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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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# ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, DECEMBER 2, 1948

NUMBER 47

## "Praying Hands"

When Albrecht Durer was a poor struggling artist a friend of his who also aspired to be an artist, made an agreement with him that he would do manual labor to earn their living while Durer studied and painted. Later, it was planned, he should have his turn to paint. But when success came to Durer his friend's hands had become so twisted and stiff that he could no longer paint. One day, seeing his friend's work-worn hands in prayer, Durer thought, "I can never give back the lost skill of those hands, but I can show my feeling of love and gratitude by painting his hands as they are now, folded in prayer, to show my appreciation of a noble and unselfish character."



# Convention Boards Named

# Do You Want Your Health

## Executive Board Members at Large

**Terms Expiring in 1951:** S. A. Whitlow, Hope; L. H. Davis, Ft. Smith; J. Fitzgerald, Jonesboro; O. L. Bayless, Hot Springs; R. C. Campbell, Little Rock.

**Terms Expiring in 1950:** J. G. Cothran, Arkadelphia; Minor Cole, Forrest City; W. R. Vestal, Searcy; M. Ray McKay, Little Rock; Wylie Elliott, Paris.

**Terms Expiring in 1949:** W. O. Vaught Jr., Little Rock; A. B. Pierce, Pine Bluff; T. H. Jordan, Van Buren; T. Clyde Hart, Hot Springs; Lloyd A. Sparkman, Pine Bluff.

## Members from Association

**Terms Expiring in 1951:** Jesse Reed, Liberty; Ralph Douglas, Arkansas Valley; L. C. Tedford, Current River; W. E. Speed, Dardanelle-Russellville; Ed McDonald, Delta; Reese Howard, Mt. Zion; Douglas White, Centennial; W. W. Grafton, Concord; A. F. Muncy, Mississippi County; Blake Westmoreland, Bartholomew; J. N. Baysinger, Trinity; C. S. Maynard, White County; Gus Poole, Stone-Van Buren; W. E. Perry, Little River.

**Terms Expiring in 1950:** R. N. Abell, Newton County; B. N. Simmons, Benton County; Ray Rhyne, Black River; Dale McCoy, Caroline; Ed Simmons, Faulkner County; Paul Fox, Harmony; Don Hook, Clear Creek; Walter Johnson, Washington-Madison; Gray Evans, Boone-Carroll; Vernon Yarborough, Buckner; Roy Wright, Caddo River; Charles Robertson, Greene County; J. M. Coleman, Ouachita; L. H. Roseman, Independence; Jeff Bradley, Buckville.

**Terms Expiring in 1949:** Alphas Capps, Big Creek; L. L. Jacks, Carey; Joe Sullivan, Tri-County; T. K. Rucker, Central; L. L. Hunnicutt, Hope; W. H. Hicks, Pulaski County; Othar Smith, Little Red River; Perry Corder, Conway-Perry County; Dewey Stark, White River; Rivos Dorris, Woodruff; O. C. Harvey, Red River; Herman Dover, Rocky Bayou; J. O. Young, Gainesville.

## Planning, Co-ordinating, and Steering Commission

**Terms Expiring in 1951:** E. P. J. Garrott, Batesville; C. E. Lawrence, Little Rock; Mrs. C. H. Ray, Little Rock.

**Terms Expiring in 1950:** W. C. Brewster, Magnolia; E. L. Compere, Little Rock; Hugh Cantrell, Stevens.

**Terms Expiring in 1949:** Byron King, North Little Rock; Mrs. J. F. Queen, Little Rock; C. G. Davis, Texarkana.

## Radio Commission

**Terms Expiring in 1951:** W. R. Vestal, Searcy; Owen Moran, North Little Rock; C. E. Lawrence, Little Rock.

**Terms Expiring in 1950:** B. H. Duncan, Little Rock; W. O. Vaught Jr., Little Rock; A. B. Pierce, Pine Bluff.

**Terms Expiring in 1949:** H. L. Lipford, Brinkley; Sam C. Reeves, El Dorado; B. V. Ferguson, Ft. Smith.

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W. O. Vaught Jr., Little Rock; D. C. Bandy, Hot Springs; L. L. Hunnicutt, Magnolia; L. G. Miller, North Little Rock; Edward Anderson, Hot Springs; L. L. Hunnicutt, Magnolia; L. G. Luther Dorsey, Star City; H. O. Malone, Lake Village; J. I. Cossey, Walnut Ridge.

## Ouachita College

**Terms Expiring in 1951:** Boyd Baker, Wynne; B. C. Huddleston, Searcy; A. O. Smith, Stamps; Clyde Hart, Hot Springs; Harold Smith, Texarkana; Harry B. Reeves, El Dorado; J. T. Daniels, Arkadelphia; J. T. Dearing, Pine Bluff.

**Terms Expiring in 1950:** Raymond Lindsay, Little Rock; Sam C. Reeves, El Dorado; E. L. Bailey, Cabot; R. D. Washington, Monticello; I. J. Cannon, Jonesboro; W. P. Jones Jr., Arkadelphia; J. C. Meador, Fordyce; W. W. Sharp, Brinkley.

**Terms Expiring in 1949:** J. E. Berry, Smackover; C. L. Durrett, Little Rock; W. J. Hinsley, Hot Springs; L. J. Cooper, Harrison; Carey Selph, Mount Ida; C. H. Moses, Little Rock; John L. Carter, Little Rock; A. B. Cobb, Little Rock.

## Central College

**Terms Expiring in 1951:** Lloyd A. Sparkman, Pine Bluff; Howard Perrin, Benton; Mrs. W. F. McWilliams, Pine Bluff; Mrs. J. E. Short, Pine Bluff; R. C. Campbell, Little Rock; Russell Clubb, Osceola; E. W. Daniels, North Little Rock; Henry Donham, Little Rock.

**Terms Expiring in 1950:** James Harris, Texarkana; Theo T. James, McGehee; Lucian Coleman, Springdale; W. H. Hicks, Little Rock; Paul Fox, Pine Bluff; John Cox, Morrilton; Lawrence Bradley, Clarksville; Mrs. Nelson Tull, North Little Rock.

**Terms Expiring in 1949:** J. T. Elliff, Fordyce; Mrs. Fay Lasley, Conway; O. W. Neely, North Little Rock; W. M. Pratt, Lonoke; Joe Sullivan, Earle; V. H. Coffman, Fort Smith; A. N. McAninch, Little Rock; Rel Gray, Rogers.

## Baptist Foundation

**Terms Expiring in 1951:** DeWitt Poe, McGehee; Claude Gregory, Jonesboro; J. G. Cothran, Arkadelphia.

**Terms Expiring in 1950:** T. S. McNulty, Pine Bluff; Phil Baldwin, Little Rock; George Florida, Osceola.

**Terms Expiring in 1949:** Jay Dee Tolleson, El Dorado; R. H. Green, Little Rock; O. L. Bayless, Hot Springs.

## Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis

**Terms Expiring in 1951:** L. C. Tedford, Corning; H. L. Lipford, Brinkley; George Florida, Osceola.

**Terms Expiring in 1950:** W. F. Couch, Little Rock; Ray Langley, Crawfordsville; D. W. Rodgers, West Memphis.

**Terms Expiring in 1949:** W. D. Wallace, Hughes; I. M. Prince, North Little Rock; Alvin Hoffman Jr., Blytheville.

## Baptist State Hospital

**Terms Expiring in 1951:** Ray M. Wilson, Little Rock; Jacob L. King, Hot Springs; J. W. Royal, Lewisville; C. B. Erwin, Little Rock; Reece Howard, Jonesboro; D. C. McAtee, Pine Bluff.

**Terms Expiring in 1950:** R. H. Green, Little Rock; John Dodge, Hot Springs; A. C. Kolb, Little Rock; Joe F. Ruston, Magnolia; T. L. Harris, Camden; Roy Mitchell, Hot Springs.

**Terms Expiring in 1949:** H. A. Elledge, North Little Rock; Roger Butler, Bauxite; A. J. Reap, Little Rock; J. Wirt Burnett, Texarkana; Fred Carter, Lake City; Jesse Reed, El Dorado.

## A Devotion by the Editor

"Rise, take up thy bed and walk."

Strange command—"Walk that you may be cured," said to a paralyzed man. And "Rise, take up thy bed and walk" is a movement of confidence in the heart; he tries to obey, and in the obedience the power comes to him. True this is in all our responses to His commands. We are weak, wholly unequal to the tasks and problems and challenges of a Christian service. But Jesus says to us, "Rise, take up thy bed and walk," or preach, or teach, or render this service that. And in the act of obedience we receive the power to do what Christ has commanded.

Someone has said, "All Christ's commands are gifts. He binds himself by His commands, and every word of His which says to us, 'Thou shalt!' contains as its kernel a promise of His which says, 'I will!'"

"Christ gives power to keep His commands—obey Christ and you will find strength enough." But to lie "sluggishly" waiting to see what His words will do is to miss the blessing.

"My yoke is easy and my burden is light," He said. But easy and light are only relative terms. What would be easy to one would be difficult for another, and what would be light for one would be heavy for another. His yoke is easy and His burden is light not because it diminishes the demands made upon us, but because the contrary is true, because He increases our strength and power.

There must be no thought of failure. The bed must be rolled up and put aside. There is provision for a continued march. "To have no provision for failure in the Christian life is to invite secure failure." Arise, take up thy bed and keep on walking. Be prepared to continue the strength which Christ gives. Take your place among healthy men, among workers, among responsible men, and know the thrill of having a responsible share in carrying on of the work of God's kingdom.

And this man obeys. The Pharisee covers him carrying his couch on the Sabbath day and they object, saying it is unlawful. To which he replied: "He that made me whole said unto me, take up thy bed and walk." He that gave me strength to walk, how to use it. He gave me the power, he gave me the right to tell me what to do with it. If Christ is the source of life, He must be the source of law. The only person who has the right to command you is the person who saves you.

"Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk."

"And immediately the man was made whole and took up his bed, and walked; and on the same day was the sabbath" (John 5:8, 9).

## ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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## From the Editor's Desk

# The Centennial Convention

The Centennial session of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention is now history—and glorious history it is. Much time, effort, thought, and prayer went into the planning of the program of the Convention, all of which resulted in a program of unusual smoothness and acceleration.

Among the outstanding features of the Convention, the following would doubtless be selected unanimously by all who were present:

### Devotionals

The devotional periods at the beginning of the sessions were unique, inspiring, and instructive. The program committee selected Dr. M. Ray McKay, pastor of the Second Church, Little Rock, to bring the devotional messages, and Roland Leath, educational director of the First Church, Little Rock, to have charge of the music. These brethren measured up to the highest expectations of the Convention audiences. Dr. McKay gave a series of practical and inspirational studies on the subject of sanctification, and Mr. Leath directed the congregational singing, and his solos, and special music were appropriate to the devotional messages by Dr. McKay.

### Spiritual Fervor

A spiritual fervor of profound significance pervaded each session of the Convention. The consciousness of an irresistible spiritual power seemed to possess the Convention messengers en masse. There was the recognition of the obvious leadership of the Holy Spirit in the achievements of the past hundred years. Against this background of Spirit directed accomplishments the Centennial Convention pulsated with a spiritual radiance which permeated each session.

### Challenge and Determination

For high challenge and unwavering determination to meet the challenge, the Centennial Convention was unsurpassed, if not unequalled, in the history of Arkansas Baptists. Every backward glance at the record of the past served to make more clear the challenge of the present and the future. Every reference to the accomplishments of the past re-enforced the challenge of the present and the future. And remembering the faith, the heroism, and the sacrifices of those who, through the past century, builded so well, there was generated a determination in the hearts of Arkansas Baptists, assembled in Little Rock, to press on with increased vigor and move themselves worthy of their heritage and equal, by the grace of God, to the opportunities which challenge them now.

### Harmony and Aggressiveness

The finest spirit of harmony and unity prevailed throughout the Convention. Spirits were fused into one dominating spirit of concord. Minds were united on the great issues with which Arkansas Baptists are concerned. Plans and programs for promoting all phases of the work of the Convention and its agencies were co-ordinated.

This harmony and unity issued in a holy

impatience with static conditions, a spiritual restlessness to be about the Master's business, an inspiring aggressiveness in undertaking the tasks immediately at hand, and an unyielding purpose to move on to greater heights of achievements.

### Sermons and Addresses

The sermons and addresses were of the highest order. The speakers were themselves inspired with the spirit of the occasion, and they inspired the listeners with their messages of assurance, hope, and challenge. All the messages of our Arkansas speakers were characterized by a community of interests, unity of thought, clarity of vision, and an irresistible appeal. Among these speakers were: President E. C. Brown, Dr. B. V. Ferguson, Dr. B. L. Bridges, Dr. R. C. Campbell, and Dr. Otto Whittington.

The visiting speakers were in the main well known personages in Southern Baptist life. These men were also at their best and thrilled the Convention audiences with their messages of dynamic power. Among the visiting speakers were: Dr. Walter R. Alexander, Executive Secretary, Relief and Annuity Board, Dallas, Texas; Dr. J. B. Lawrence, Executive Secretary, Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Georgia; Dr. R. G. Lee, President, Southern Baptist Convention, Memphis, Tennessee; Dr. E. D. Head, President, Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas; Dr. T. L. Holcomb, Executive Secretary, Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tennessee; Dr. Duke K. McCall, Executive Secretary, Executive Committee, Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville, Tennessee; Dr. C. O. Johnson, President of the Baptist World Alliance, St. Louis, Missouri.

### The Pageant

Perhaps the greatest thrill of the entire Convention was experienced by those who witnessed the pageant, "Steadily Advancing," on Wednesday evening at the Robinson Memorial Auditorium.

Beginning with 1800, 48 years prior to the organization of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, the pageant depicted the stages of progress, the struggles, the hardships, the heroism, the sacrifices, and achievements of Arkansas Baptists up to the present time.

The closing scene vividly portrayed the peoples of the world reaching out beseeching hands for that which God alone can give, the cross as the answer to the heart cry of the race, and the church as God's agent to carry the message of the cross to all the world.

### Where to Now?

It is inconceivable that Arkansas Baptists will soon lose the inspiration of the Centennial session of the Convention. Surely we shall go from victory to victory, winning more souls to Christ, enlarging the local church programs, expanding the State program, strengthening the institutions and agencies of the Convention, increasing our participation in the South-wide and World-wide program of Southern Baptists, and preaching the Gospel

## The "Comic Book" Menace

Gratifying results, in combating the "Comic Book" menace, have been achieved in some localities. In Cincinnati a Committee on Approving Comic Books has been set up. It has sought and obtained, in considerable measure, the co-operation of religious and educational groups, city officials, and dealers and publishers in some cases.

It is possible for such a committee to arouse the public conscience in any community and every community should take some steps to combat the influence of the lurid comic book.

It is reported that on the average "25,215,000 copies of the sub-literary 'comic book' are sold" each month. "The 'comic book,' which only occasionally attempts to be comic, has a newsstand sale greater than the total of all other cheap reading matter combined."

This tremendous sale means that its influence is tremendous. The fact that it is read by undeveloped minds increases its danger to the childhood of America. We may well ask what kind of citizens will a generation of "comic book" readers make?

The writers, publishers, and distributors of this lurid trash constitute enemy No. 1. They are the enemies of every child of America; they are enemies of the churches and schools; they are enemies of the home and parent-hood; they are enemies of every decency and propriety of human life and of civilization. They are criminals of the worst sort, stealthily invading the home to poison the mind of the unsuspecting child.

"There ought to be a law" against the publication of such dangerous poison as the "comic book." Whether there is a law or not, the primary responsibility in guarding the child against this danger rests squarely upon the parents.

When the father is too busy to give any time to his children and the mother is too occupied with her clubs and other engagements outside the home to superintend the home itself, the children of the home will become a prey to influences which have no respect for their well-being or for the proprieties and dignities of life.

Parents have not discharged their parental responsibility when they provide food, clothing, a house, an automobile, and school books for their children. It is even more important to provide for the mental, moral, and spiritual development of the child. Parents who are too busy to know what their children are reading, with whom they are associating, and their sources of entertainment, are too busy. Is it too much to expect of parents, that everything the child reads shall first be read by the parents? How else are parents to know what is proper for the child to read?

When parents abdicate, the conscienceless forces will move in to take possession of the children of the home.

to every creature in every nook and corner of Arkansas.

Arkansas Baptists have heard the call, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Arkansas Baptists must answer, "Here am I, send me" (Isaiah 6:8). Go where and do what? We have the answer in the words of Jesus, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

# Kingdom Progress

## Educational Director



William L. Crump

William L. Crump of Houston, Texas, accepted the position of educational director of Second Church, El Dorado, and began work October 7.

Mr. Crump is a native Texan. He is a graduate of the University of Houston, and in 1948 received his degree in Religious Education from Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth.

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## Ouachita College News

By EMIL WILLIAMS

Thanksgiving Day is every day for 836 students at Ouachita College. Each day on Ouachita's campus begins with Morning Watch from 7:30 to 8:00 a. m. and ends with Vespers from 6:30 to 7:00 p. m. Meals, sports, recreation, and classes are sandwiched between.

The Dr. Cannon infirmary is helping students to recover from influenza. Our graduate nurse, Miss Fowler, has an office, a treatment room, and a kitchen in the infirmary.

The North Central Association examination committee spent November 19-20 making their annual inspection of Ouachita. They ate in the college cafeteria, attended Vespers, and visited the buildings and offices. The annual report is always given at the annual meeting in Chicago.

The Freshman girls in Terral-Moore are really thankful to Mrs. Terral for a million dollar campaign for the new dormitory. It is one of the most modern and beautiful buildings on the campus.

Charles E. Lawrence, Gaines Street Church, Little Rock, recently led the Plainview Church, Little Rock, in revival services, resulting in eight additions to the church membership, three by letter and five by baptism. Abbott is the pastor.

Pastor James H. Fitzgerald and the West Street Church, Jonesboro, recently had revival services of Harvey Elledge, Baring Church, North Little Rock, in a revival meeting. Mack Douglas, minister of music and director of the Riverside Baptist Church, Worth, Texas, directed the music and led the people's work. There were five additions, two by letter, and one by state. One man 74 years of age came on profession of faith and baptism.

A report from Current River and Gainesville Associations by Missionary H. W. Johnston lists the following from churches in the Associations: Reyno Church is building a pastor's home; Mt. Pleasant Church will give the fifth Sunday offerings to the Bottoms Baptist Orphanage; Biggers Church is in the midst of a building program and will complete their auditorium soon; St. Francis Church will dedicate their pastor's home on November 21; Piggot Church has conducted a study course and given 32 awards; Leonard Church has called Virgil Tarvin as pastor.

Pastor Alfred Grigsby led the Beech Street Church, Gurdon, in revival services October 31-November 7. Fred White, pastor of First Church, Prescott, directed the music. There were 21 additions to the church membership, ten by baptism and 11 by letter.

Dr. Chester Swor, nationally known lecturer and conference leader, was in Jonesboro for a series of special "Spiritual Emphasis Week" services at the First Baptist Church, October 24-31.

Besides speaking twice daily at the First Church, 7:15 a. m. and 7:30 p. m., Dr. Swor also addressed the student bodies of Arkansas State College, the Senior High School, and Southern Baptist College at Walnut Ridge. He also was guest speaker at the Rotary Club luncheon in Jonesboro.

The week's services were climaxed by a county-wide youth rally on October 31 at the First Church, with 1,000 young people in attendance.

Pastor E. W. Johnson and the Calvary Church, Pine Bluff, recently had the services of Evangelist J. E. Bryant, Grand Avenue Church, Fort Smith, in a revival meeting. There were ten additions to the church by baptism and five by letter. Pastor Johnson states: "I highly commend Brother Bryant to any church or pastor that can appreciate a Bible-preaching, Spirit-filled evangelist. He is deeply humble and dependent upon the Lord. Our people love Brother Bryant and appreciate his fine ministry to us."

Pastor C. R. McCollum and First Church, Hazen, were recently assisted in revival services by P. A. Stockton, Little Rock. There were four conversions, three of whom united with the church by baptism, and three others united with the church by letter.

