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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 55

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, OCTOBER 25, 1956

NUMBER 42



**Royal Ambassador Focus Week
November 4 - 10**

See Page 12

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Look Beneath The Surface

By JOHN W. RODDIE

Periodically, and particularly when the financial affairs of a country gets in a muddled and almost hopeless state, the idea of legalizing some new form of gambling as a cure for all ills gets wide attention. Just now, this idea is being discussed agitatedly. It would be interesting, indeed, to know the reaction of our founding fathers and fondling mothers if they could view the ballot you will be called on to respect come election day.

Gambling in any form is the lowest of human endeavor. Those who advocate the operation of gambling by the various state governments point to the increased revenues it would pull into the coffers. They see in gambling a painless, even joyous, method of extracting tax dollars from those who would undoubtedly begrudge the offering if it were sought in any other way but as a gambling venture. They point to man's innate capacity for gambling, and in particular, his peculiar fondness for games wherein he need only invest a few dollars for a puny chance at winning large amounts. They cite the popularity of the lottery conducted by the Irish Free State, which, it is estimated, pulls more than \$20,000,000 out of this country annually — money which could be put to excellent advantage here at home.

On the surface, gambling would provide an almost utopian solution to the ever-present problem of making governmental intake equal governmental outtake. Unfortunately, however, those in favor of gambling schemes overlook several highly important factors. They overlook the fact that gambling in any form would in all probability draw chief support from the poorest classes, persons whose every dollar is needed to provide the basic necessities of life, but who by virtue of their very poverty cannot resist the lure of the possibility that they may get big returns for a small investment. They overlook the fact that painful taxes serve as the best check on governmental inefficiency and waste. For people are conscious of the cost of government when they are forced to pay taxes that hurt. They keep a closer check on expenditures. They cultivate a cocked eye toward politicians. And this scrutiny serves

to make the politicians more cautious in accepting dishonest dollars for favors rendered.

Gambling, for this reason, is insidious. It lulls the taxpayer into a belief that the cost of government is not high, because it is not felt so keenly. It gives the voter the impression that he is getting something for nothing.

Gambling for the benefit of governmental taxation is wrong and if it is not forced under cover and back into the alleys it will eventually do away with our form of government. It has already dulled the public interest in governmental finance. It has already put in a visit at the governor's office by his own testimony and in the last few days generous awards were passed out to our FHA youth and by no means anonymous but on TV, where full credit would be given not to benefactor but to gambling. Gambling inaugurates a field day for politicians who realize the opportunities for accepting graft and fostering corruption in government has been magnified immeasurably. That was the experience in Louisiana. Lotteries there opened the door for waste and corruption in government the like of which has never been seen in this country. Lotteries provided the impulse that broke down all barriers to vice. The state was thrown into an unprecedented period of misrule and some of its highest officials actually killed off.

Surrounding towns and cities seeing monies being drained from their own areas to support gambling in any form are beginning to set up dog races, crap palaces and other games of chance for defense, if for no other reason. State legislatures will become a safe haven for corruption and vice and whatever good there exists in gambling will be offset a thousand fold by the mismanagement in government it breeds. The government of any people is too important a function to be made the mere pawn of chance. Gambling is designed strictly for gamblers and if you are a dedicated gambler and that is your life's work then you stand to benefit from chance but if you are engaged in any other business you should discourage gambling.

—Hot Springs Star Journal

First Baptist Church Nailed Up In Boston

BOSTON, Mass., May 19, 1680 — Baptists again have been forbidden to hold worship services in their meetinghouse here, although authorities have had to defy orders of the king and create a new law in order to carry out their latest act of intolerance.

The law forbidding Baptists "to meet in that public place they have built, or any other public house except such as are allowed by lawful authority" is another in a long series of efforts to destroy the First Baptist Church of Boston. Since the church was established by Thomas Gould with nine charter members in 1665, members have been arrested, imprisoned, fined, and otherwise persecuted continually.

For years the congregation met in the homes of members, but in 1678 they quietly went about building a meetinghouse. It was not generally known that the building was to be used as a church until Baptists began to worship there. Immediately officials of the government and established church in Boston launched a determined effort to close the doors of the First Baptist Church, Boston.

When news of this persecution reached King Charles II in England, the monarch

promptly ordered Massachusetts authorities to allow liberty of conscience to all Protestants. The king added that their persecution was "to be the more wondered at, whereas liberty of conscience was made a principal motive for your first transportation into those parts."

Following action of the king, Baptists again returned to their church, only to have their leaders face court charges again in March of this year. Later Baptists found the doors of their church nailed shut and read a notice that they were forbidden "to hold any meeting therein or to open the doors thereof — as they will answer the contrary at their peril."

The congregation worshiped outdoors the following Sunday, but later found the church doors open again and went inside for services. It was for this step that the court action was taken today, advising Baptists that they are still prohibited from public worship — the order of the king to the contrary notwithstanding.

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—17th Century Baptist Press

Jesus Stills The Tempest

A Devotion By The Editor

"And there arose a great storm of wind."

The Sea of Galilee was subject to tempests that made it at times dangerous to shipping. The cold air could gather on Mount Hermon and rush with precipitous force to the warm region of the lake below. It would come with little warning and with hurricane force.

It was just such a time when Jesus and the disciples were crossing the lake. Jesus was resting from the strenuous labors of the day. The disciples were greatly frightened and aroused Jesus in the hope that He might do something about their desperate situation.

The storms of life are inevitable, "And there ariseth a great storm." These storms are of various origins and kinds. We may have little warning of their coming until suddenly they sweep upon us with maddened fury and devastating results.

Storms may arise from the cross-currents of human society and descend upon us with the force of a hurricane. Or the storms may arise from economic disturbances and shake the foundations of our material subsistence. Again, the tempest of sickness, sorrow, and death take their toll. The winds of temptation gather for their onslaught.

If the Lord always kept the sea calm and the winds gentle, we might ultimately forget that we had any need for Him at all. Here is a truth we must not miss: we can make the Lord conscious of the dangers which threaten us, make Him aware of the tempest which is about to sweep us away, make Him feel the urgent appeals that arise from our inmost souls. We can press our needs upon Him, so that every fiber of his being is keenly sensitive and wake to every influence that touches our lives.

And blessed fact, he "rebuked the wind and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. . . and there was a great calm." Of course, there will be a great calm when the human heart awakens to the dangers of the storms of life and turns to the Lord in confident trust and faith for help.

"And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.

"And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?"

"And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm." Mark 4:37-39.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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From The Editor's Desk

The Arkansas Baptist State Convention

The next session of the Arkansas Baptist Convention will meet with the First Baptist Church, Little Rock, November 13-15, 1956.

The Convention opens on Tuesday morning, November 13, however, there are certain pre-convention meetings which should command the attention of various groups. There will be the Pastor's Conference, the meeting of the ministers' wives, and the Brotherhood meeting, all of these on Monday prior to the opening of the Convention Tuesday morning. The Executive Board will also meet Monday afternoon. In the main, these are inspirational meetings and should have a good attendance and a good program.

Appeal

Our first appeal is for as large as possible attendance on the Convention itself. Certainly every pastor in the state should plan to attend the Convention unless providentially hindered. It is important for the pastor to attend because of his position as a pastor. He will be able to better integrate his ministry into the Convention program and lead his church to better co-operate with the Convention program. Attendance at the Convention will mean much to the pastor because of his contacts with other pastors from over the state. There is nothing that will give the pastor greater inspiration than mixing and mingling with fellow pastors and sharing with

them the experiences of the Convention and its program. We Baptists are a co-operative group and Convention attendance is absolutely necessary to stimulate and maintain our co-operation with our brethren in a great denominational program. Churches should see to it that their pastors attend the Convention, make it possible for them to attend, pay their expenses to the Convention. The churches themselves will profit by sending their pastors to the Convention.

Laymen

As many laymen as possibly can should attend the state convention. The Convention will give the layman an insight into the workings of the denomination, will provide inspiration and information that the laymen need in their local church program and the program of the denomination with which the church co-operates. An informed, inspired, and loyal layman is the church's greatest human asset and the pastor's most loyal supporter and helper.

Budget

There will be presented to Arkansas Baptists at the forthcoming Convention a challenging program for 1957. The total financial budget which will be recommended to the Convention by the Executive Board is \$1,497,771.95. This budget presents a tremendous challenge to Arkansas Baptists as stewards under God. Arkansas Baptists are well able

to meet this challenge and we believe they will.

However, I would not center your attention on dollars alone. Dollars are meant to pay the expenses of a world-circling program of missions, evangelism, education, and benevolences. If we think of our mission program, including state, home, and foreign missions, as the winning of the lost to Christ, spreading the gospel at home and around the world, then we have put the emphasis in the right place. If we think of answering the call of homeless and destitute children, it will not be difficult for us to provide the dollars to answer their call. If we think of the education of our young people in college and seminary, preparing them in a Christian atmosphere for their life work, whether it be in the business and professional world or in definitely religious work, we will not hesitate to provide the facilities which are necessary for their preparation. And so it goes with every phase of our co-operative work. If we think of the budget in terms of dollars only, we might perhaps be discouraged and think it is beyond our reach. However, if we think of the ministries rendered which these dollars make possible, we shall have an entirely different and richer appreciation for our co-operative work and will not hesitate to provide the dollars necessary to pay the expenses of these various ministries.

So we urge one and all who possibly can to attend the State Convention and enter heartily into the program so that you will better understand the work of Arkansas Baptists, feel the challenge of the co-operative work and receive the inspiration and courage to give your best to the Lord through the channel provided by our Cooperative Program.

Let's Save Sunday

By GAINES S. DOBBINS,

*Professor of Church Administration
Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary
Berkeley, California*

The newcomer to the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Area undergoes many unusual experiences. The bridges that span the bay are an amazement. The traffic at first is a bit frightening. The vastness of the population, eighty per cent unchurched, is exciting and challenging. The growth of Southern Baptists is highly gratifying.

Have you ever lived in a city where many of the stores are wide open all day Sunday and into the night? Near Golden Gate Seminary is a huge combination drugstore and grocery that seems to do its biggest day's business on Sunday. To multitudes, Sunday is not the Lord's Day but "the weekend." Friday night, Saturday, Sunday see them off to the pleasure resorts, out at the races, attending athletic events, crowding the places of amusement. For those to whom this sort of thing does not appeal, the weekend is the time for mowing the lawn, tending the flowers, painting and repairing the house, washing and tinkering with the car, working in the "do-it-yourself" basement workshop. For the stay-at-homes, television is the center of attraction, especially Sunday evening.

Perhaps this California metropolis represents the "lost weekend" somewhat more than

others because of the enormous influx of new residents. Moving into the bay area at the rate of more than a thousand a week, they find themselves in the main in churchless communities where standards of religious living have not been well established. It is easy for them to fall in with the crowd and do what "everybody's doing." Soon habits of non-attendance on church services are formed and conscience is dulled concerning sabbath violation. What is happening here is becoming increasingly true in all our large city centers. Statisticians predict that the population of the United States will increase from one hundred sixty-eight million in 1956 to two hundred twenty million by 1957. They say that eighty per cent of this increase will be urban. This means the adding of more than fifty million people to the already overcrowded cities within the next twenty years.

