, or \$60.00 would come each month from the Relief and Annuity Board for HER

YOU HAVE NOT SIGNED YOUR AGREEMENT to enter the Widows Supplemental Annuity Plan won't you do so at oncefor HER

If We Will

If we raise the enlarged budget for 1948 we must increase our giving. If the Baptist membership in the churches would give undesignated as much as twenty-two cents per month each, we would come out at the end of the year with banners flying high. Of course, some of us are giving much more than that amount. Some cannot give that much. There are children who are members of the churches who are not in a position to give that much, but there are others of us who can, and are giving much more than that. If we could average twenty-two cents per member per month we would give our \$516 .-660.00, and more during the year, even though "we can't locate all our members."

Some churches are leading their members to give that much and more. Other churches falling far below this figure.

Three months ago, we tried to contact leaders in the various associations asking if they could lead their associations to give an increased amount for Cooperative Missions in 1948. We received some fine responses. We do not have the latest figure on membership in all the churches, but the latest figures available are listed in the first column of the following table. The second column in the table represents the amount received in our office for Cooperative Missions during 1947. The Third column in the table represents what we pray that we may receive from the churches in the various associations during 1948. Will you help us in getting the churches of your association to set this goal and try to reach it?

Break down the figure given for your Association and ask the churches if they are ready, each to carry its part of the load.

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	Church	Our Prayer	Greene County	5,738	15.000.00
Association	Members	for 1948	Harmony		39,000.00
Arkansas Valley	4,382	\$20,000.00	Hope	7,365	20.000.00
Bartholomew	7,735	20,000.00	Independence	2,418	6,500.00
Benton County	3,694	10,000.00	Liberty	12,783	50,000.00
Big Creek	733	1,000.00	Little River	4,201	11,000.00
Black River	2,564	6,500.00	Little Red River	1,996	3,000.00
Boone-Carroll	2,790	7,500.00	Mississippi County	8,498	22,000.00
Buckner	2,413	6,000.00	Mt. Zion		17,000.00
Buckville	649	1,000.00	Newton County	97	1.000.00
Caddo River	1,747	4,000.00	Ouachita		4,000.00
Carey	2,636	7,000.00	Perry County		1,000.00
Caroline		11,000.00	Pulaski County	21,084	90,000.00
Central	8,087	28,000.00	Red River	5,656	15.000.00
Centennial	2,007	7,000.00	Rocky Bayou	865	1,500.00
Clear Creek	3,401	9,000.00	Stone-Van Buren		2,500.00
Concord	14,808	40,000.00	Tri-County	5,759	15,000.00
Current River		6,000.00	Trinity	4,033	8,000.00
Dardanelle-Russellville	3,465	9,000.00	Washington-Madison	3,729	10,000.00
Delta	4,823	13,000.00	White County		6,000.00
Faulkner		8,000.00	White River		3,000.00
Gainesville		5,000.00	Woodruff County		3,000.00