Dr. C. E. Wilbanks, who recently resigned the pastorate of the First Church, Springdale, to become Superintendent of Evangelism of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California writes:

"Moving to California? Find a Southern Baptist Church and join it; or found a Southern Baptist Church and grow it."

Pastor C. L. Randall, Gage Avenue Baptist Church, Bell Gardens, California, writes: "Our work in California is being blessed of the Lord. Our church is two years old and in a section of the city where there is no other church of any denomination.

"The church has recently bought a pastor's home and has also provided the facilities for a completely departmental Sunday School. The work is hard, but we have a heroic group to work with."

J. F. Rorex of Atkins writes: "I would like to introduce to Arkansas Baptists Dr. A. C. Kruer, who is temporarily located at Atkins. Dr. Kruer holds the A. B. degree from William Jewell College, Liberty, Missouri, and the Th. D. degree from the Southern Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky.

"Dr. Kruer served as pastor, college professor, and evangelist. He is available for supply work or the pastorate."

## Corner Stone Laying

The Corning Baptist Church, L. C. Tedford, pastor, observed corner stone laying ceremonies for their new building on November 7.

The former building was destroyed by fire, which resulted from lightning, on December 31, 1947.

The new building, costing approximately \$60,000 and occupying the site of the former structure, is a red brick veneer, gothic style, and is expected to be ready for occupancy by January 1. The Sunday School facilities will accommodate 300 and the auditorium has a seating capacity of 250.

The baptistry painting is to be done by Miss Gracia Halstead of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and is to be a memorial to Mrs. J. S. Compere.

Those participating on the program were: Pastor L. C. Tedford was in charge of the service; Pastor H. F. McDonald, Corning Methodist Church, offered the invocation; the corner stone was laid by Aaron Ahrent, superintendent of construction; Miss Glenna Gambill, church clerk, placed certain mementos in the copper receptacle; B. H. Duncan, editor of the Arkansas Baptist, delivered the address; benediction was pronounced by Pastor W. H. Hunt, First Church, Pochontas.

Associational Missionary V. E. Defreese, Greene County Association, recently preached in revival services at the First Church, Dierks, where Carroll Gibson is pastor. Herman Davis, DeQueen, conducted the music. There were 14 additions to the church, 12 by baptism, and two by letter. Pastor Gibson has been on the field since August 15, and there have been 23 additions to the church since that time. The church is re-modeling its parsonage and also launching a building program.

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## Pastoral Changes

Bill Smith has resigned the Mt. Moriah Church, Little River Association, to accept the pastorate of the New Providence and Weeks churches of Buckner Association.

Gail Zimmerman, Ouachita College student, has accepted the pastorate of the Mt. Moriah Church, Little River Association.

Virgil Tarvin has resigned two half time churches, Pleasant Valley and Robbs Chapel, in Greene Association, to accept Deason Lake Church in Mt. Zion Association, and Leonard Church, in Gainesville Association.

Boyd Baker has resigned the pastorate of First Church, DeQueen, to accept the pastorate of the Wynne Baptist Church, effective November 14.

# The Ebb and Flow of Christian History

By DUKE K. McCALL

(Editorial Note: The following is a summary of Dr. McCall's message to the Centennial Session of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.)

We are laborers together with God. You and I are co-operating Baptists; we are working together under the command and commission of God to carry the Gospel to a lost world. That is the only reason for such a meeting as this great Convention. We enjoy the fellowship and the great program and the dedication. But all that is nothing unless it is for the purpose of preaching the Gospel to a lost world.

The world is sensitive as never before to the need for the message of Christ, which you and I preach. The church of Jesus Christ is the only institution in the world which has the answer to the heart hunger of men. Other organizations serve a worthy purpose in our community, but they do not have the message which will give the world new hope.

When the members of churches channel their interests and their means through other agencies they are defeating the highest purposes of the church of Jesus Christ and robbing the community of the vital ministry which the church alone can render.

In the great tide that flowed from Jerusalem in the early centuries of Christian history, every convert was an evangel of the good news. In the year 500 A. D. began a period of recession and loss for Christianity. It appeared to be doomed to permanent extinction. This was because Christianity had identified itself with the Roman government.

We should have learned from that experience that the churches of Jesus Christ and the Gospel of Christ are not parts of any government. Christianity cannot ride on the back of any secular movement. It is not an agency of any country.

From 950 to 1350 A. D. the tide flowed back and a new concern for lost men was experienced. This was the period of the Crusades. Although wrong methods were used, for God never meant that arms should be used in his service, yet Christianity was spread to all countries.

From 1350 to 1500 A. D. the tide went out because of the immorality which crept into the churches. From 1500 to 1750 the tide came back in under the preaching of Martin Luther. Men preached salvation by faith. The Gospel came to North and South America, the Pacific Islands, and other lands.

From 1750 to 1815 the tide turned and went out again. European deism and humanism began to link up with Christ in the minds of the people. The year 1815 to 1914 was a great century. Christian missions experienced its widest reach. Christian influences penetrated every major movement of the century. Organized labor was the only movement of that period which was not directed by Christian leaders.

Since 1914 the tide has been going out. Your community cares less today about what the church believes than it did in 1914. How-

ever, Southern Baptists have experienced their greatest growth and development since 1914. Therefore, we have not been immediately aware of the receding tide.

The explanation in large measure of the World Council of Churches is right here. The Southern Baptist Convention is not in the World Council of Churches and is not going to be in the World Council of Churches. I have tried to learn everything I can about the World Council of Churches by personal contacts and by reading every report I can. The denominations which make up this organization realize they are losing ground. The tide of the forces of darkness is too much for

them, and so they determined to band together to outweigh the forces of darkness by strength in numbers and power. We can pray to God that He might take that movement and use it. But an organization resigned to acquire the strength of Caesar will not be able to do the work of God without the power of the Holy Spirit.

However, if we assume that we do not need the aid of other groups of Christians or if we wrap ourselves in the robe of self-righteousness and forget a lost world, we are of all denominations "chief of sinners."

We Baptists have everything it takes to preach the Gospel to a lost world. We have the prestige; we have the numbers; we have the money. With all this flowing of dollars, Southern Baptists last year gave two and one-third per cent of their incomes to the Lord's work. In 1933 it was two and one-half per cent. We are farther from a tithing denomination today than we were in 1933. We are not talking about dollars simply. We are not trying to extract money nearly as much as we are trying to produce dedicated, consecrated lives in the cause of Jesus Christ.

Thank God for Arkansas Baptists. You have adopted a worthy budget for 1949, on a 60-40 basis of division: 60 per cent for State causes and 40 per cent for South-wide causes. One of our chief problems goes back to the local church where the average spent on the local church program is 79 per cent with only 21 per cent given for missions and benevolences.

Jesus Christ said, "By their fruits ye shall know them." He did not say, "By their roots ye shall know them." If you want to claim kinship with those great servants of God across the centuries, go back to the Commission of Jesus Christ. Others will know us by our fruits, that we belong to Him who said, "I am come to seek and to save that which is lost." God give us fruits around the world for the glory of Jesus Christ.

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## Personal Work

A pastor says: "I laid my hand upon the shoulder of a noble specimen of young manhood and asked him if he were a Christian. He replied, 'No, sir; I have heard you preach every Sunday for seven years without exception, but I am not a Christian yet.' He is now one of the most faithful members of the church."



# We Resolve

## Report of the Resolutions Committee

WHEREAS: The Arkansas Baptist Convention met with the Immanuel Baptist Church in its Centennial Convention, and;

WHEREAS: The Convention has been exceptionally well entertained by the Host Church,

BE IT RESOLVED: That we express our sincere appreciation to the Host Pastor, Rev. W. O. Vaught Jr., and to the Immanuel Baptist Church for the fine manner in which they have provided for our comforts.

That we express our appreciation to the Centennial Committee for their tireless effort in providing the Convention with such an excellent program, especially for the attractive Souvenir Program and for the colorful pageant rendered under the direction of W. O. Vaught Jr. and his committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That we commend Dr. E. C. Brown for the fine manner in which he has presided over the session of the Convention, and Taylor Stanfill, the retiring Recording Secretary, for his tireless and efficient service to this Convention for the last seven years;

That we call the attention of our churches to the challenging budget and forward reaching program adopted by this Convention and that we urge them to exert every possible effort to carry this entire program to its successful completion;

That we pledge our prayers and co-operation to our Executive Secretary as he promotes this Kingdom Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That we deplore the efforts to break down the traditional view held by Baptists in regard to the matter of separation of Church and State;

That we express our sincere thanks to the Daily Press for its complete coverage of the Convention proceedings;

That we authorize the Recording Secretary of the Convention to have 1,200 copies of the annual printed and distributed and that he be allowed \$250.00 for his services.

—Respectfully submitted by Committee on Resolutions—C. Z. Holland, J. W. Royal, Theo T. James, Fred A. White, and A. B. Hill.

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IF

If anyone has found his sense of the nearness of God dimming; if anyone is losing his spiritual zeal; if any soul is troubled by doubts and misgivings; if a man's prayers do not get anywhere; if faith is warning and one's Christian joy is receding; then try tithing systematically and conscientiously. A spiritual restorer, it has no superior.

## PELOUBET'S

### Select Notes

### for 1949

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by Wilbur M. Smith

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# Arkansas Baptist Centennial Convention

## Arkansas Baptists Meet In Centennial Convention Session

Arkansas Baptists launched a new century for Christ as they met in their Centennial session at Immanuel Church, Little Rock, November 16-18. Approximately 1,200 messengers, 500 visitors, representing 215,000 Baptists and 1,035 churches, registered for the three-day session. This represents a gain of approximately 15,000 Baptists for 1948.

The largest budget ever to be presented to the Arkansas Baptist State Convention was adopted without a dissenting vote. This budget totaling \$597,500, will be divided on a sixty-forty basis with no preferred items. This means that sixty cents of every dollar given through the Co-operative Program will be used for State work and forty cents will be used for South-wide work. This includes home and foreign missions, seminaries, relief and annuity, and all phases of the work carried on by Southern Baptists.