We must save Sunday in the city! Clearly this cannot be done through the enforcement of so-called "blue laws." We must make our Sunday church services more attractive, more vital, more fruitful. On two successive Sunday evenings, I preached first to a congregation of a thousand at Wichita Falls, Texas; then I led a discussion in a downtown non-Baptist

church in the bay area where there were exactly twenty persons with whom I discussed the problem of a downtown church that has given up its evening service. My heart sank as I saw the great auditorium dark and silent, the lovely classrooms with no one present. The question kept recurring as I drove home: "Can this happen to us?"

Let's save Sunday for Christ! A church can default on its opportunity and reach the point of no return. The answer is not just a popular pulpiteer who draws people by his personal magnetism. Insofar as we Southern Baptists have found the answer, it is in a great teaching service through the Sunday School preceding the morning worship service; then a great Training Union service, bringing back to the church the same people who were there for Sunday school, followed by an evangelistic service empowered by the Holy Spirit for the winning of souls and their addition to the enlistment in the church and its full program. Add to this a great Wednesday service of family fellowship, study and preparation through the weekly officers and teachers' meeting, missionary education and choir rehearsals for the children, study and discussion groups for the others, climaxed by an hour of purposeful prayer, and we will have saved Sunday as the day when the Lord's people meet prepared to do the Lord's work.

This is the way — let us walk in it!

Kingdom Progress

Osceola Pastor



HARRY GATES JACOBS

Harry Gates Jacobs, a native of Harrisburg, will return to Arkansas from Mount Sterling, Ky., on November 1, to assume the pastorate of First Church, Osceola. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry C. Jacobs, both active members, the father a long time deacon of First Church, Harrisburg.

Mr. Jacobs is a graduate of Georgetown College, Georgetown, Ky. He graduated from Southern Seminary, Louisville, in 1940 with the Th M degree. He served as pastor of First Church, Carlisle, from 1941 to 1945, when he was called to First Church, Mount Sterling, where he has been the past eleven years.

During the latter pastorate, the church organized a mission, nurtured it into a church, and presented a \$15,000 building to the new church. During those years the First Church doubled its Sunday school enrolment and attendance, making necessary a new, two story educational building which is now being completed at a cost of \$70,000. The church received 500 new members during those years, 222 by letter, the remainder by baptism.

Mrs. Jacobs is the former Rachel Blackman, whose father is a Kentucky Baptist pastor. There are two daughters: Gayle, who is a freshman at Georgetown College, and Karen, age seven.

Report of Annual Meeting of Conway-Perry Association

By H. D. PALMER

The annual meeting of Conway-Perry Association met with First Church, Nimrod, October 11.

Officers elected for the coming year are: C. W. Bettis of Morrilton, moderator; J. Luther Whitfield of Casa, associate moderator; Mrs. H. D. Palmer of Perry, clerk; Mrs. Guen Standiford of Perryville, treasurer.

Fifteen churches reported 56 baptisms.

New pastors introduced were Don Grave-meir, First Church, Plumerville; Millard Jones, First Church, Casa; Leonard Lovell, Perry and Adona churches. There are four pastorless churches.

Annual Meetings

By JAY W. C. MOORE

WASHINGTON-MADISON

The thirty-eighth session of the Washington-Madison association was held in First Church, Springdale, October 4-5. The following officers were elected for another year: Moderator, Walter Jesser, pastor of Providence Church; Vice Moderator, G. C. Hilton, a layman of First Church, Springdale; Clerk, Lloyd Cowling, First Church, Lincoln; Treasurer, Lloyd Alexander, layman First Church, Fayetteville. The annual sermon was preached by Dr. Andrew Hall, pastor of First Church, Fayetteville. Baptisms reported were 273 which was 78 above last year.

NEWTON COUNTY

The Newton County Association met with First Church, Deere, on the 6th of October. This is, perhaps, the smallest association in the state. The association is comprised of only five churches and only two pastors living in the association. A. W. Psalmonds pastor at Cassville and Walnut Grove was elected Moderator. Monroe Palmer, pastor of First Church, Jasper, Vice Moderator. Darwin Shelton, a layman, Clerk, and Elmer Casey, layman, Treasurer, A. W. Psalmonds preached the annual sermon.

CONCORD

The eighty-sixth session of the Concord Association was held October 11-12 in First Church, Charleston. The following officers were elected for another year: Elva Adams, Moderator; Mason Boundrant, Vice-Moderator; Clifford Lyons, Clerk, and Al G. Escott, Treasurer. New pastors introduced were Darell Ross, First Church, Charleston; Walter Watts, Rye Hill; Andy O'Kelley, Harmony, Charleston; Orvil Haley, North Side, Ft. Smith; Earnest Hogan, Highway 96; E. L. Bristow, First, Ratcliff, and D. M. Kreis, First, Hackett. James Pleitz, pastor of Grand Avenue Church, Ft. Smith, preached the annual sermon. Three hundred and fifty messengers and visitors attended the sessions on the first day.

Recognition Service

First Church, Norphlet, held special recognition services in connection with Promotion Day recently.

Fred Love, who has served as Sunday school superintendent for the past 16 years, was presented with a set of books by G. Campbell Morgan. Mrs. W. L. Larson, who has served as Training Union director for ten years, also received a set of books.

Ruth Ann Womack, who has a perfect attendance record for eight years, received her 8 year bar; Kay Anderson received her six and seven year bars; Joe Fred Love, Franklin Womack, Randa Sue Goodwin, Wanda Cheers, Florrie Velle Davis, Carolyn Davidson, Larry Larson, and Mrs. J. A. Womack received pins for perfect attendance from one to five years.

Carlisle Pastor Goes to California

Dr. L. G. Gatlin resigned the pastorate of First Church, Carlisle, effective October 21, to accept the Walnut Avenue Southern Baptist Church in Long Beach, California.

Dr. Gatlin was with the Carlisle church five years.

The Caroline Association Executive Board sent commendations of Dr. Gatlin to the California church.

News From Ouachita

Bible Building and Chapel

Ouachita College will soon see a long dreamed of Bible building in the place of the former president's home as construction will begin in the near future, Dr. Ralph A. Phelps has announced.

The air-conditioned structure, to cost an estimated \$218,000, will feature a 250-chapel for small groups and practice preaching by ministerial students. There will be a baptistry and six classrooms in addition to offices for the faculty of the Religion department.

Facilities for radio broadcasts and electronic chimes to send music across the campus will also be included.

"This building will fill a long felt need to house the Bible department which is in need of more adequate facilities," Dr. Phelps said.

Baptist Honored

Mrs. Neva Talley Morris, one of the few women lawyers permitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, recently has been elected president of the National Association of Women Lawyers.

After graduating from Judsonia High School in 1926, she attended Ouachita College, graduating magna cum laude in 1930 with a B. A. degree. She received a Master Education Degree in 1938 from the University of Texas and worked on the Ph. D. degree in 1939-41 and 1945-47.

Mrs. Morris is an honorary member of the Iota Tau Tau International Legal Sorority, a member of the International Federation of Women Lawyers. She is a charter member of the Park Hill Church of North Little Rock.

Present Needs

President Ralph A. Phelps in his annual report to the trustees, listed eleven needs of the college. They include a new dining hall, more classroom space, more offices for faculty members, additional shelving in the library, 14 practice pianos, a bus, new seats for the football stadium, equipping a research laboratory, and another topping for the campus drive.

"The present dining hall, erected in 1920, was built to feed approximately 250 students, but we are boarding more than 500. Students must stand in lines waiting to eat at each meal, and there is no place to stand except outside no matter how bad the weather. The kitchen was not built or equipped to prepare food for a student body the size of ours," Dr. Phelps stated.

New Buildings

Plans for a new dining hall and additional housing for married students were made at the recent meeting of the board of trustees, Dr. Ralph A. Phelps has announced.

"Authorities predict a tidal wave of students reaching college around 1970 and we expect Ouachita to get a proportionate share of Arkansas' young people. We must build more facilities or we will lose many fine students," said Dr. Phelps.

During the past ten years Ouachita has built four new dormitories, an infirmary, administration buildings, library, science building, nine ministerial student cottages, and a new classroom building.

In the past two years a new faculty housing area has sprung up with nine homes already completed and three currently under construction. The new development has been valued at more than \$200,000. Building sites have been laid out for five or six more faculty homes in the area which is north of the main campus.

Harmony Association Reports

By AMOS GREER, *Missionary*

The mission at Douglas, sponsored by First Church, Gould, was organized into a church Sunday afternoon, October 14, with 50 charter members. The church has maintained a full time Sunday school and preaching services at the mission for more than two years. Danny Nall, a student at Ouachita, is pastor. When N. Williamson is pastor of the Gould church.

A. W. Upchurch has resigned the pastorate of Hardin Church to enter Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Jeff Batson has resigned as pastor of Sulphur Springs Church to accept the church at Gillett.

E. B. McKinnon has resigned the pastorate of Rankin Chapel Church.

Johnson's Chapel Church ordained Erskin Kendrick and Riley Myhand as deacons on September 26. John Robertson Sr. is pastor.

Matthews Memorial Church had the services of Evangelist W. M. Walker and Singer Johnny Atchison in a revival September 23 to October 3 which resulted in 16 additions by baptism and 11 by letter. John Berrier is pastor.

First Church, Pine Bluff, ordained A. R. Meadder and Murphy Laminack as deacons recently. Dr. Ralph Phelps, president of Ouachita College, led in the service.

E. W. Johnson celebrated his tenth anniversary as pastor of Calvary Church, Pine Bluff, Sunday, September 23.

Immanuel Church, Pine Bluff, moved into their new building October 7. This move provided the opportunity to organize seven new departments and 35 new classes. Theo T. James is pastor.

Alzheimer Church has called Thurman Braughton as music and education director. He is a student at Ouachita. Lewis Clark is pastor.

Forty-three Sunday school teachers and officers of Southside Church, Pine Bluff, received Sunday school diplomas recently. Roy Lambert is pastor.

Plainview Church will complete payment on the new pastor's home this month. The erection of a new building is planned for the future. R. V. Haygood is pastor.

Linwood Church is in the process of constructing a pastorium. Jim Tillman is the pastor.

The thirty-ninth annual session of Harmony Association is meeting October 18-19 with First Church, Star City. Arthur H. Hotel is pastor of the Star City church. Theo T. James is moderator of the association.

Riverside Church Organized

The Riverside Church of Central Association was organized July 15, 1956, at which time there were 37 members. Since that time there have been 18 additions by letter and six by baptism. The original group was composed of a group of members formerly associated with Friendship Church in Saline Association who wanted to be affiliated with Convention work.

The church called Mac S. Gates as pastor. They voted to invite Jesse Reed, state missionary, for a series of meetings the last week in July, which resulted in six additions by baptism, 10 by letter. Pastor John Babcock

Gilead Church in Central Association conducted the singing in these meetings.

The church has acquired two acres of ground on Highway 67 adjacent to Ouachita High School and has the foundation laid for a new tile church and educational building. Presently the church meets in a rent house on the property of B. F. Strother, a deacon, who donated the first acre of ground for the new building.

Murrie Resigns Post As Illinois Editor

B. J. Murrie has resigned as editor of the *Illinois Baptist*, a position he has held since 1939.

Murrie, a pastor before he became editor, said that he has been offered opportunities in private business and is considering them. He plans to maintain his home in Carbondale, and be available for revivals and other preaching engagements.

Noel M. Taylor, executive secretary for the Illinois Baptist State Association, announced that L. H. Moore, state secretary of evangelism, will serve as acting editor. Murrie's resignation was effective Oct. 3.

Executive Secretary Taylor pointed to the growth of Southern Baptist work in Illinois between 1939 and 1956 with the comment that "the position of editor . . . is of no small consequence in its bearing on Baptist growth."

A committee has been appointed, Taylor said, to plan something "appropriately honoring Murrie for his years of service as editor."

Murrie has served as president of the Southern Baptist Press Association, an organization of Southern Baptist journalists. He also was chairman of the Southern Baptist Committee on Baptist State Papers.

The Illinois Baptist has a circulation of 14,000 today, compared with 1,500 when Murrie took the editorship.

—Baptist Press

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New Pastor at Charleston

First Church, Charleston, has called Darell S. Ross as pastor.

Mr. Ross is a native of Little Rock. He is a graduate of Ouachita College, Arkadelphia. He was assistant librarian at Ouachita and also served as pastor of churches in Buckner and Faulkner Associations. While attending Southern Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, he was pastor of Powersville Baptist Church, Louisville, Kentucky.

Mrs. Ross is the former Tresa Moore of North Little Rock and is also a graduate of Ouachita.

The Rosses have three children, Kay, Jane, and Susan.

Revival at Trinity

R. T. Strange, Southern Baptist evangelist, was with Trinity Church, Fort Smith, in a revival meeting recently which resulted in 16 additions to the church by baptism and one by letter. Mason E. Bondurant is pastor.

Recently the church organized a WMS with 15 members. Sunday school and Training Union average attendance is approximately the same. Currently the church is engaged in a Sunday school study course studying *Building a Standard Sunday School*, which will be followed by a Training Union study course.

In a recent business meeting the church voted to tithes its income to missions, allowing three per cent to associational missions and seven per cent to the Cooperative Program.

The church has elected the following men as deacons of the church: D. Autry Newman, B. S. Strother, Harold Bishop, Amos Pennington, and Luther Melton. The following officers were elected: Sunday school superintendent, Amos Pennington; Training Union director, Luther Melton; clerk, Mrs. Luther Melton; treasurer, Thomas Murry; music director, Hartcell Savel; pianist, Mrs. Mac S. Gates.

"A Significant Step"

Opening of Arkansas Baptist Hospital's new psychiatric unit was hailed editorially by the *Arkansas Democrat* as "a significant step in Arkansas' care of the mentally ill."

In an editorial in its issue of Sunday, October 14, the Little Rock newspaper said:

"We commend the Baptists for recognizing the need to expand psychiatric facilities. Having added this ward to their hospital, they will help remove the stigma from mental illness."

The complete editorial:

"Arkansas Baptist Hospital's new psychiatric ward began admitting patients last Monday. This unit in a general hospital, owned by a church, is a significant step in Arkansas' care of the mentally ill.

"The unit is beautifully furnished. Even color schemes were chosen with regard to effect on disturbed emotions. It was designed after study of psychiatric wards in Baptist hospitals at Louisville, Memphis, and New Orleans. The unit has 20 beds, and perhaps the capacity will be increased in time.

"Practically all psychiatrists who are in private practice in Little Rock will be on the staff. Here all forms of approved treatment will be given.

"Internes and doctors in residency training at Arkansas Baptist will have the opportunity to observe treatment. We hope that eventually the unit will be included in the professional training of psychiatrists at the Medical Center.

"Now, Arkansas Baptist is one of about 330 general hospitals in the nation that admit mental patients, and it has more than the average number of beds for the emotionally sick in the general hospitals. Only one per cent of the hospitalized psychiatric cases in the United States are in general hospitals.

"State hospitals have to carry most of the load of the sick who are not eligible for admission to hospitals of the Veterans Administration. State institutions are overcrowded. Furthermore, many families would prefer not to send their sick to them because of the stigma that is still attached to mental illness. There aren't enough private clinics either. Arkansas has just three.

"We commend the Baptists for recognizing the need to expand psychiatric facilities. Having added this ward to their hospital, they will help remove the stigma from mental illness."

Mountain Home Church Completes Building

First Church, Mountain Home, dedicated its new educational building in special afternoon services, Sunday, October 7. Among the speakers were Dr. Edgar Williamson, state Sunday school secretary, and C. E. McDonald, missionary in White River Association.

Pastor Jim Birkhead states: "We thank God for the pastors that had gone before, especially Bro. Stark, who built this church with a vision from God for the future. The capacity prior to the completion of the building was about 200. We are now able to take care of 500 in Sunday School. There have been 30 additions to the church during this completion work."

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Ministers Ask Curfew For Children

The Ministerial Alliance in Kansas City, Kan. has proposed an official city curfew for children. They said juvenile delinquency could be curbed by such action.

The Association of Churches is making a special study of the delinquency problem and its proposals have been promised consideration by Mayor Paul F. Mitchum.

—Religious News Service

★ ★ ★ Christian Horizons ★ ★ ★

By Religious News Service

Conn. School Board Bars Free Transportation For Parochial Pupils

The Ridgefield Board of Education rejected, by a 6-3 vote, a request that pupils of St. Mary's parochial school be transported in public school buses. The vote was by secret ballot.

It is expected that a taxpayers' suit will be filed against the town.

The board's unfavorable vote came despite a ruling by Town Counsel John E. Dowling that it would not be illegal to transport the parochial pupils in public school buses. Mr. Dowling said he had made a study of Connecticut statutes and cases.

Congregationalists Map Housing Project For Older Couples

Congregationalists of Connecticut may build a housing project for older couples.

The state Conference of Congregational Christian Churches voted at its annual meeting to set up a corporation for service to older people. Dr. James F. English, state superintendent of the denomination, said one of the plans favored would involve a cottage-type housing unit providing small apartments for aged couples at moderate rentals.

Shipload of Methodists to Tour Pacific Missions

A shipload of Australian Methodists — 360 of them — will leave Sydney next June on an inspection tour of the Church's missions in the Pacific.

The trip will last 24 days during which the ship, the 10,514-ton Duntroon, will visit mission stations in Fiji, Somoa and Tonga. The tour will cover 1,735 miles through the tropical and sub-tropical Pacific.

Youngdahl Sees Prayer At Work in Nation

United States District Judge Luther W. Youngdahl of Washington, D. C., said today's biggest religious news story is that "prayer is at work in our nation."

He said "hard-headed business men" and "political politicians" too "are making religion work in their every day lives."

"Prayer is at work in the home, at the workbench, in the office, in the factory, in our nation's capital," he said. "Thousands are starting each day in the office with prayer."

The judge, a member of the Augustana Lutheran Church, said greater religious emphasis is needed in the home. He said there was a "deterioration" in the nation's home and family life.

He said lack of wholesome discipline, apathy and indifference of parents "in the important job of parenthood," and lack of Christian example are bringing about "the decay of many homes."

Hollander Gives Rare Bible to U. S.

A rare Bible printed in 1661 was flown to New York from the Netherlands to be displayed in a Fifth Avenue show window during the 16th annual National Bible Week (Oct. 15-21) sponsored by the Laymen's National Committee Inc.

It is a gift to the people and government of the United States from 80-year-old Nicholas van de Meij of Katwijk, the Netherlands, in appreciation for the pension he has received since 1949 from the U. S. government as a veteran of the Spanish-American War.

Following its display in the Fifth Avenue window of KLM-Royal Dutch Airlines, which flew it to this country, the Bible will be presented to Mayor Robert F. Wagner who will turn it over to an appropriate museum in New York.

Benson Wants Nation On Knees in Prayer

Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson told the 127th semi-annual conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon) that he would "like to see this nation on its knees in humble prayer."

Mr. Benson, a member of the Church's Council of Twelve Apostles, said "there would be great nobility in a nation on its knees."

"The spectacle of a nation praying is more awe-inspiring than the atomic bomb," he added.

Bar Gideon Bible Distribution In Pennsylvania Schools

Distribution of Gideon Bibles in public schools is illegal under both the state and federal constitutions, Deputy Attorney General Elmer T. Bolla ruled in an informal opinion in Harrisburg, Pa.

The Department of Public Instruction had asked for a ruling on whether the Gideon Society could distribute Bibles to public school children in Haverford Township, Delaware County.

Mr. Bolla advised the department that the distribution of Gideon Bibles in the public schools would violate:

"1. The 14th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution prohibiting the making of any law respecting an establishment of religion;

"2. The Pennsylvania Constitution that (says) no preference shall ever be given by law to any religious establishment or mode of worship.

"3. The Public School Code of 1949 which does not provide for the distribution of this Bible on public school property."

Mr. Bolla emphasized that his ruling does not affect the reading of the Bible in public schools. The state school code provides that "at least 10 verses from the Holy Bible shall be read without comment at the opening of each public school on each school day by the teacher in charge."

Dulles Urges Clergy Keep Informed on World Problems

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles said he wished clergymen had more time to inform themselves on world problems.

Addressing the 13th biennial congress of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America, he said "moral principles are simple and can be easily stated" but applying those principles is "immensely difficult."

"Those who guide us spiritually do not have the time to study these other (political) problems to determine the applicability of these principles to a given situation," Mr. Dulles said.

A Smile or Two

On exhibition at the Missouri Historical Society in St. Louis is a Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens) collection, and among the papers in an envelope addressed to the author's wife and marked: "Opened by mistake to see what was inside."

The hunter came panting up to one of the party. "Just met a great big bear in the woods," he said breathlessly.

"Good," said the other. "Did you give him both barrels?"

The hunter wiped his perspiring brow. "Both barrels?" he returned, "I gave him the whole gun!"

—Quoted

"Daddy," said the bright child, accompanying her father on a round of golf, "Why mustn't the ball go into the little hole?"

—Quoted

Mother had taken over the driving of the family car. Suddenly young Billy announced: "Isn't it queer that when Mom is driving we never see any blithering idiots, but when Dad drives we see a lot of them!"

—Sanatorium Outlook

MIX-UP

At a rehearsal for a Sunday School play, the teacher carefully lined up four little "cherubs." Each carried a huge cut-out letter. As they stood side by side, the letters would spell out "Star." A slight mix-up occurred, and those present in the church auditorium nearly fell out of their pews as the four little performers took their places — in reverse.

Husband and wife were in the midst of a violent quarrel, and hubby was losing temper.