## The Inspiration of a Glorious Past The Challenge of a Promising Future

President E. C. Brown opened his address to the Convention by reading the twelve fundamental truths which Arkansas Baptists have held during the 129 years of their existence as stated by Dr. J. S. Rogers on page 17 of the *History of Arkansas Baptists*. President Brown continued by saying this had been a century of glorious achievements from humble and small beginnings and yet, built on firm foundations. "A Christ-honoring State mission and associational mission program during the first century has resulted in the preaching of the Gospel and the winning of thousands of lost people to Christ, the establishment of new churches until we now have more than 1,035 co-operating Baptist churches in Arkansas with more than 200,000 members. In these same churches, more than 125,000 people are enrolled in the Sunday School, 40,000 in Training Union, along with 1,618 local W. M. U. organizations, also, our Brotherhood and student work."

## The Challenge of the Future

"The door of evangelism is wide open unto us. The lost are accessible; we are responsible. How may we go through this door of evangelism? More and better Sunday Schools where the Bible may be taught to the lost in reach of every person in Arkansas; Gospel preaching from every pulpit reaching into every community; radio evangelism; a great army of personal soul winners distributing tracts, Bibles, and other religious literature; special evangelistic campaigns that will reach into every area of Arkansas. The open door of missions challenges us.

## What Is God's Way of Meeting the Challenge of the New Century?

God's way of meeting the challenge is: For every individual to bring the tithe into the storehouse—the church; for every Arkansas Baptist church to give fifty per cent of its receipts through the Co-operative Program to all mission causes; an all inclusive Co-operative Program budget; a consecrated, spirited, unified Arkansas Baptist State Convention, with a Christ-honoring, world-girdling mission program moving forward together as brothers and sisters in Christ. "We are laborers together with God." Let us go up together



President Brown opens Convention

and possess the promised land of the new century.

"The battle against sin rages fiercely—let's 'close the ranks!'"

## Report of Steering and Planning Commission

After definite study of the needs of our denomination in Arkansas this commission recommends the following: that for the present time Southern Baptist College be allowed an appropriation of \$20,000 annually and that when this financial relationship is effected that the college cease soliciting funds from churches and direct its energies to aiding in the enlargement of Co-operative Program receipts; that the Nominating Committee of the Convention name a Board of Control of nine members on Assemblies and Camp Grounds to allocate time of activities for all departments and to supervise improvement of the grounds to the extent that all departments may be represented and accommodated; that the Ouachita College Campaign be extended for another year; that Central College be allowed to go afield to friends and churches in an effort to raise money, and that all undesignated funds for Christian Education be divided 70 per cent for Ouachita and 30 per cent for Central; and that the Commission be given further time to study the matter of aiding church building programs in college towns with the view of recommending a policy in aiding some churches. This report was presented by A. B. Pierce, Pine Bluff, chairman of the commission.

## Relief and Annuity

D. Blake Westmoreland Jr. presented the report of the Relief and Annuity Board, stating that at the present time the Relief and Annuity Board has on its annuitant roll 34 people from Arkansas. They are being paid at the rate of \$1,692.23 per month, or a little less than \$50 per person per month. The following recommendations were made: That the Relief and Annuity Board be congratulated on its thirtieth anniversary for its efficient and faithful service; that every minister seriously consider participation in the Ministers'

Retirement Plan; and that every member consider the advisability of participating in the Ministers' Retirement Plan seriously. Also, the Ministers' Retirement Plan seriously consider the advisability of participating in the Widows' Supplemental Annuity Plan and make application for the same before January 1, 1949.

## W. M. U. and Brotherhood Work Goes Forward

Mrs. C. H. Ray, executive secretary, presented a summary of W. M. U. activities during the past year. There were 1,775 organizations observing seasons of prayer with offerings totaling \$87,032.13. There are 7,002 titles among W. M. U. members and total gifts were \$793,648.48. Community Mission activities were outstanding; 1,189 organizations were engaged in this work with 468 conversions; family worship established in 233 homes, \$24,064.88 spent on these activities.

Nelson Tull, State Brotherhood secretary, reported a 25 per cent increase in the number of Brotherhood organizations in Arkansas. The main emphasis of this phase of work was on evangelism. There were more than 500 conversions to our churches through direct work of this organization.

## Our Mission Work

Dr. C. W. Caldwell, superintendent of missions, gave a progressive report. He stated that 2,613 people had been won to Christ; weak churches have been helped; 36 associations have been aided; \$1,000 has been given to the Negro Baptist college; \$10,000 for the Negro Baptist Hospital at Hot Springs; Negro missionaries received a supplement to their salaries; and a Negro woman is employed to do mission work.

## Bottoms Baptist Orphanage

In the annual report of the Bottoms Baptist Orphanage, the Convention was told that facilities of the Orphanage must be improved in order to meet State Board of Health and Child Welfare requirements. The Orphanage cared for 104 different children during the year and as many as 90 at one time. The present population of the Orphanage is 175. There are approximately 20,000 homeless or needy children in the State. It would indeed be difficult for Arkansas Baptists to care for all the needy children at our door, but present we are only caring for one dependent child in 200, while we claim that one person in ten in Arkansas is a member of a Convention Baptist Church.

## Report On Hospitals

Including the New Orleans Hospital, Memorial Hospital, Memphis, and our own Arkansas Baptist State Hospital more than 10,000 patients were treated during the year. Baptist Hospital rendered \$50,611 in charity service this year. Two recommendations were presented: first, that the Hospital be allowed to take up a special offering for Mother's Day to provide funds for church work; second, that the Board of Trustees be authorized to change the name of the hospital to Arkansas Baptist Hospital.

## Colleges and Seminaries Report

Ouachita College continues to run on a budget and has spent approximately \$200,000 to help erect three new buildings. Of the 1,000 students now enrolled, 150 are ministerial

(Continued from Page Six)

ents. The Convention adopted the recommendation that the Ouachita Million Dollar Campaign be extended for another year.

Irving M. Prince, president of Central College, reported on the school's progress and emphasized the "evangelistic opportunity" that the Little Rock site offers to the student body. The Board of Trustees was given authority to dispose of property at the former site in Conway.

Stressing the importance of ministerial education T. K. Rucker, Malvern, presented an encouraging report on our seminaries. He stated that there are 995 students enrolled at Southern, 1,152 at Southwestern, and 334 at the New Orleans Seminary. Following this report the Convention heard addresses from the following: Dr. E. D. Head, president, Southwestern Seminary; Dr. Roy Beaman, New Orleans Seminary; and Dr. Theron Price, Southern Seminary.

### A Victory for the Drys

Sam C. Reeves, El Dorado, stated that the recent victory for the drys in defeating Initiative Act 2 was most encouraging and that the committee recommended that the time has come for more of the large counties and cities to take up the fight against liquor. Also, it was recommended by this committee that we support the Anti-Saloon League of Arkansas under the capable direction of its superintendent, Clyde C. Coulter. Mr. Coulter was presented to the Convention and spoke briefly on the liquor situation in Arkansas today. He stated that the defeat of Act 2 was answered in prayer—give the credit to God.

### Relief Work

H. A. Hunderup Jr., of the Southern Baptist Relief Center in New Orleans, urged support of the center which distributes overseas relief materials, but warned the Convention to reject appeals from such organizations as Christian World Relief and Christian Rural Overseas Program. He said, "We have no right to use Southern Baptist money for support of a program which also is sponsored by such groups as Catholic Rural Life, Lutheran World Relief, and Christian World Service." He emphasized the need for clothing, food, and money which will be distributed in the name of Southern Baptists.

### Radio Commission

Weekly radio programs sponsored by the Convention will be discontinued in 1949, as the 1949 budget does not contain funds for the radio work; however, the funds remaining in budget will be retained by the Commission and used to collect and disperse information on religious broadcasting and keep Arkansas Baptists informed concerning trends in this field.

### Report On Foreign Missions

Dr. M. T. Rankin, executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, who was scheduled to address the Convention, was unable to appear because weather conditions caused his plane to be grounded in Nashville.

Mrs. J. A. Abernathy, missionary from China on furlough after seven years on the field, spoke about the wave of Communism which is sweeping over China. Mrs. Abernathy said that even though Chinese Christians are not allowed to witness aloud for Christ in these Communistic areas, there is still much silent witnessing among them.

Mr. and Mrs. P. D. Sullivan, missionaries from Brazil on furlough, spoke briefly on conditions in Brazil.

### "Unshakeable Foundations"

"Unshakeable Foundations" was the theme of the closing message of the Convention, brought by Dr. C. Oscar Johnson, president of the Baptist World Alliance. Dr. Johnson stated that the unshakeable foundation of Baptists over the world is the Bible. Evangelism, tithing, and the missionary spirit must be put into the superstructure that is built on this foundation in order to keep it alive. The belief in Christ is holding the 16,000,000 Baptists of 62 nations together, despite the differences in language, color, and sometimes even methods of worship. Recounting the rise and fall of many nations in the past, he warned that the United States might topple unless our foundations are firmly based on faith in Jesus Christ.

### Executive Board's Recommendations

Your Board would recommend the following: That we earnestly endeavor to deepen the spiritual contents of our Christian lives; that prayer have a more prominent place among us in private and in public; that a greater place be given the Holy Spirit's leadership in all our organizations, and that His direction be sought more incessantly; that greater emphasis be put upon the preaching of the Word; the creation of "THE BAPTIST FOUNDATION" under the Charter and By-laws suggested by the Committee; that we keep constantly before our people the worthiness of the Co-operative Program as a unified method of giving financial support to the Baptist work at home and abroad; that the

Ouachita Million Dollar Campaign be continued through 1949; that we reaffirm adherence to, and faith in, the time-honored Baptist principle of supreme and final authority being vested in the churches opposed to supreme authority in centralized agencies and forces, and that we decline to co-operate with any movement which violates this principle; that the Convention reaffirm its adherence to the principle and tradition of separation of church and state, and that we earnestly protest any encroachment upon this tradition from any source.