"Be careful," he said to his spouse, "you'll bring out the beast in me."

"So what?" she replied. "Who's afraid of mice?"

A gentleman was endeavoring, with earnestness, to impress an argument upon a fellow passenger on a train. The unwilling listener appeared rather dull of comprehension. Slightly irritated, he raised his voice and exclaimed, "It's as plain as A B C!"

"That may be," quietly replied the other, "but I am D E F!"

Applicant: And if I take this job, am I to get a raise in salary every year?

Employer: Yes, if your work is satisfactory.

Applicant: Ah, I thought there was a catch in it somewhere.

—Minneapolis Journal

A newspaper printed the following advertisement: "For sale, baker's business. Good trade. Large oven. Present owner has been in it for 15 years."

—Clipped

Yogi Berra, the Yankee catcher, once played the outfield for the Yanks and even took a careless fling at third base. "I could play him either place," said Manager Casey Stengel one day, "but he'd be depressed, he wouldn't have anybody to talk to."

A youngster being called down for a poor report card, asked: "What do you think the trouble with me is, Dad — heredity or environment?"

Husband to wife: "How do you expect me to remember your birthday when you never look any older?"

News From Baptist Press

It's State Convention Time Among Baptists

Its state convention (or association) time throughout the territory of the Southern Baptist Convention.

From 40,000 to 45,000 Baptists in 30 states will gather at 24 convention sites during October and November. Locations of the conventions stretch from Easton, on Maryland's peninsula near the Atlantic Ocean, to Eureka, on the Pacific in northwest California.

One of the major items of business at all conventions will be adopting budgets for 1957 to support state and Southern Baptist Convention work.

The budgets are all expected to exceed those for 1956. The 1956 budgets total an estimated \$37 million. Texas has the largest budget and will seek to increase it to \$7½ million. Budgets scale downward to \$100,000 and \$200,000 in states like Ohio, Colorado, and Kansas, where Southern Baptist work is relatively new.

Together with the annual Southern Baptist Convention sessions, the individual state conventions serve to consolidate the co-operative witness of Southern Baptists.

There are 8½ million members of more than 30,000 Southern Baptist churches. Each church retains its own freedom and co-operates with the state convention and Southern Baptist Convention voluntarily.

The state conventions retain their independence from the Southern Baptist Convention, but work with it through Cooperative Program budgets and joint efforts in denominational activities.

Drop in at Corpus Christi for the Texas convention and you would find about two-thirds as many there as at the Southern Baptist annual convention. You'd find only a hundred at conventions in states where Southern Baptists are still pioneers and work is not as well-known yet.

About half the states expect to elect new state presidents or moderators, depending on the title they use for this office. Acting on established custom, the other half of the states will re-elect their presidents or moderators for second terms of a year each.

The programs of the state conventions include reports from state convention-operated schools, hospitals, and children's homes. They also include reports from convention boards and agencies, and inspirational addresses. These meetings also are times for people to renew friendships and acquaintances.

The matters of business voted on will be along the same general line as the reports they hear. Many of the reports will bear recommendations for future convention policy and action.

Details For Transfer Of Carver Discussed

More details for the transfer of Carver School of Missions and Social Work, Louisville, Ky., to the Southern Baptist Convention were worked out at a meeting in Nashville recently.

The school has been operated by the Woman's Missionary Union, women's auxiliary of the Southern Baptist Convention. Both the W.M.U. and the Convention approved its transfer in sessions at Kansas City in May.

The Nashville meeting was of the subcommittee of the SBC Theological Education Committee working on Carver School arrangements. H. H. Hobbs, pastor, First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, is subcommittee chairman.

The subcommittee discussed future of the school's endowment funds, drafting of legal papers necessary for change in operation, and selection of school trustees.

Foreign Board's Record Budget Over \$8 Million

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has adopted a record \$8,125,074 budget for 1957.

In session in Richmond, the board also re-elected its long-time president, L. Howard Jenkins, of Richmond. Other officers re-elected are Monroe F. Swilley, Jr., Atlanta, Ga., first vice-president; Howard L. Arthur, second vice-president, and Herman P. Thomas, recording secretary.

Arthur and Thomas live in Richmond.

Miss Mary Elizabeth Fuqua will serve as assistant recording secretary and Dr. Oscar L. Hite as the board's medical adviser in Richmond.

Baker J. Cauthen, executive secretary, reported that the board expects to appoint 122 foreign missionaries during 1956. The goal for the year was 125. Eighteen new missionaries were appointed at the current session of the board. He said the board has the names of 1,500 interested young people on its list of prospective foreign missionaries.

"Our large budget doesn't mean our funds are adequate," Cauthen cautioned. "There were \$500,000 of needs left out of the budget at the last minute because there wasn't enough money to cover them."

Missionaries now on the field have sent in over 500 requests for new missionaries, according to Elmer S. West, of the board's personnel department.

Cauthen said the board is majoring on the appointment of experienced candidates. "One of our important questions concerning a candidate is: 'What has this person been doing prior to his application?'"

Kentuckians Consider Budget of \$2 Million

A budget of \$2 million will be proposed to the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky at the annual session in Madisonville Nov. 13-15.

This is an increase of \$200,000 over the basic budget of 1955-56. W. C. Boone, general secretary and treasurer, estimated that current-year receipts will total \$1,900,000.

The executive committee of the association will recommend that any income above the budget goal be divided on the same percentage basis as the first \$2 million. This is a departure from the plan used this year and last, which involved a basic budget plus an over-and-above goal.

The proposed division is \$640,000 to Southern Baptist Convention work, an increase of \$40,000, and \$1,360,000 to state causes, a raise of \$160,000.

"The figure for the state is large because it includes all preferred items," Boone explained.

Wake Forest Dedicates \$20 Million New Campus

Representatives from more than 150 colleges and universities in the eastern half of the Nation mingled with hundreds of Wake Forest College alumni at dedication ceremonies of the new Wake Forest campus Oct. 12.

Principal speakers at the dedication of the \$20 million campus included Wilson Compton, president of the Council for Financial Aid to Education, and Casper C. Warren, Charlotte, president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

A scroll of appreciation was presented to the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, the group whose offer in 1946 sparked the move from Wake Forest to Winston-Salem this summer.

Counselor's Corner

By DR. R. LOFTON HUDSON

Question: My pastor says that after you bring your tithes and offering to the storehouse, to the church, that it is none of your business how or where it is used. Is there any scripture on this?

Answer: Your pastor is probably basing his argument on Malachi 3:10. In the New Testament the Christians brought their offerings and "laid them down at the apostles feet" (Acts 4:35).

He is right in that the tithes and offerings ought to be brought into the church treasury. The tithe is the Lords. The church treasury is the modern storehouse for the work of Christ.

But you do have responsibility for spending it. If there are 100 members in your church, you have one-hundredth part of the responsibility of seeing that it is well spent. That is why you should feel real concern for the planning and carrying out of the church budget.

Of course, you may not agree with the majority opinion. But I would not belong to a church that I could not trust with my tithes and offerings. It is a part of Christian humility to counsel together about such matters, then abide by a majority vote.

Stand by your pastor. He needs it if he is to be God's man with God's message.



Trying to inflate the dollar? You get more than your money's worth by putting the Arkansas Baptist in your church budget and sending it to every family in the membership of your church.

New Budgets

First Church, Grady, Harmony Association, George H. Harris, pastor.

Winslow Church, Washington-Madison Association, Robert Vaughn, pastor.

New Friendship Church, Greene County Association, sent by M. D. Walden, treasurer.

Change from Club to Budget, Danville Church, Dardanelle-Russellville Association, F. E. Goodbar, pastor.

New Clubs

Caledonia Church, Liberty Association, sent by Robert E. Taylor, treasurer.

Beryl Church, Faulkner Association, sent by Mrs. B. T. Dallas, Vilonia.

Analysis

Harmony Association has 17 budgets, 8 clubs, 11 with neither.

Hope Association has 22 budgets, 2 clubs, and 16 with neither.

Independence Association has 4 budgets, 4 clubs, and 9 with neither.

Watch for the analysis of the churches of your association in future issues of the Arkansas Baptist. We are publishing the analysis with the hope that it may stimulate other churches to adopt the budget plan of subscriptions.

An Open Letter To Southern Baptists

By J. HOWARD WILLIAMS

"There is a tide in the affairs of men which taken at the flood leads on to fortune; omitted, all the voyage of their life is bound in shallows and in miseries. On such a full sea we are now afloat, and we must take the current when it serves, or lose our ventures."

So philosophized Brutus in Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*. Such tides come to men, movements, and nations. Frequently they are not recognized until they have passed and the opportunity for marked progress may have passed not only for a season but forever.

Such a tide is now being experienced by Southern Baptists. It is seen in practically, if not every, phase of our life. For a quarter of a century we have been urging the need of a revival. That long ago our pastors were urged to hold revivals in their own churches, at crossroads, in churchless communities, anywhere people could be found. In the summer of 1924, for instance, I held five such meetings while pastor of the First Baptist Church of Sulphur Springs, Texas. We were urged to pray for a continental revival. Whatever you may call it, there is now a spiritual tide that is rising in our nation, and no denomination is having a greater part in that revival than our own.

Our Sunday schools are overrunning our buildings. Our Training Unions are gaining by the hundreds of thousands. Our mission giving is increasing by the millions. The number of churches being organized long ago passed one a day, and we are now headed toward giving a million dollars a day for the various causes, local and world-wide.

Southern Baptists are enveloped in a movement which is breaking out spontaneously. It is unplanned. It is not promoted. New territories are calling for our assistance. New opportunities are awaiting us on all sides. Our founding fathers in their earliest documents thought in terms of "the United States." Southern Baptists were not born to be provincials. And now, from the Great Lakes to the Gulf, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, our work is spreading. Groups are getting together and calling for our help.

The tide is on for Southern Baptists.

The demands of the hour cannot be met with simple formula. The problems incident to expansion are multitudinous. Such is true in each and every phase of our church and denominational life. It is difficult, therefore, to specify a need and offer a solution in any one field without being thought to be unmindful of the necessity of a general advance in all fields. Even so, I make bold to offer two suggestions. They have to do with organizing and strengthening churches, on the one hand, and the development of leadership, on the other.

Jesus met the world need with a church commissioned with a saving gospel. He sent His disciples out to preach and expected all to be witnesses. The most effective weapon in advancing the Kingdom of God is a New Testament church. Well born and given a chance, it becomes a veritable source of life-giving streams in evangelism, teaching, missions, everything we are seeking to do. Such churches are being born, sometimes out of season. Life, however, is not always orderly, and the life and vitality possessed by Southern Baptists is surging to the surface. Hundreds of new churches are being organized in the older territories of our Convention. A growing number of older churches have a conscience in the matter of establishing missions, which soon develop into churches. In new areas from Washington and Oregon across the continent and even into the older

states of New England, churches are springing up, as indicated, in unplanned and unpromoted fashion. Without presuming here to discuss ways and means, Southern Baptists ought so to reinforce the Home Mission Board with added millions of funds as to enable that Board to go to the assistance of such churches, and also to plan wisely a strategy by which other new churches could be well located and organized.

The second suggestion is that we find a way to step up our training program for both preachers and other church workers. One is mindful of a multitude of problems that such presents. Some of them are too delicate and difficult for hurried presentation or discussion. But the fact is that our young people are responding by the thousands and our training facilities are inadequate. On the other hand, new churches are being organized by the hundreds and this movement, we are told, could soon be augmented into thousands if we had the necessary leadership.

Southern Baptists have five seminaries. The three oldest happen to be the three largest in the United States, and that, perhaps, means in the world. Already they are crowded to overflowing. The newer ones are likewise crowded, but their facilities are being enlarged. There is considerable sentiment for the starting of a sixth seminary. Under present conditions, I think that is not the answer. A sixth seminary patterned in its facilities after our five would cost into the millions. Golden Gate, for instance, will cost some eight or ten million dollars when its plant is completed. Its leaders are telling us now that it will need at least four to five million dollars to provide enough equipment to care for five hundred students. We have every reason to be grateful for Golden Gate, and Southern Baptists will have one of their greatest assets for that vast area of the United States in this new and already challenging institution. I think it is possible for us to establish five junior seminaries across the northern part of the nation with the cost at less than the cost of another Golden Gate of five hundred capacity. Let us remember that while West Point has served the nation since its earliest history, emergencies have been met with training camps throughout the land.

At such points as Seattle, Denver, Kansas City, Chicago, and some point in Ohio, junior seminaries could be established with a small corps of properly trained personnel, who could teach a minimum number of courses on which students might later request credit. At the same time, such a center could offer on the diploma level numerous courses which might be taught by worthy faculty assistants. Such centers could be set up under the auspices and guidance of the present seminaries and a plan worked out by which those who took as much as two years' work under accredited teachers could attend any one of our five senior seminaries for a period of two additional years and receive credit on work done in the junior seminaries, provided their scholarship justified it.

These suggestions raise many problems. Their solution will not be easy. The direction suggested may not be the wisest, but Southern Baptists need to face such problems and, under God, find the solution. We are not to

"What Shall I Do Then With Jesus?"

By W. B. O'NEAL, Batesville

The first question should have been, "What have I done with Jesus?" Pilate had had ample opportunity to do something. He knew about Jesus but he had never taken any steps to know Him. Now he is face to face with Him and must make a decision for or against Him and he knows not what to do to save himself from the dire dilemma.

The second question is, "What am I doing now with Jesus?" Pilate, trying to dodge the issue, was endeavoring to escape responsibility. He jumped at a chance to turn the matter over to Herod. Then he tried a trade-out with the mob. But he had to render a decision. Even then he washed his hands in a vain effort to free himself of the consequences of his conscience-smiting decision.

But, "What will I do with Jesus if I loose Barabbas?" is the terror-striking question. If I give the gambler his freedom, I crucify Jesus. If I loose the liquor dealer, I send Jesus to Calvary. If I grant freedom to the robber of chastity, I crown the Lord with thorns. If I call sin from his cell and release him from his bonds, I put Jesus on the cross, and although I wash my hands and declare my innocence, it is my decision and mine only that sends him there. This I must face in life, in death, and through eternity (Matt. 27:22).

Christian America

By JACK GRITZ

Christian faith is the cornerstone of American democracy.

Democracy as we know it in our American way of life as a system of government is based upon religious concepts found in the teachings of Jesus and the Bible in general. America must never forget this. While being rightly concerned about our national security by attack from without, we had better be concerned about the religious faith of some Americans.

Sixty-five million Americans do not belong to any religious group. Eighty or more million Americans do not attend religious services regularly. Nearly half of all American children do not receive regular religious instruction. They are growing up as spiritual illiterates.

These are disturbing statistics and we should be rightly concerned. Will the Christian people of the nation respond to this challenge? Perhaps America's dangers within should be of as great concern as those without.

—Baptist Messenger

seek any cheap advantage over anybody. We are not to think in terms of petty pride. We are in a tide. Our day of opportunity is here. We can find the way more effectively to give the gospel as we understand it to a nation whose spiritual hunger is evidenced on all sides. To find such an answer for the training of preachers will enable us to have 100 to 500 students in each of five such centers, as mentioned above, thereby furnishing leadership to areas which need it. It would relieve the congestion that is in our present seminaries and enable them to do their regular work plus much advanced training, which fields of teaching do not now need to be duplicated in five or more new centers. Such a plan will issue a challenge to Southern Baptists which can be matched by the great spiritual and economic resources with which God has endowed us.

Billy Graham Is Coming To Arkansas Again

By W. O. VAUGHT, JR., Pastor
Immanuel Church, Little Rock

On November 15 for the closing session of our Arkansas Baptist State Convention, Billy Graham will be the featured speaker. He will come to Little Rock from his great crusade in Louisville, Kentucky and from three successive days on Wheaton College campus at Wheaton, Illinois. Mr. Graham will be on his way to Fort Worth and Dallas, Texas, where he will speak in Will Rogers Coliseum in Fort Worth on Friday night and in Broadmoor Baptist Church in Fort Worth on Sunday morning, November 18th and in the First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, Sunday evening, November 18th.

His Last Visit

Mr. Graham and his team came to Little Rock for a brief visit March 7th and 8th, 1953. At noon on Saturday, March 7th, Mr. Graham spoke to four hundred preachers and their wives at an informal luncheon. That evening he spoke to fourteen thousand assembled in War Memorial Stadium. The next morning Mr. Graham and his team had breakfast at the Governor's mansion with Governor and Mrs. Cherry. That Sunday afternoon Mr. Graham and his team members gave their nation-wide broadcast, *THE HOUR OF DECISION* from War Memorial Stadium and after the broadcast, Mr. Graham preached to the twenty-five thousand people who had gathered at the Stadium to hear him. Several hundred decisions were recorded in that service.

Since His Little Rock Visit

It has been since this visit in 1953 that Mr. Graham has gained international prominence as the world's outstanding evangelist and spiritual leader. Featured in periodicals and magazines throughout the nation and abroad, Mr. Graham has become the best known spiritual voice in the world. For many months elaborate plans were made for the Greater London Crusade in London, England early in 1954. Dr. Stanley High, in his new book entitled *Billy Graham, the Personal Story of the Man, His Message and His Mission*, says: "Few Americans were ever surrounded by so hostile a press as Billy Graham when he arrived in England on the eve of the Greater London Crusade early in 1954. The almost complete turn-about which within a few weeks came to pass was not due to his eloquence or the crowds he drew or to any other public aspect of his ministry. It was chiefly due to the straight-forwardness with which he withstood personal inspection." The success of that London Crusade is not well known throughout the world. Week after week for almost three months, Mr. Graham and his team filled Harringay. A thousand London churches sponsored this meeting. For six nights a week, from March through May, Billy Graham preached in Harringay to more than twelve thousand people in each service. Many in Britain had said that there was no one alive who could fill this arena night after night and the only one who could fill it was Winston Churchill but for only two nights. Billy Graham preached and Harringay was filled for three months. On the last day of the Crusade, sixty-five thousand people filled White City, an outdoor stadium and that evening a hundred and twenty thousand filled Wembley Stadium. Nearly two million people heard Billy Graham preach and there were approximately forty thousand decisions for Christ. The Greater London Cru-

sade turned out to be the most significant revival meeting ever held in the world. A revival came to the church life in Great Britain.



After the great Harringay experience, Billy Graham and his party made a brief tour of the centers of Europe, filling stadiums in cities of France, Switzerland, Germany and the Scandinavian countries. In Zurich, Switzerland, more than sixty thousand persons assembled in two stadiums two hundred yards apart to hear him preach. On this trip through Europe, exclusive of radio audiences, he was heard by more than five hundred thousand people.

The following year Billy Graham returned to Britain, speaking for six nights a week for a six weeks period in famous Kelvin Hall in Glasgow, Scotland. Through those weeks of rain, snow, and sleet and then at the close some days of fine weather, Kelvin Hall was filled with sixteen thousand people. More than twenty thousand people responded to Billy Graham's invitation in Kelvin Hall during those significant days.

During 1956, Billy Graham undertook a significant tour through Asia visiting the Far East, including mass meetings throughout India, Japan, the Phillipines and Honolulu. In several of these meetings, more than a hundred thousand people came to hear Mr. Graham. When the invitation was given each evening, though Mr. Graham spoke through an interpreter, hundreds came forward, accepting Christ. Leading magazines throughout the United States gave full reports of this significant trip. The world was conscious of spiritual revival in our time.

Many newspaper articles and magazines and pamphlets and books have been written about Billy Graham and his work. Without any doubt the most significant book that has come to the world about Billy Graham is the new book by Dr. Stanley High entitled *Billy Graham, the Personal Story of the Man, his Message, and his Mission*. In this splendidly written, carefully documented book, Dr. High attempts to analyze Billy Graham and his power as an evangelist. Though Billy Graham is only thirty-seven years of age, Dr. Stanley High believes that he stands in succession of the great evangelists of the world. Dr. High believes that he stands along with the apostle Paul, John Wesley, Dwight L. Moody, and

Billy Sunday as the world's greatest evangelists. I quote a paragraph from Stanley High's new book:

"Unless there is substantial evidence that he does stand in the succession of great evangelists and that his ministry does hold a promise such as was fulfilled in theirs, there would be no adequate reason at this stage in his career to write, at length, the story of Billy Graham. But I do not believe that any observer whose prejudices were not insurmountable could make a close-up, protracted study of the man and his ministry and fail to find such substantial evidence.

"For many months, in America and abroad, I have made such a study. The result is the conviction that the ministry of Billy Graham gives substance to the hope that the present unparalleled turn to religion can be turned to authentic religious account; that out of this reviving religious interest there may come an awakening which will merit the name because by the standards of Christian history it is, in fact, a revival of religion.

"That conviction is the reason for this book."

This is the reason why I called your attention to this book at this time. I urge you to read this book as you prepare your mind and heart for the visit of Billy Graham to our Arkansas Baptist Convention on Thursday, November 15th. Let us all pray that this will be a fitting climax to our Convention and that we will catch the spirit of this man who is doing so much in the world for Christ.

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Power in the Word

There is tremendous power in the printed Word of God in tract form; more than we often realize.

It is reported that a woman in Central America saw a torn bit of paper on the street, picked it up out of curiosity, and read the word "Jesus", along with partial sentences about the new life in Christ. She had no peace until she found a pastor, of whom she asked questions concerning the Bible. As a result of that torn tract, she is now a Christian, transformed from "darkness into light."

The story is also told of a woman who was sending some clothes and supplies to India and felt that she should add a tract to the parcel. For one cent she purchased an appropriate title and put it in the box. Eventually this was given to a Burmese chief, and was the means of leading him to Christ. Through him, many of his people were won to the Lord and cast away their idols. A church was built, a missionary sent, and scores were converted from heathenism. All through a one-cent tract!

Are you making the most of this means of witnessing?

The AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY, 21 West 46th St., New York 36, N. Y., has released six new titles, including two for the Thanksgiving season. Samples will be sent upon request.

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"Gaze with the eye of faith through the window of importunate prayer. When you open the window on your side, it will not be bolted on the other."

—Spurgeon

A LETTER TO ALL PARENTS

Dear Daddy,

I want to ask a favor - for me and all the young people of Arkansas. It isn't a "hard" favor.

Won't you take time November 6 to vote for Amendment 49?

I know it won't bother you or mother if they keep racing at West Memphis and Hot Springs. But Phillip and I have enough temptations already. You know how hard it is to say no to those things everybody is doing.

and think of the other teen-agers. At our age we're quick to follow the example of older people. Won't they think because racing is legal, that betting at the tracks is all right?

You can make it easier for me and a lot of other boys and girls by voting for Amendment 49.

I'll appreciate it -- I'm sure they will too.
Love,
David.

Vote FOR Amendment 49!

Vote AGAINST Amendment 50!

Some Progress In Kingdom Building

Through the Spring months we spent quite some time with First Church, Harrison, in developing a mission of this church. It is located in the southwest section of the city, in an area greatly needing a Baptist church.

At first, we had only a small Sunday school which was being held in a rented residence. With regular preaching services and weekly prayer meeting, the attendance soon doubled and tripled. Interest in the mission grew in the minds and hearts of the people of the community and of the sponsoring church. It soon became apparent that there must be a permanent building to house the new work. After exhaustive efforts to secure desirable building lots, the building already rented and adjacent lots were bought. Plans for an adequate building were adopted by the missions committee, and were approved and authorized by the church. Soon, work was begun on the concrete-block, two-story building. Today, October 14, the mission is moving into this new building.

Next Sunday, October 21, the building is to be dedicated, and we prophecy for this new work a marvelous place in the Lord's service.

Lehman Webb is pastor of the Harrison church. T. C. Heuer is superintendent of the Sunday school, and Murl Milligan is chairman of the missions committee and Training Union director.

During the time we were working with them, there were about twenty members added to the membership of First Church through the mission.

By careful management, these permanent mission buildings are being built at about one-half "contract" prices.

First Church, Fayetteville, began work last Spring on a chapel (mission) building on the east side of the city on lots secured for the purpose many months before. The building was ready for occupancy the first part of July. We had no organization of any kind in the vicinity before the mission building was ready to use. We opened for "business" on July 8, with a faculty from First Church. We had 58 in Sunday school and 35 in Training Union and 75 and 72 in the morning and evening preaching services, respectively. The interest and attendance are growing in the finest kind of way.

We served with them through July and August, when First Church ordained one of the young "preacher boys" of her membership, Darrel Overstreet, whom the congregation of the chapel — Ridgeview — had elected.

With the fine, substantial and responsible personnel of this young congregation; with the excellent leadership and material strength she has; with the constant encouragement of Dr. An-

drew Hall, pastor of the Fayetteville church, I am confident this chapel will quickly grow into a good, self-supporting church. In the weeks we were with them, 23 members were added to the membership of First Church through the mission. Approximately half the number were by baptism.

First Church, Berryville, is making fine progress in the building program of her mission.

First Church, Bentonville, is starting a mission.

First Church, Hope, is in the midst of a building program of her mission in the west section of the city.

There are many more areas we are making surveys of, preparatory to opening new missions.

There are dozens of places in the cities and larger towns of our state that will soon be lost to Southern Baptists unless we go in at the earliest possible date and establish a mission or new church.

Brethren, let Arkansas do her proportionate share in establishing 2,666 new churches and missions in the immediate future.

If there is any way in which I may be of assistance to you, please call or write me, and I'll come as soon as I can.

*Leo B. Golden,
Director of City Missions
Department of Missions*

—000—

Boasting

*By W. B. O'NEAL
Batesville*

We are warned by Solomon, Proverbs 27:1, "Boast not thyself of tomorrow, for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth;" also by James, James 4:13, 14, 16, "Go to now, ye that say today or tomorrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell and get gain; whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. . . . For that ye ought to say, if the Lord will we shall live and do this or that."

Jesus told of a man who thus addressed his own soul: "Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry." But the Lord said, "Thou fool, this night shall thy soul be required of thee." Luke 12:19, 20.

If our prospects for the future are no greater than mere fancies resting on what is to be gained or what has been attained through our own little selves, and leaving God out of all consideration, we are just foolish and we are trifling with our souls.

All boasting is based on what we plan to do or on what we have done, and in both cases it is the bragging of a fool. Many people are counting on entering the gates of heaven either on what

Trick or Treat?

*By CHAPLAIN W. W. HAMILTON, Southern Baptist Hospital
New Orleans, Louisiana*

When Halloween comes, the children like to dress up in fun and say, "Trick or treat," expecting some response from the people on their block. That saying can be applied to far more serious matters, for endowed as we are with the privilege and the responsibility of choice we may be tricked, or enriched.

Jacob began by being a trickster. His very name means "supplanter," and he tricked his brother Esau out of his birthright, deceiving his old father. This resulted in his having to leave home, but in Padan-aram he continued his trickery, and was just one too many for Laban, and had to take flight with his angry father-in-law in pursuit.

One night on the way back to Canaan he met God in hours of wrestling, and there surrendered and trusted and had his name changed from "Deceiver" to "Israel." Now, instead of being a "supplanter" he became a "Prince", or one who prevails with God. Isn't it an encouraging statement for us that the Bible says, "The God of Jacob is our refuge?"

Once as a child, I saw a trickster, a slight-of-hand performer, do what seemed to the boy utter-

ly impossible, but it was all a trick, a deception, the hand being quicker than the eye. The Bible tells us that Satan is the great deceiver, that he is a liar and the father of it, and that we are to be on our guard lest we be deceived by sin, by false teachers, by wrong doctrines.

The deceitfulness of sin, the alluring pleasures of this work, the trickery of Satan can entrap us and rob us of that which God has for those who will trust and obey. Human eyes have not seen, nor have human ears heard of the treat God has for those who love him. We must not be tricked by the deceitfulness and the trickery of sin and of Satan.

There is only one name given among men for their salvation, only one mediator between God and man, only one way. To believe in Jesus is to receive life eternal, and the Master says that men choose darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil. Will it be for us "Trick or Treat?" Jesus is the visitor who knocks at the door, and asks to come in to sup with us and we with him, and what gifts do those receive who open the door to the Son of God!

"Words of Life"

By JIM HEFLEY

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God ("Rom. 10:17).

Nowhere is this verse better illustrated than in the story of the **Bounty**, a ship whose crew mutinied in the South Pacific in 1790. The sailors settled on Pitcairn Island. There was so much quarreling and violence among them that in a short time all the native men on the island and even the whites except one, had died or been murdered.

John Adams, the last man, discovered a Bible in a dead sailor's sea chest. As he read it faith began to arise in his heart. His conversion resulted. He then taught its truths to the native women and their half-breed children. Soon they too became Christians. An earthly hell became an earthly heaven. A prosperous Chris-

tian community sprang up. Ships calling at the island found it a prosperous, peaceful community, with no liquor, no crime, and high standards of Christian conduct.

Many books have been penned through the centuries. Yet only one, the Bible, is able to cause faith to arise in man's heart. The Bible reveals Christ. The sacred pages proclaim Him as the solution to our problems. The inspired words tell us of His longing for all men to be saved. He is the Master Key. He can unlock the inner recesses of your soul and bring in peace.

Do not let the Bible become a forgotten Book in your home. Read it. Meditate upon it. Find Him Who is King of Kings and Lord of Lords. "Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God."

they have done or on what they expect to do. But the Bible says, "By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works lest any man should boast," Ephesians 2:8, 9.

Nothing worth mentioning has ever been accomplished without the help of God and nothing of value can be achieved without His help. The rich fool is not the only fool in hell who is there because he left God out of the plans of his life.

"I Was a Woman of Distinction"

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Royal Ambassador Focus Week November 4-10

All across the territory of the Southern Baptist Convention the week beginning the first Sunday in November is always Royal Ambassador Focus Week. This year Focus Week is November 4-10.

Thousands of churches and Royal Ambassador Chapters are making plans to focus attention upon the distinctive "Baptist Organization for Boys." In many of the churches the boys will present programs, calling attention to teaching and training opportunities offered through active participation in a Royal Ambassador Chapter. In other churches the boys will act as ushers for the Sunday Services. During the week special projects of Knightly Deeds will be planned and carried out. The activities of the week will not be the same in every church, but will all be used to call attention to the entire church the objective of Royal Ambassador Chapters, "Teaching and Training" boys to become useful men in their church and the Lord's work."

Focus Week should be made a highlight for the church and chapter.

Following close on the heels of the Royal Ambassador Focus Week will be the Royal Ambassador Fellowship Supper. This Supper will be held in the dining room of the First and Second Baptist Churches in Little Rock, on Monday Evening, November 12, at 5:00 p. m.

The two dining rooms will accommodate about 650 people. We trust that every available place will be filled.

A good program is being arranged and the same menu and program will be presented in each place. The speaker for the Fellowship Supper will be Robert Smith, pastor of First Church, Crossett. Following the Supper the boys will be guests of the Brotherhood at the Brotherhood Night Service in the First Church. Seats will be reserved for all attending the Supper.

Reservation forms have been mailed to all counselors and pastors. The reservations are made on a "first come, first served basis." So get your reservation in early. The deadline is November 7.

Following the Fellowship Supper will be the Brotherhood Night meeting in the auditorium of the First Church in Little Rock. A good program has been arranged and copies of the program, along with other publicity materials, have been mailed to all Brotherhood presidents and pastors. Dr. J. Harold Smith, pastor of First Church, Fort Smith, will be the Brotherhood Night speaker. He is an effective speaker, a wonderful pastor, and an able evangelist. The Brotherhood Department is very happy that he has agreed to bring the message on Brotherhood Night.

*Brotherhood Department
Nelson Tull, Secretary
C. H. Seaton, Associate Sec'y.*

"Driver Behavior"

"If we are indifferent to our own future, let us have a little consideration for the fellow who would like to live and enjoy all of 1956 and many more years to come.

"Driver behavior" is the key to safe highway design, and "living dangerously" should be going out of fashion. To speed it on its way our combined effort is required to replace dangerous habits with safe ones.

"It has been said, and I agree, "No one in his right mind has any sympathy for the drunken driver. However, remarkably few people are willing to concede that the situation has any bearing on them.

"Not nearly enough citizens, drivers and pedestrians, appreciate the gravity of this problem. Consequently, as jurors, or as friend of an accused, who has been "drinking," they are prone to give the guy a break. Oddly enough, they would not feel that similar antics with a loaded gun were quite so funny. Yet a screwball with a gun can kill only one person at a time.