We further recommend to the Convention that the Steering and Planning Commission be instructed to: make a survey of our Arkansas Baptist work and of the immediate and long-range needs of our institutions and causes. The Commission will be expected to bring in a report on a larger mission work within Arkansas and a larger participation by Arkansas in the work of Home and Foreign Missions; that the Planning and Steering Commission shall, upon the basis of this survey, recommend to the Administration and Finance Committee of the Executive Board a unified, all-inclusive budget which will provide for the current operating expenses of our agencies, institutions and causes; and that capital needs shall be provided for on a percentage basis according to needs determined in the survey. This plan would provide for the pooling of drives and campaigns of the institutions into one great unified program with a definite money goal to be reached in a specified period of time.



—Courtesy Arkansas Democrat.

PRESIDENT E. C. BROWN, left, pastor of the First Church, Blytheville, was re-elected president of the Convention. Other officers elected, left to right, PASTOR LLOYD A. SPARKMAN, South Side Church, Pine Bluff, first vice president; PASTOR CLYDE HART, Central Church, Hot Springs, second vice president; BROTHER DAWSON KING, Little Rock, recording secretary; and DR. B. L. BRIDGES, state secretary, was re-named treasurer.



WITH THE REPORT STILL INCOM  
TO BE HEARD FROM . . . IT IS C  
**YOU KEPT THEM  
IN YOUR HEART!**

**BUT REMEMBER . . . EVEN IF IT'S LATE . . .  
THE NEED IS STILL GREAT!**

To their many friends throughout Arkansas, our children are genuinely thankful this week, for the generosity you have shown in our Annual Thanksgiving Offering. With contributions still coming in, you may be sure that you have given us MUCH for which to be thankful . . . and for which dozens of little children will continue to give thanks throughout the year to come.

To those churches which may not have reported their offering yet we ask that it be sent as soon as possible so that we may plan our final report. With so MUCH to be done at the Home . . . with so many needy children looking for our care . . . we cannot overemphasize the need for the generous contributions Arkansas Baptists have provided. Again—our most heartfelt thanks to all of you for having kept our children in your heart.

*"The Home You Are  
Providing for Needy Children"*

**BOTTOMS BAP**

★ MONTICELLO, ARKANSAS —

... WITH MANY CHURCHES YET  
... INDICATED AT PRESENT THAT



★

**She's Protected  
for Another Year,  
Thanks to You!**

Typical of the children we are serving is this youngster—happy, healthy, and the beneficiary of kind hearts and loving care . . . all made possible through your contributions to Bottoms Baptist Orphanage!

★

# ST ORPHANAGE

C. SEEFELDT, SUPERINTENDENT ★

# Come To Your Meeting!

During December, 1948, and January, 1949, there will be a series of regional and associational Brotherhood tours throughout Arkansas. The tours are sponsored by the Brotherhood Department for the purpose of promoting Brotherhood organization and work in every section of the state.

Assisting the Brotherhood secretary on the first tour will be John Farmer, Brotherhood secretary of South Carolina, and Charles Lawrence, pastor of Gaines Street Church, Little Rock; on the second tour, Forrest Sawyer, Brotherhood secretary of Illinois, and Harvey Elledge, pastor of Baring Cross Church, North Little Rock; and on the third tour, Bob West, Brotherhood secretary of Missouri, and Ben L. Bridges, executive secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

The tentative schedule is as follows:

**TOUR I**—Farmer, Lawrence and Tull.

December 5, 2:45 p. m.: **West Batesville Church, Batesville**, for Independence, Little Red River, Rocky Bayou, Big Creek, and White County Associations.

December 6, 7:30 p. m. **First Church, Springdale**, for Benton County and Washington-Madison Associations.

December 7, 7:30 p. m.; **Second Church, Little Rock**, for Pulaski County, Faulkner, and Caroline Associations.

December 8, 7:30 p. m.; **First Church, Osceola**, for Mississippi County and Trinity Associations.

December 9, 7:30 p. m.: **First Church, Pine Bluff**, for Harmony Association.

December 10, 7:30 p. m.; **First Church, Hope**, for Red River, Little River, and Hope Associations.

**TOUR II**—Sawyer, Elledge and Tull.

December 12, 2:45 p. m.; **First Church, Stuttgart**, for Centennial



Association.

December 13, 7:30 p. m.: **First Church, Fort Smith**, for Concord and Buckner Associations.

December 14, 7:30 p. m.; **Central Church, Hot Springs**, for Central, Caddo River, Ouachita, Perry County, and Buckville Associations.

December 15, 7:30 p. m.; **First Church, Russellville**, for Clear Creek and Dardanelle-Russellville Associations.

December 16, 7:30 p. m.: **First Church, El Dorado**, for Liberty and Carey Associations.

December 17, 7:30 p. m.: **First Church, Forrest City**, for Tri-County, Woodruff County, and Arkansas Valley Associations.

**TOUR III**—West, Bridges and Tull.

January 19, 7:30 p. m.: **First Church, Harrison**, for Boone-Carroll, Newton County, Stone-Van Buren, and White River Associations.

January 20, 7:30 p. m.; **First Church, Paragould**, for Current River, Black River, Gainesville, Greene County, and Mt. Zion Associations.

January 21, 7:30 p. m.: **First Church, McGehee**, for Bartholomew and Delta Associations.

We believe that these tours will mean much to our whole Brotherhood program throughout Arkansas, not only for the building up of Brotherhood interest throughout the churches of the state, but also towards the promotion of associational and regional Brotherhood organizations.

**Come to Your Meeting!**

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## WHEN IN DALLAS

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**HOMER B. REYNOLDS, Pastor**

## Woman's Missionary Union

Auxiliary to Arkansas Baptist State Convention

209 Baptist Building, Little Rock

Mrs. F. E. GOODBAR

President

MISS LAVERNE ASHBY

Young People's Secretary

Mrs. C. H. RAY

Executive Secretary and Treasurer

## A Season of Prayer

### Five Christmas Carols— Our First Christmas Gift—

By **BLANCHE SNYDOR WHITE, Virginia**

I love Christmas carols—don't you? There is a tenderness, a simplicity, a note of adoration and wonder in the Christmas carols that steal away from me the tensions in body, mind, and spirit which the years have brought upon me. "Joy to the World, the Lord Is Come," "O Come All Ye Faithful," "O Little Town of Bethlehem," "Asleep In a Manger," "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear," "Silent Night, Holy Night," and many other hymns connected with Christmas, bring precious memories of Christmas days and Christmas joys through the years. It would be difficult for me to select one of these carols as my favorite. They are all dear to me.

During the Season of Prayer for Foreign Missions, Woman's Missionary Union will sing five new Christmas carols. They were sung centuries ago, but we shall put them to music of our own choosing during this Season of Prayer.

On the first day we shall sing the Song of Isaiah, who saw that first Christmas day in Bethlehem and succeeding Christmas seasons when "the people that walk in darkness have seen a great light." The second day's Christmas carol is the Song of Mary, the Maiden of Nazareth, who sang of the coming of her Son and her God, whose coming would mean the breaking of chains which bound the womanhood of the world. Truly, her song was prophecy, also, for "He that is mighty hath done great things" for all women who have heard the Christmas story. The third day we shall hear the Song of the Angels, who brought "Good Tidings of Great Joy." As we sing this song we shall be thinking of "all peoples" for whom the song was written, but many have not yet heard it. On the fourth day we shall hear

the Song of Zacharias, the priest and the father of the missionary John, who sang of the coming of the Messiah, who would "Guide our feet into the way of peace. The fifth day—the Day of Prayer Around the World—we shall hear the Song of Simeon, another priest, who, when he held in his arms the infant King, sang, "Mine Eyes Have Seen Thy Salvation."

We cannot afford to miss one of these Christmas carols. They call us to prayer and to thanksgiving and to a tender remembrance of the true meaning of Christmas. Out of these hours of prayer there will come a great desire to give. The Christmas Spirit is the spirit of giving. Our Christmas offering is our **Birthday Gift** to Jesus. This is the meaning of the word Christmas—Christ-mass—The Work of Christ. It has no other meaning. Our gift is a symbol of love and adoration of Him. If our gift is to please Him it must not be carelessly made; it must not be what we can easily spare; it must not be what we have left over when we have made our other Christmas gifts. It must bear the mark of love and the mark of love is sacrifice.

Jesus needs your Christmas gifts. Through it His messengers will be supported that they may take the light "to the people that walk in darkness." Through it many women bound by the fetters of paganism, will meet the Master, might do for them great things. Through it the "tidings of great joy will be sent to all people. Through it millions who shudder beneath the shadow of fear and unrest will be guided into the way of peace. Through it the schools, hospitals, churches it will sustain many who have looked long and vain for the coming of the Messiah will sing with Simeon, "Mine Eyes Have Seen Thy Salvation." We shall sing these five songs of Christmas and bring our Christmas gifts to Christ.

### Dixie Jackson Offering Goes Beyond State Goal

The Dixie Jackson Offering for State Missions has now gone beyond the State goal of \$15,000, a total of \$413.25. The Offering continues to come in daily. Please remit any funds on hand for the Offering to the State W. M. U. Treasurer at your earliest convenience. We are anxious for this offering to far exceed the goal.



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# Religious Education In Arkansas

In Arkansas Religious Education includes Sunday School, Training Union, Student Union work, Church Music, and the State Assembly. Dr. Edgar Williamson has been the head of this department since March 1, 1937. At the present time, there is a full time

Bates, Student Secretary, University of Arkansas; Mrs. B. W. Nininger, State Church Music director or M. F. Marion is Assembly caretaker and maintenance man.

The State Convention has always favored Sunday Schools and encouraged them, and from about 1875, aided them. Training Union work dates back to approximately 1889. The first Training Union convention met in the Second Baptist Church, Little Rock, in 1891. Student Union work began in 1925

phases of Religious Education work have made progress. As we close the first 100 years of Arkansas Baptist history, there are more than 140,000 enrolled in the more than 1,000 Baptist Sunday Schools of the State. This year, 30,324 were enrolled in 320 Vacation Bible schools. Approximately 45,000 are enrolled in the Training Union organizations of 532 churches throughout the State. There are 38 associations fully or partially organized for Training

churches in the college center. There are 14 institutions of higher learning, organized for Baptist Student work.