—Rudolph F. King

Foreign Mission Board Reports to the People

Foreign Mission Board Adopts Budget of \$8,128,000 for 1957

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, in its annual full meeting in Richmond, Virginia, October 9-10, adopted a budget of \$8,128,504.34 for 1957, an increase of \$627,422.66 over 1956; appointed 18 young people for overseas service, bringing the total number of active missionaries to 1,098; set a goal of 130 appointments for 1957; appropriated approximately \$230,000 of current and advance program funds for its work on foreign fields; looked with favor on exploring possibilities of entry into new areas; and heard a progress report of its building and planning committee.

Officers Elected

Dr. L. Howard Jenkins, Richmond book publisher, was re-elected president of the Board (he begins his 25th year as president and 42nd year as a member); Dr. Monroe F. Swilley, Jr., Atlanta, Georgia, re-elected first vice-president; and Dr. Howard L. Arthur, Richmond, elected second vice-president.

Dr. Herman P. Thomas, Richmond, was elected recording secretary; Miss Mary Elizabeth Fuqua, Richmond, re-elected assistant recording secretary; Dr. Oscar L. Hite, Richmond, re-elected medical adviser.

Appropriations

The largest items among many in the \$230,000 appropriated for work overseas were the following: \$11,280 to purchase property in Es Salt, Jordan, a center new to Southern Baptists; \$10,000 to purchase land in Beirut, Lebanon, for assembly purposes for the Near East Mission; \$15,000 to purchase land for assembly grounds in Paris, France; \$15,000 to add a story to the seminary building, Budapest, Hungary; \$20,000 for a dormitory for the girls' school, Abeokuta, Nigeria; and \$10,000 for the training center for elementary teachers in Ife, Nigeria.

Missionary Personnel

Elmer S. West, Jr., the Board's secretary for missionary personnel who spent five weeks in Latin America this summer studying personnel needs, said in his report: "One is stirred to the depths by the critical needs for additional personnel on every hand. No group of Christians since the first century has faced a greater call to witness than claims our allegiance today."

Mr. West shared figures from a recent study made by the personnel department in an attempt to appraise future possibilities for missionary appointments. In the volunteer division (all young people of college age and under who have dedicated their lives to foreign mission service) are 2,261

names. "Our aim is to help as many young people as possible to conserve the commitments they have made to Christ," Mr. West said.

In the candidate division of the personnel department (all mission volunteers now in theological seminaries and in medical and other graduate schools and beyond) are 1,418 names.

Mr. West said the number of missionary candidates has doubled in the past two years. "Although all of these are beyond college many of them are from three to six years away from appointment," he explained, "with a reservoir of more than 1,400 candidates and more than 2,600 volunteers, the prospect for the appointment of an increasing number of new missionaries in the years ahead is most encouraging."

October Appointees

Young people appointed by the Foreign Mission Board at its October meeting are:

William E. Arnold and LaVerne Hutchens Arnold, both of Kentucky, for the Gold Coast; June Cooper, North Carolina, for Japan; Van Gladen, Texas, and Alma Ruth Franks Gladen, Arkansas, for Mexico; Thomas W. Hill, South Carolina, and Cornice Winter Hill, Mississippi, for Venezuela; Juanita Johnston, Alabama, for Thailand.

Don C. Jones, Texas, and Juanita Wheelock Jones, Oklahoma, Earl R. Martin, Pennsylvania, and Jane Winchester Martin, District of Columbia, for Kenya; Louis O'Conner, Jr., Alabama, and Barbara Crumbley O'Conner, Ohio, for Korea; Joe T. Poe, Texas, and Eleanor Ostwalt Poe, North Carolina; for Chile; Cecil L. Thompson, North Carolina, and Jean Ward Thompson, Tennessee, for Argentina.

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BSSB Set Bible Week December 4-7

A special Bible Week program December 4-7 has been planned by the Baptist Sunday School Board, complete with exhibits, programs, displays, films, and special speakers.

Dr. H. E. Ingraham, director, Serve Division, who has been named chairman of the committee to direct the affair, said the purpose of the special Bible Week is to magnify and promote the use of the Bible.

There will be a special evening for Board employees and their families and a closing night program for all residents of Nashville.

Old and rare copies of the Bible from both Bible publishers and the Dargan-Carver Library at the Board, a replica of the Coronation Bible, an extensive Braille and Talking Book display, plus displays on Bible printing, binding, and translation will be featured.

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Children's Page

God's Wonderful World

Trails were very important to early-day Indian scouts and pioneers!

The thirsty deer, following the sand-scent of stream and river — making its own trail through thickets, woods and mysterious canyons, never knew that Indians and white men would someday build wigwams and canoes, giant skyscrapers, schools and churches where their small hoofs pressed the grass into a visible trail!

The deer trail oftentimes meant life to settlers and Indians for it always led to fresh water! Indian boys and pioneer lads were taught early to distinguish between the deer trail and the endless pack-rat trails which led to debris and destruction.

Along the deer trails, Indian treaties and council meetings were held. Later, millions of head of cattle were driven over these same

trails to be followed by caravans of freight wagons of salt, fur, and gold.

Watering spots and campsites along these trails became what are known today as the main streets of our towns and cities. Sante Fe, New Mexico; Topeka, Kansas, and the cities along the Chisholm Trail are examples.

There are many trails in life. We need to learn early (as did the young Indian boys and pioneer sons) the sure and safe trails to follow. Christian trails are always trustworthy! Jesus tells us, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." "Follow me," he asks.

(Is there something about God's Wonderful World you would like to see described in this column? If so, please send your suggestions to Baptist Press Syndicate, 127 N. Ninth Ave., Nashville, 3, Tenn.)

Safety First

By MRS. TOM CARTER

Safety signs and traffic signals are made to convey an important message at a glance. As we grow older we become used to their warning.

We automatically know that red signifies Danger. Yellow means Caution. A green light means that we may cross the street then. Any combination of colors, except red and yellow, means information.

These colors were selected for our safety through the code of the American Standards Association. Color combinations are most important. Black on white and black on yellow are most visible together. Yellow is the most conspicuous in day light. Red is most readily seen by artificial light.

Safety signs refer to danger because they point out traffic hazards, high-voltage electric lines, harmful chemicals, explosives, and the like.

Our behavior toward safety signs may mean saving someone's life. And, it may be our own life that we save! Christian safety signs, found in our Bible, guide us in the Christ-like life. When you read your Bible, watch for the safety signs that indicate danger, caution, information, and the green light to identify the footsteps of Jesus whom we follow. (Baptist Press Syndicate, all rights reserved, used by author's permission.)

Cat-In-a-Bag

"Letting the cat out of the bag" is an old saying that has been handed down from generation to generation. When we say "we've let the cat out of the bag", we mean we've told something that was a secret.

"Letting the cat out of the bag" started in the early days when farmers carried their pigs to market in a sack. The sacks (with pigs inside) were auctioned off to town folks.

If the buyer was wise, he'd look in the sack before he made a purchase. If not, many times he'd find upon opening the sack — he'd purchased a cat!

Today, we would say it was a gyp if someone pulled such a trick. We can take pride in the many laws that protect us from such costly tricks. We can also be proud of the many organizations, such as the Better Business Bureau, that search out and reveal schemes to defraud and deceive the public.

Our Bible not only contains many warnings against falsehood, deceit, and trickery, but it gives us much wise advice: "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, think on these things!" (Phil. 4:8).

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A SAFETY RULE

By ELSIE SIMON

I never take a ride
With someone I don't know!
I won't get in a car unless
My friends or folks say go!
It's sad but true, some folks are bad.

If I got in their car,
They might decide to hurt me
Or take me off too far!
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COFFEE NO SOLUTION

"My friends, a cup of coffee may help a tired driver, or a person in a state of fatigue, but I cannot subscribe to the propaganda that "one for the road" will sober up any person under the influence of intoxicating liquor.

"We must strengthen our enforcement program by a well thought out and conducted edu-

cational program. Motor vehicle administrators, courts and enforcement officials should seek the help of research experts, educators and social workers, to the end that every man, woman and child should know not only the evil results of drinking to excess, but that anyone drinking before driving can be a menace."

—Rudolph F. King

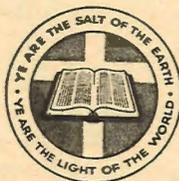
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- February 26 **NORTHEAST** — First, Jonesboro (Black River, Current River, Gainesville, Greene County, Mississippi County, Mt. Zion)
- February 26 **EAST CENTRAL** — First, Forrest City (Arkansas Valley, Tri-County, Trinity, Woodruff)
- February 28 **SOUTHEAST** — First, Monticello (Ashley, Bartholomew, Carey, Centennial, Delta, Harmony, Liberty)
- February 28 **SOUTHWEST** — First, Hope (Caddo River, Hope, Little River)
- March 1 **NORTHWEST** — First, Springdale (Benton County, Boone County, Carroll County, Newton County, Washington-Madison)
- March 1 **WEST CENTRAL** — First, Ozark (Buckner, Clear Creek, Conway-Perry, Concord, Dardanelle-Russellville, Ouachita)

District Vice-Presidents

- CENTRAL** — William Sawyer, Second Baptist Church, Jacksonville
- NORTH CENTRAL** — Leslie Riherd, West Batesville Baptist Church, Batesville
- NORTHEAST** — Marlin Jennings, First Baptist Church, Jonesboro
- EAST CENTRAL** — Hoyle Haire, First Baptist Church, Marianna
- SOUTHEAST** — Ernest Mosley, First Baptist Church, Pine Bluff
- SOUTHWEST** — Ken Green, Central Baptist Church, Magnolia
- NORTHWEST** — Mrs. Ruth Tolleson, Siloam Springs
- WEST CENTRAL** — James Daugherty, Route 3, Van Buren

(The Training Union Department will pay the registration fee, room and board while at the assembly, and \$25.00 on the travel expense for each of the four who will be sent to Ridgecrest or Glorieta.)

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The Great Invitation

By BURTON A. MILEY

Sunday School Lesson

October 28, 1956

Psalm 23

Three scriptures memorized in whole or part by most people are the Twenty-third Psalm, the Lord's Prayer, and the opening verses of the fourteenth chapter of John. The Twenty-third Psalm is movingly personal. The Lord's Prayer gives the scope for the individual prayer life. John's recording is comfort and consolation in anticipation of earthly departure.

Two reasons are offered for the popularity of the Twenty-third Psalm. The first is its exceptional simplicity. Its imagery and message is beautifully simple. This rarity impresses child and adult. The second reason is its realism. It portrays life as a whole. It knows life's delights and dangers. It points to a governing force in all of life's experiences. The arrangement of this simple poem which embraces all experiences in life is around three thoughts. The first is that of pasturage. Plentiful grass, quiet waters and rest are in the field. The second is personal protection. Even the shadowy places has protection from the hand of the Shepherd. The third is provision in social life and companionship. A table is prepared. A table is never prepared for one individual who may be in ecstasy. It is the sign of a community, a group, a company feasting together in social security.