From a comparatively humble beginning in 1916 and 1923, the State Assembly has grown in every way. Today, located on the AS



Ralph W. Davis, State Training Union Director



Dr. Edgar Williamson, Director of Religious Education Department and State Sunday School Superintendent



Mrs. B. W. Nininger, State Church Music Director

worker for each phase of the work. Dr. Edgar Williamson serves as, Director of the department, and as State Sunday School superintendent. Reverend Ralph W. Davis is State Training Union director; T. D. McCulloch is State Student Union secretary; A. D.

sembly grounds near Siloam Springs, there is a tabernacle with a seating capacity of 1,000. There are 10 assembly-owned dormitories, 43 assembly-owned cabins, and 25 church-owned dormitories and cabins. During the 1948 assembly more than 1,300 registered for the entire assembly session.



T. D. McCulloch, State Student Union Secretary

at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. The matter of promoting good music in the churches was spoken of in the State Convention as early as 1888. Baptist Assemblies were recommended and promoted as early as 1904. The first Baptist Assembly in the State was at Brown Springs, out from Arkadelphia, July, 1905. The first extensively promoted assembly at Siloam Springs was in 1916. However, it was not until 1923 that a State-wide Assembly of great importance was held with H. V. Hamilton in charge.

From these early beginnings all

Union work.

There are 33 associations that have an organization set up to promote Church Music work. Thirty-one local church music schools have been held this year.

There are approximately 5,589 Baptist students enrolled in the University, State colleges, business and professional schools, and in our own Baptist institutions of learning. According to reports there are more than 3,000 of these Baptist students who are either members of the local college churches, or enrolled in one of the unit organizations of the Baptist



A. D. Bates, Student Secretary, University of Arkansas

**In Arkansas Religious Education Is Steadily Advancing!**

# Echoes from Mission Work

# Bicycle Missionary

# Figures to Inspire

November 21, 1948

**Department of**  
**MISSIONS**  
*C. W. Caldwell, Superintendent*

This week you may read a few of the letters which have come to the Superintendent's desk. They give some conception as to what is going on in the mission work over the State. Always remember that it is your work. Any appreciation expressed from places helped is, in reality, to you, who through the support of a mission program, made it possible.

\* \* \*  
Central Baptist Church  
Lake Village, Arkansas

Dear Dr. Caldwell:

This letter is in appreciation of the \$250 given by the State Mission Board on our church building. The auditorium of the church is nearly completed. The church is moving on in a great way. The membership has more than doubled itself this year. We have a fine pastor, Claud Hughes, Parkdale, and the Lord has certainly blessed us. Please accept our humble gratitude for the tremendous part taken by the Mission Board.

Yours truly,  
Mrs. Loyd Hammonds.

\* \* \*  
Datto, Arkansas

Dear Brother Caldwell:

Enclosed you will find an application blank for "Pastoral Aid" for the Tipperary Baptist Church, Gainesville Association. It was organized this summer as a result of a mission meeting planned by the Missionary, and conducted by Fred Lewis, who is now the pastor.

The Gainesville Association voted in open session last night to pay them \$10 per month and to ask the State Board for a similar amount. It was one of the Recommendations attached to my annual report to the Association.

Yours in Christ,  
H. W. Johnston,  
Associational Missionary.

Dear Brother Caldwell:

Will you please send application blank for State aid? If you would look into our situation I believe you would agree that there is a great mission field here. Brother Wiles held a meeting for us last year.

We need a strong man and the money is not available within our membership. How my heart thrilled as Brother Hill showed the film last night in the Springdale Church. This application is for Sulphur City Church.

Yours truly,  
Mrs. Margaret Price.  
Route No. 7, Fayetteville, Ark.

Shiloh Baptist Church  
Muskogee, Oklahoma

Dear Brother Caldwell:

We have just closed a two weeks revival with Brother M. E. Wiles, as evangelist. We had a great meeting, with 44 decisions, 11 by letter, 23 for baptism, 10 not joining our church, 47 re-dedications.

We are a small church, having, grown from a mission into a church.

Brother Wiles certainly did a fine piece of work. Some of the best preaching I have ever heard. Our people were revived and many of our lost were saved. We thank the Lord for sending Brother Wiles our way and pray His blessing upon him as he labors there in rural evangelism for Arkansas.

Thinking that you might be interested in a report of Brother Wiles' ministry with us I am taking the liberty of sending you this information.

Sincerely,  
M. F. Williams, Pastor.

\* \* \*  
Botkinburg, Ark.

Dear Brother Caldwell:

Enclosed find check for the amount of \$10 to pay for a church sign. We want the long sign and not the block design, and to read like this: "Lexington Baptist Church."

We are anxious to get it back at the earliest possible date. Will you kindly advise us when you think it will be ready for shipment.

Yours in His service,  
T. W. Simmons, Pastor.

Dear Brother Caldwell:

Just a note to let you know what we are doing at Gladden. The church called Charles Krause as pastor. They voted to give him a salary of \$150 per month and furnish his house rent. This week we are working on the budget to see how much of it we can get.

Brother Krause graduated from Louisiana College in 1935 and has a Th.M. from B. B. I. I have known him for twelve years and we will be fortunate indeed if he will come to Gladden. I will let you know what his answer is as soon as we have it.

Sincerely,  
W. H. Efferson,  
Associational Missionary.

(This is the church we wrote about a few weeks ago. It is ten miles south of Parkin.)

\* \* \*  
Office of Chaplain.

Dear Dr. Caldwell:

I hope to see you during the convention and have a few minutes to talk with you about the work. Wish you could come by to see us. I love the work more than anything I have ever in all my life gotten into. It is hard, and hours long, but I tell you when you can win these people that are dying with tuberculosis to the Lord it makes the long hours easy to forget. I come out at 8:00 o'clock each morning and stay until I get



Miss Margarete Horne and her bicycle

Margarete Horne, student in New Orleans Seminary, and native of Arkansas, worked during the the summer under the Home Mission Board in the City Mission Program of New Orleans, under the direction of J. C. Wells. When asked by the Board where she would like to work, Miss Horne immediately replied, "I want to work down in St. Bernard parish, among the fishing and trapping people."

Miss Horne secured a bicycle as a means of transportation, and for ten weeks visited in homes and villages, conducting services on porches, under trees, and any where she could get a hearing. Her "faithful bike" was her only companion much of the time. She demonstrated what must be done to win people to Christ in this section.

Miss Horne graduated from high school in Greenwood, Arkansas, and received her A. B. degree from Ouachita College in 1947. She will receive the M. R. E. degree from New Orleans Seminary in May of next year. After completing her work at the Seminary, she plans to go to Japan as a missionary.

to where I can find a place to quit at night. I seldom leave here before 8:00 or 9:00 o'clock at night.

Keep me on your prayer list.  
Chas. W. Finch, Chaplain.  
State Sanatorium, Booneville

## Evangelism Is Scriptural

"Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal. . . . The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. . . . As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. . . . We are labourers together with God. . . . Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

	S.S.	T. U.
Ft. Smith, First	1126	420
Little Rock, Immanuel	1065	365
Including Missions	1333	543
El Dorado, First	883	222
Little Rock, First	827	
Pine Bluff, First	685	221
Hot Springs, Second	658	213
Fayetteville, First	575	252
Including Mission	623	289
Forrest City, First	547	152
El Dorado, Second	520	148
Benton, First	512	171
Warren, First	478	105
Little Rock, Tabernacle	440	121
Russellville, First	463	132
Including Mission	515	165
Ft. Smith, Immanuel	426	142
Paragould, First	421	198
Including Missions	591	261
El Dorado, Immanuel	391	177
Including Mission	435	197
Hot Springs, Central	387	127
Including Mission	445	
Hope, First	387	111
Ft. Smith, Calvary	382	113
Forayce, First	371	147
Camden, First	356	104
Including Missions	519	203
Springdale, First	348	212
Including Missions	483	
Hot Springs, Park Place	347	133
Magnolia, Central	345	135
Including Mission	410	
Malvern, First	339	84
Paris, First	338	156
Rogers, First	336	129
Ft. Smith, Grand Ave.	331	96
Conway, First	320	77
Hot Springs, First	318	93
Siloam Springs, First	310	182
Hamburg, First	286	115
Stuttgart, First	279	111
Including Mission	323	124
Pine Bluff, Second	277	96
Monticello, First	273	113
Little Rock, South		
Highland	273	101
Smackover, First	265	147
Harrison, First	264	129
Including Mission	341	158
Norphet, First	257	132
Dumas, First	256	63
Including Mission	280	
Ft. Smith, South Side	251	58
El Dorado, West Side	232	88
Ft. Smith, Oak Grove	229	83
Cullendale	221	119
Ft. Smith, Bailey Hill	212	90
Monticello, Second	162	76
Bentonville, First	144	52
Mc. Ida, First	142	80
Little Rock, Hebron	140	78
Judsonia, First	138	41
N. Little Rock		
Pike Avenue	118	79
Warren, Immanuel	118	59
Grannis	114	81
El Dorado, Joyce City	113	85
Stamps, First	113	82
Levy, First	109	
Meibourne, First	106	96
Douglasville, First	93	57
Hot Springs, Lake		
Hamilton	92	53
Eureka Springs, First	86	40
Hot Springs, Walnut		
Valley	85	57
El Dorado, Parkview	79	41
Little Rock, Plainview	71	52
Little Rock, West Side	58	41
Sweet Home, Pine		
Grove	57	46
Monte Ne	53	64
Little Rock, Martindale	44	42
Little Rock, Tyler		
Street	38	21
Douglasville, Second	29	32

—000—

## World Need

When you do house cleaning member that millions of war-tims abroad are desperately need of all kinds of clothing, ding, and shoes. You can bring touch of hope to the hearts lives of desolate war-victims seas, if you will collect the th you can spare, and send them paid to Southern Baptist R. Center, 601 South Olympia St New Orleans 19, Louisiana. S cash gifts to the Southern B Foreign Mission Board, Richm Virginia.

Students to Aid Relief



H. A. Hunderup

Baptist World Relief Center Representative to Visit Campuses

In response to an urgent appeal on the part of Southern Baptist missionaries, Arkansas Baptist students are joining the Baptist churches and associations of Arkansas in an active drive for food, clothing, and medical supplies. From December 1 through December 12, H. A. Hunderup, district field representative for the Baptist World Relief Center, New Orleans, Louisiana, will accompany the State Baptist Student Union Secretary, T. D. McCulloch, on a tour of Arkansas college campuses. Through the Baptist Student Union and church leadership an intensive campaign will be launched in each college town. Mr. Hunderup is an excellent speaker and will appear before churches, civic clubs, high school chapel meetings, and other student groups.

The tentative schedule for these appearances is as follows:

Wednesday night and Thursday, December 1-2, Magnolia; Thursday and Friday, December 2-3, Monticello; Saturday and Sunday, December 4-5, Arkadelphia; Monday, December 6, Little Rock and Conway; Tuesday, December 7, Batesville and Walnut Ridge; Wednesday, December 8, Jonesboro; Thursday, December 9, Conway and Russellville; Friday, December 10, Clarksville and Fort Smith; Saturday and Sunday, December 11-12, Fayetteville.

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How Wise Are You?

Centuries ago the author of Proverbs wrote: "He that winneth souls is wise." It is the task of every Christian to bring the lost to Christ. Every person can invite someone to Jesus.

Centennial Convention

By E. C. BROWN

The Centennial session of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention was, indeed, a harmonious and forward-looking Convention. It was evident that every messenger came with a prayerful determination to transact the business of the Lord in a fraternal and Christ-honoring fashion. It seemed that everyone who participated in the program was at his best and made a real contribution.

The reports from our agencies, boards, and institutions, and the splendid addresses by our South wide and State leaders were of the highest order. There was a note of victory in every session.

I was greatly impressed and inspired with the fact that our Convention has set itself to a great Christ-honoring program for the new century. The setting up of the Baptist Foundation and the authorization of the complete survey of our financial needs, looking forward to the setting up of an all-inclusive State budget that will take care not only of the current operating expenses of our boards, agencies, institutions, and mission causes, but that will also provide for our capital needs over a period of years, denotes real vision and desire to move forward to God's plan.

It is my sincere conviction that if we as a Convention would put on a mighty crusade for tithers in our churches, and if our churches will allocate a worthy percentage of these tithing funds to our Co-operative Program, we can and will provide regularly and systematically all of the funds needed for all of our program. I challenge every Arkansas Baptist to give his finest co-operation in a mighty crusade for lost souls and in an intensive program of enlistment of our people as tithers.

I should like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the splendid co-operation of W. O. Vaught Jr., host pastor; Dr. B. L. Bridges, executive secretary; Taylor Stanfill, recording secretary; T. K. Rucker and I. M. Prince, vice-presidents; and other members of the Centennial Commission; also Roland Leath, Convention song leader, Dr. M. Ray McKay, devotional leader, and all others who participated in the program.

—000—

Sometimes when I consider what tremendous consequences come from little things, a chance word, a tap on the shoulder, or a penny dropped on a news stand—I am tempted to think . . . there are no little things.

—Bruce Barton.

Song Of The Month

DECEMBER

"Joy To The World"

ANTIOCH

ISAAC WATTS

GEORGE F. HANDEL

*Joy to the World! the Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

*Joy to the earth! the Saviour reigns;  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.*

*He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove,  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, and wonders of His love.*

No more thrilling carillon of praise has ever been heard among men since that first angelic chorus proclaimed the birth of the Savior, the "Joy to the World." As Isaac Watts read and pondered Psalm 98, was inspired to pen the words which fit so perfectly to the inspiring tune known as Antioch. Joy is the key-note of both poem and hymn tune.

Handel, who gave "The Messiah" music to us, was deeply religious and wrote primarily for the glory of God. Brought up in a Christian home he was thoroughly familiar with his Bible which guided him in much of his musical writings. The profound prophetic truth penned by Isaac Watts in the present tense that "He rules the world with truth and grace" pre-dates any organized missionary effort and serves as proof of his great faith. Linked with Handel's mighty music, "Joy to the World" is one of the world's treasures. What a pity it is sung more often than just during the Christmas season.

—Ruth Ntinger.

New Books You Will Enjoy!

GUIDEPOSTS, a book of personal messages of inspiration and faith, edited by Norman Vincent Beale. Price—\$1.95  
THE BIG FISHERMAN, by Lloyd C. Douglas. Only the man who wrote "The Robe" could write this outstanding book. Price—\$3.75

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## Mission Study Institute

There were 109 in attendance at the Associational Mission Study Institute held at First Church, Rogers, recently, representing ten out of 13 societies in Benton County, and also representatives from Fayetteville and Springdale.

"For Christ In China," was the theme, and appropriate decorations were used to carry out this theme. An attractive display of exhibits, teaching helps, and visual aids was used.

Mrs. W. B. Pittard, Mrs. Frank Hall, Miss LaVerne Ashby, and Mrs. Frank Pitts gave talks on how to teach the series of books on China. Others assisting with the program were Mrs. James Overton, Mrs. Virgil Miller, and Mrs. James Pipkin. Mrs. A. G. Newman presented many aims which had their beginning during the service of Miss Fannie E. S. Heck, among which was the first mission study course. The W. M. U. hymn, "Come Women, Wide Proclaim," written by Miss Heck, was sung before the devotional, "Remember," by Mrs. Pittard.

Mrs. Newman, mission study chairman, expresses her appreciation for the splendid co-operation of all in presenting this program.

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## Convention Boards

(Continued from Page 2)

### Orphanage

**Terms Expiring in 1951:** J. E. Short, Pine Bluff; Exell Kimbro, Monticello; Ralph Reasor, Smackover; C.H. Cutrell, Eudora; Waif Hamilton, Stamps; Ralph Douglas, Helena.

**Terms Expiring in 1950:** T. C. Heuer, Harrison; Mrs. J. L. Bodie, Pine Bluff; C. D. Sallee, Morrilton; Ed Thrash, Hope; Miss Mollie Center, Waldron; T. N. Shaddox, Dumas.

**Terms Expiring in 1949:** Otto Waller, McGehee; C. C. Smith, Monticello; Mrs. Faber Tyler, Ozark; Marvin Bankston, North Little Rock; Blake Westmoreland, Warren; Mrs. W. P. McGeorge, Pine Bluff.

### Board of Ministerial Education

Taylor Stanfill, North Little Rock; V. A. Rose, Benton; Ray Branscum, Little Rock; W. M. Pratt, Lonoke; L. G. Whitehorn, Pine Bluff; W. R. Vestal, Searcy.

### Anti-Saloon League of Arkansas

C. E. Lawrence, Little Rock; Carl Nelson, Gentry; J. C. Melton, Hot Springs; D. B. Bledsoe, Mt. Ida; Arch Campbell, Little Rock; Oscar Ellis, Salem; Fred Parris, Little Rock; Jeff Rousseau, Paragould; Elmer Morgan, Cullendale; Earl Herrington, North Little Rock; J. F. Queen, Little Rock; J. S. Abercrombie, Little Rock; Mrs. W. I. Moody, Little Rock.

### Advisory Board for Southern Baptist College

C. Z. Holland, Jonesboro; Taylor Stanfill, North Little Rock; Frank Shamburger, Little Rock; Roland Leath, Little Rock; Minor Cole, Forrest City; C. F. Wilkins, Newport; C. D. Sallee, Morrilton; T. T. Newton, Rison; H. W. Ryan, Jacksonville.

### Preacher of Sermon for 1950

James A. Overton, Bentonville; alternate, W. M. Pratt, Lonoke.

## Gift for New Orleans Seminary



Ernest O. Sellers (right foreground), professor emeritus of sacred music at the New Orleans Baptist Seminary, presents a \$5,000 endowment Seminary President, Roland Q. Leavell. Looking on are members of the Seminary's music faculty, left to right, Joseph Bartlett, Mrs. Walter Clark, W. Plunkett Martin, and Elliot A. Alexander.

Ernest O. Sellers, prominent Southern Baptist leader in the field of sacred music for thirty years, has presented a sum of \$5,000 to the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, Dr. Roland Leavell, Seminary president, has announced.

The earnings from this money will be used as scholarships. Music students who take private instruction in their course shall be beneficiaries. Scholarships will be granted only to those intending to devote themselves to a full time musical ministry.

Mr. Sellers served as a member of the faculty of the New Orleans Baptist Seminary for 25 years, where he inaugurated a department of training for church musi-

cians and evangelistic singers. Lecturer, composer, newspaper correspondent and author of several books, Mr. Sellers has traveled extensively in America, Europe, South America and many lands.

At the age of seventy-eight, Sellers is still active in the field of music and writing. Some of his better known books are: "Worship, Why and How"; "Personal Evangelism"; "How to Improve Church Music"; and "Musical Notation and Conducting."

Hymns he has composed include: "Wonderful Jesus," "Word Have I Hid in My Heart" and "When the Shadows Flee."

### Extension Department

All information on the financial condition of the church should be given to the Extension members when their pledge cards are presented. Extension members should receive their pledge cards should be included in the initial material presented to all new Extension members regardless of when they joined.

A study of the church budget with the member is interesting and informing. It gives him a vision of our world-wide Baptist program and usually creates a desire to give to it.

Mrs. Henry Semple, superintendent of the Extension Department of the Allapattah Baptist Church, Miami, Florida, reports that during the past eight months several hundred dollars has been contributed to their church budget through tithes and offerings through the Extension Department.

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# History in the New Testament

By MRS. ROLAND LEATH

The lesson this week is taken from Acts, the historical book of the New Testament. In peace or war, past or present, no project has been so bold, no adventure so thrilling, as the enterprise of carrying the Gospel to the whole world. The Acts tell how this work was begun, how the good news was brought across the imperial provinces from Jerusalem to Rome, not by a single messenger or by individual effort, but by the rapid extension of the church.

The Book of Acts is the history of the early church, of missions, and of witnessing. No mention is made as to the author of this great book, but some scholars are convinced that Luke, beloved physician, author of the third Gospel, and faithful friend of Paul, is that author. By reading Luke 1:1-4 and Acts 1:1, 2 we understand that both books were addressed to Theophilus; therefore, we surmise that both books were written by Luke. Luke was a Greek by birth, possibly a native of Antioch. He was a learned man, skilled and refined, with the highly commendable trait of faithfulness. His absolute and definite aim in writing proves to the world that he was an outstanding historian.

The history of the New Testament begins with the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, or the events just prior to the actual birth in Bethlehem. The Book of Acts does not give all the history of the times, for the introduction of the book says it is a continuation "of all that Jesus began both to do and teach. . . ." However, it does continue the work of Christ and cites the actual work of the church as the history of the epochal first century unfolds.

## The Beginnings of Witnessing

The Gospels reveal the intention of Jesus Christ to found a church, not a building of mortar or stone, but an assembly of believers. He chose a small group of men, trained them, sent them out with power to heal and preach, instructed them, and left them with the responsibility of a mighty commission to make disciples of all nations. Before they were able to follow this commission, they had to receive power. This power came, as they tarried until the Holy Spirit came upon them.

In the Acts the author had as his definite aim the writing of a history of the empowering and growth of the first church. He does not give the biographies of the apostles, though Peter and Paul occupy the main portion of the book. The "eleven" are mentioned once, Judas and Matthias twice, and John five times. Other persons are important in the history—Stephen, Philip, Barnabas, Mark, Silas, Timothy—because they played a part in his great theme, the extending of the church

## Sunday School Lesson For December 5, 1948

Acts 1:8; 4:1-4; 13:2, 3; 16:9, 10; 28:16, 30-31

in witnessing for Christ from Jerusalem to Rome. In this book the Holy Spirit, His nature and divine office, is impressed upon our hearts because the witnessing was accomplished through His power!

Humbly, waiting in prayer, the church of one hundred twenty disciples received this power when He came on the Day of Pentecost. Then what a transformation! Ignorant, learned, timid, fearful, cowardly, all these men came from that upper room bold, confident, witnessing to the crucified, risen, and now ascended Son of God.

Peter, in power and mighty influence, preached that day and the convicting power of the Spirit moved 3,000 to join that small band as they accepted this Risen Lord. In the days to follow others repented of their sins, accepted the Savior, and joined with these in witnessing and praising God.

In the midst of success and glorious revival fires the shadow of persecution fell. The church met the power of evil and experienced opposition for the first time. Notice the strange fact that this persecution was organized and pressed by the religious leaders. We never know how the Devil works and schemes. These men, trained in the Scriptures, scoffed at the unlearned disciples and became grieved at the preaching of the resurrection.

The disciples were imprisoned, but the power of the preached word, free and convincing, brought transformation again and 5,000 believed. Some writer calls our attention to the fact that this is the last numbering of converts; the spread of the seed is on; the Gospel of Christ began to be scattered abroad as a result of this early persecution, and scores believed and were saved. They are still being saved as Christ is preached and the Spirit does His mighty work.

## The Witnessing Continues

At Antioch, the Gentile church, many were saved and the church

was blessed. Prophets, teachers, and preachers were developed. Barnabas, from the church at Jerusalem, went down to investigate and was overjoyed at the Spirit's work in their midst. He stayed and worked with the Christians there, then went to Tarsus and brought Paul to lead in the work.

The Holy Spirit had other fields for these, and in a short while called Paul and Barnabas to leave Antioch and go "to the work whereunto I have called them." Churches began to spring up in many places in Asia Minor and the Word of God was received by many as these first missionaries preached and prayed and worked.

Paul and Barnabas completed their first journey and then Paul and Silas went on another missionary trip. Paul had visited the churches established on the other journey, and the group was planning to move farther east when the Spirit forbade him and he had the Macedonian vision and the call to "come over and help us." Thus the witnessing moved to the

continent of Europe. Yes, the good news was traveling far! This vision was the direction of the Spirit of God for this servant to follow the way the Lord wanted him to go. He still calls, guides, sends, changes, and blesses, even today.

Everywhere Paul went the Gospel was preached; in most places many were converted and churches were organized, who in turn produced witnesses. Paul went on three great journeys, made many friends, and won many souls as he made long and short trips and tarried in some places a short while and in others a longer time. Paul greatly desired to go to Rome, finally he reached the metropolis a prisoner. But, in chains he preached, won the lost, wrote letters of encouragement to churches and converts, and witnessed continually for his Lord. The Gospel was to go in all directions from Rome.

The witnessing still continues. There will be those who tell the "old, old story" with conviction and power until our Lord returns.

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

## The 1949 Budget

The budget which the Committees and the Executive Board recommended was adopted by the messengers of the churches in Convention assembled November 17. The budget seemed to be more or less satisfactory to all our people, and it has met with unusual hearty acclaim and response. There were two or three other items that had been requested, but our leaders did not see any probability of financing our causes if the budget were overloaded with additional items.

The churches located in college towns want help for their building programs. This would be something new in our State budget. Some of the other States are giving such help. The request seems to have worth and merit. Such items would have been recommended to the Convention this session if the Board had believed enough money could be raised to finance a larger program. The Steering and Planning Commission was given further time to work out and present a policy which the Convention might be willing to accept and follow in regard to such requests.

The amount allotted to Southern Baptist College was recommended with the understanding and agreement that the State Convention would have an Advisory Board to assist in the operation of the school, and keep the Convention advised regarding the work of the school. It was further agreed that the college would encourage the churches to give their money through the Co-operative Program instead of designating to the school. This is a new item in the budget, and we felt that these explanations should go to our people.

This is a large budget, and it will require a missionary vision, heroic effort, unselfishness in making church budgets, and sacrificial giving if we reach the figures of this enlarged budget.

Many of the churches have greatly enlarged their Co-operative Program allocation for the coming year. Some have more than doubled it. Won't you do likewise in your church? Here is the budget:

### Arkansas Baptist State Convention Suggested Budget—1949

Administrative .....	\$ 23,000
Arkansas Baptist .....	5,000
Woman's Missionary Union .....	20,000
Promotion and Convention .....	6,600
Brotherhood Department .....	8,400
Religious Education Department .....	30,000
Retirement Plan .....	25,000
Old Debts .....	25,000
Office Building .....	
(Annual Payment) .....	7,500
History Commission .....	2,000
Baptist State Hospital .....	3,000
State Missions .....	60,000
Ouachita College .....	48,000
Central College .....	36,000
Orphanage .....	25,000
Ministerial Education .....	2,000
Emergency Reserve .....	2,000

Baptist Foundation .....	10,000
Southern Baptist College .....	20,000
\$358,500	
South-wide Causes .....	239,000
\$597,500	

### The Dead Line For Members of An Annuity Plan

We remind you, brethren, that if you are a member of the Widow's Supplemental Annuity Plan you must pay your dues up in full for the year before December 31.

If you owe some on your Minister's Retirement Plan dues this also must be paid because the Convention Minister's Retirement Plan is basic to the Widow's Supplemental Annuity plan. You must be a bona fide member of the Ministers Retirement Plan or Baptist Board's Retirement Plan in order to qualify for membership in the Widow's Supplemental Annuity Plan.

Ordinarily there is a period of grace for the payment of dues. This must not be confused with the deadline for the year 1948. We have just received the following communication from the Relief and Annuity Board which operates under the laws of the State of Texas. Please read carefully, and take care of your obligations early in December.

### Important Notice From the Relief And Annuity Board, Southern Baptist Convention

The Widow's Supplemental Annuity Plan was drafted by the Relief and Annuity Board with a view of giving maximum returns for minimum costs; they are in order to hold administrative costs to a minimum, we cannot send premium notices, nor should your state office be expected to do so. It is the personal responsibility of each individual member to see that his dues are remitted on time each month.

Please read Paragraph No. 11 of your Certificate of Participation and note that contributions are due and payable monthly the first day of each month. A grace period of 90 days from the due date is provided. You will note also that the certificate specifies termination of membership for delinquency beyond the grace period.

Since this plan is supplemental to the Minister's Retirement Plan, dues in the latter plan should be paid likewise.

### Youngest Attendant

Miss Lois Wynnone Lassater, six weeks old daughter of Pastor and Mrs. Lonnie Lassater of Westside Church, El Dorado, was probably the youngest person to attend the pageant at Robinson Memorial Auditorum during the recent State Convention of Arkansas Baptists.

### The Centennial Convention

We never knew why the brethren made General Secretary Chairman of the Centennial Committee. We know that we have worked so hard as we have worked in and the Centennial Year was, in part, cause of it, and the importance of the Centennial Convention was a great part of load.

We did our best, brethren, and your endless and universal commendations are great rewards. We are grateful to all our committees who helped us make it a red letter occasion.

### Cole and Forrest City

Dear Dr. Bridges:

We had by far the best year in the long and eventful history of our church. We baptized 115 and received 115 by letter statement for a total of 230 for the year. Not bad is it? Our financial receipts were six times what they were seven years ago. We averaged 397 in Sunday School and 100 in Training Union for the entire year. We have raised our pledge to Co-operative Program 25 per cent over last year. We will complete our pledge of \$7,500 to the Ouachita Campaign this year. We have already paid \$6,600 of it. We, like many of our churches have a building program on, and we expect to build a complete new plant four blocks from our present location. I have never seen a finer spirit than we have in our church.

Love and power to you,  
*Minor E. Cole.*

### Sulphur City Increases Its Contributions

Mrs. Margaret Price writes that the Sulphur City Church has voted to increase Co-operative Program allocation from 10 per cent to 15 per cent. This is a little church on the mountain side near Fayetteville. It is really a mission field. If a church as small as the one at Sulphur City can give 15 per cent of its budget for the Co-operative Program, then shouldn't some of our other churches be ashamed of their small percentages?

### Pastor Crow and South Ft. Smith

Pastor Crow writes that his church has adopted its 1949 budget. They have left their old fifteen per cent allocation, and have voted twenty-five per cent allocation for the Co-operative Program in 1949. How encouraging indeed. Thank you Brother Crow.

### Pastor Cutrell and Eudora

Pastor Clarence Cutrell begins his letter with "Praise God." He prayed that his church might give \$5,000 next year for Co-operative Missions. His prayer was more than answered. His church voted \$5,400. This doubled their percentage, and is thirty per cent of an \$18,000 budget. We join you Brother Cutrell in saying "Praise the Lord."