ON THE JOURNEY

The first part of the Psalm is indicative of a journey. This journey is under the supervision of the Master Shepherd. Every need of temporal nature is provided. But provision extends beyond food and shelter. A shepherd watches over each individual sheep and over the flock as a whole. It is almost impossible to grasp this shepherd scene without the background of the Oriental shepherd. He tenderly watches his sheep but is stern in his discipline. The sheep know his voice and though several flocks may be mixed at night for safety in a common corral when the shepherd comes to the gate in the morning to call his sheep his flock will separate from all others because they know the shepherd's tone. He leads and they follow to pasture. Christ Jesus said in John 10:14 that he was the Good Shepherd. Oriental shepherds were the backdrop against which He made this claim. The shepherd wants his sheep to have the best in pasture, waters, and rest places. This was the pilgrimage program for the day. The return to the corral the evening would be late. Cuts in the limestone cliffs above the trail could harbor predatory animals. Darkening shadows were places of nervous fear. However the shepherd led his sheep with a watchful eye to protect them through every threatening valley between the cliffs.

Though it is not usually thought of in connection with this Psalm, there is individual responsibility. First, the follower of God must listen to and for His voice. He must follow his Shepherd. He must stay with the flock which is safest when it stands together. And straying sheep is subject to danger. This is certainly true of Christians in the community of believers. Any Christian who steps aside is more in danger than one with the group. If the church as a whole stampedes through strong self-will, each member is in sore danger. A church which leaves Christ to the side in its program and progress places every member in peril. The journey is to be taken together, flock and shepherd as one.

Another interesting line that is sometimes hurriedly bypassed is "He maketh me to lie down." God makes one rest? Is weariness and illness of life, God's work to make one lie down? Notice the surroundings — green pastures. Green is lush food. It is the most restful of all colors. It is the evidence of greatest hope for its implies sunshine and showers working together. The modern acceleration of life has caused people to lose the art of relaxation. Many times people are too tense to attend service of public worship. They rush to the side under pretense to find rest, but they come back with greater tiredness of body and soul than before. It is God's desire that one should rest and await the shepherds' bidding. Public worship has a distinct part. Sometimes illness and a forced stop can be one of life's greatest blessings. New perspective is gained.

The "valley of the shadow of death" has been used as the blessing of God attending the hour of departure. This is reading back in the Psalm the Christian conception of life and death. The main element from the background of the Oriental shepherd was his watchfulness. The absence of fear within the followers was reward for the shepherd. Happy is the man who can take every experience of life without agitation because he knows God is present. Fear and anxiety rank in the list of man's real enemies.

THE JOURNEY'S END

The last verses of the immortal Psalm give the journey's end. The follower is safe in a community. He is around a prepared table. Enemies may be lurking on the outside. They are powerless to come

inside. There is company and experiences to be shared. Ample provision has been made. Hope for the future is established. Goodness and mercy shall follow that one. "Thou anointest my head with oil" is an expression that means too little today. For it to be placed in words of modern custom it would mean the provision to wash, refreshing water to bathe in, a towel to rub down, a chair to sit in and finally dinner on the table. It was the custom in the east for travelers to be rubbed with invigorating oil. The entire clause carries the idea of refreshment before the feast is partaken. This feast is beyond every expectation to the point that the individual's cup overflows. The condition is permanent under the figure that one should dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

PRACTICAL LESSONS

God's provision depends upon man's following. This is the lesson of the Shepherd. The sheep that jumped the flock and went aside did not share the shepherd's provision. The shepherd continued with the flock. The reward was for the cooperating sheep. The sheep

which knows the shepherd's voice doesn't care to be alone.

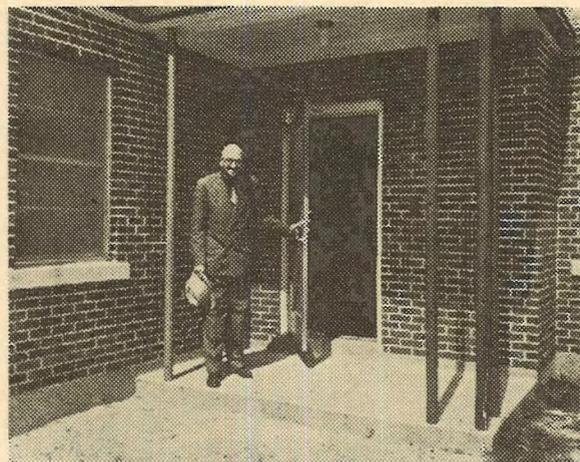
The shepherd loves the straggler. The straggling, lost sheep that had turned to the side was still sought by the shepherd. He extended extra energy on the sheep while the sheep suffered adventures of separation. God loves every backslider. So many are subject to hurt because they have left the flock of God. A loving child tries to save his father's energy instead of drawing more from him.

The paths of righteousness are the straight ones. The Lord's name is involved by His leadership. He never leads unworthily or unprofitably. Paths of righteousness are not only the right ones, but they are the nearest one. Should the shepherd lead through the gorges of danger, why worry? The Good Shepherd is yet with His sheep.

The God of today reaches tomorrow. Fears arise from the unknown. Tomorrow may be a day of sunshine or shadow. One can laugh if sunshine is in prospect. But shadow gives one fear and anxiety. The God of today is the unchanging God of tomorrow. Let no fear defeat faith.

WE THANK GOD FOR THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

It provides for nearly one-half of our support and we are grateful for it.



BUT DON'T FORGET

The THANKSGIVING OFFERING provides the other one-half and keeps the Budget from being too large and provides more for the other causes.

The Orphanage approves of this method of support. The Churches have endorsed and supported it when presented.

Please see that Posters are up.
Please set goals in Departments, Churches, and Associations.

Use the material sent out.
Dime Holders — Young People on down
Use the Special Envelopes
Read your Arkansas Baptist

WILL YOU KEEP THEM IN YOUR HEART?

Bottoms Baptist Orphanage

H. C. SEEFELDT, Supt. VESTAL DEAN, Field Supt.
MONTICELLO, ARK.

Executive Board STATE CONVENTION

B. L. Bridges, General Secretary; Ralph Douglas, Associate; 100 Baptist Building, Little Rock, Ark.

Board Members Are Talking

The Executive Board will recommend to the State Convention a notable increase in the budget for 1957. The total new budget, as will be recommended, is \$1,497,771.95, or an increase of 12½ per cent over the budget for 1956. The Executive Board members are beginning to write us what they expect their churches to do. If the Executive Board members can lead their churches to increase their giving for missions 12½ per cent then it is believed that other churches will follow that noble example.

Here is what some of them are saying: "Our budget committee has recommended a 12½ per cent increase. —Robert L. Smith, Crossett".

"Our Church Budget for the past year was \$22,000. We are increasing our budget to \$28,000 for the coming year. This is more than a 12½ per cent increase in our overall budget, and if we reach it our mission gifts will be increased accordingly. —Arthur H. Hottel, Star City."

"We are raising our percentage from 26 per cent to 28 per cent of undesignated gifts for the Cooperative Program for 1957. This means that we plan to give more than \$60,000 during 1957. We will give approximately \$56,000 in 1956. — W. O. Vaught, Jr., Immanuel, Little Rock."

"Our church voted to raise our quota for the Cooperative Program 12½ per cent. I would have felt like a heel if I had not led them to do this since I was a member of the Executive Board and voted for the raise in our State Budget. Notwithstanding the fact that we had really put ourselves out in an improvement of our building this year and had considerable debt. —T. W. Hayes, Pickles Gap, Conway."

"Our church voted an increase of from \$175 per month in 1956 to \$200 per month in 1957 which is about 14 per cent increase. — T. E. Lindley, Augusta."

"The First Baptist Church of El Dorado of which I am a member has increased the Cooperative Program gift in the budget for the year 1956-1957. — R. C. Morrison, El Dorado."

"We are increasing our church budget this year, but retaining the 28 per cent item for the Cooperative Program. It appears that this will mean around \$3,000 to \$5,000 more next year than this year if we meet the budget. —Nolan Howington, Little Rock, First."

Some churches have not completed their budget yet and they say they will report as soon as they get their budgets adopted. We have heard from Pastor Johnston of Booneville, Pastor Cantrell of Stephens, Pastor Ermon Webb of Russellville, Pastor Gerald Trussell of Warren, Pastor D. Hoyle Haire of Marianna, Pastor Dale Cowling of Second Church Little Rock, Pastor James Riherd of Luxora, Pastor Miles of Leonard, John F. Cox of Morrilton.

"We have voted to raise our giving for the Cooperative Program from 7 per cent to 10 per cent of our overall collections. —A. D. Kent, Glendale Church, Booneville."

"We are increasing our gifts from \$25 to \$30 per month. — John Baker, West Helena, Second." —B.L.B.

The Church Budget

A church is the greatest business in any community; therefore, its affairs are to be administered in a business-like way.

The church that adopts a budget sets up a systematic plan for handling the finances which come into its treasury. Not only are distributions made according to church instructions, but a method of promoting the fund raising is adopted. When properly adopted and promoted the budget will put the financial affairs of the church on a business-like basis.

PLAN

The pastor must plan, far in advance, because as pastor, moderator and God's called leader of the church, he is to promote the budget planning. This can be done by appointing a budget committee; making a tentative calendar of procedure; and getting all the information possible for the budget committee.

ONE BUDGET

The most progressive mission minded, forward looking, evangelistic churches in our convention have one budget. One budget simplifies the financial program, and one treasurer handles all the funds. This relieves class treasurers, departmental treasurers and organizational treasurers of their responsibility. This saves lost time, lost money, lost interest and lost confidence.

With multiple treasurers and many appeals, the average church goes confused, because he cannot decide which cause needs his gifts the most, so he says, "Every time I go to any meeting in my church, whether class, brotherhood, circle or departmental, they hound me for money." With one unified budget much asking for money can be eliminated, and more time can be given to stewardship teaching. Then at the church appointed time and place, the well informed steward can give his tithes and offerings.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

This committee does not necessarily have to be composed of deacons. The church committees and organizational heads should be called upon to serve along with a group from the deacons. These leaders are familiar with what the church has been doing and what the possibilities for the future might be.

This committee is governed by the ability of the church as a whole.

The success of the financial program of the church hinges on the budget committee. Therefore, it behooves the group to —

1. Look at the giving record of the church.
2. Get information from other churches who are succeeding in planning and promoting budgets.
3. Learn next year's needs from departmental heads.
4. Know financial record of church to date.
5. Know the mission needs.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

A church budget encourages the use of offering envelopes. Many churches have found that personalized envelopes are best. The churches which put an individual packet into the hands of every member of the church and Sunday School member, find that they spend more dimes, but take in more dollars. TRY ONE BUDGET FOR 1957!—RD

Encouragement

This year Arkansas Baptists will give more money through the Cooperative Program than ever before. This reflects many things that are encouraging.

First, it shows that our people understand what they are doing through the Cooperative Program, and believe that it is the best plan God has ever revealed to his people through which to carry out the Great Commission.

Next, Baptists are evangelistic. They know that money given through the Cooperative Program works to win souls. This method of winning souls is called, "The Southern Baptist Program of Evangelism."

Too, Baptists have learned that money given through the Cooperative Program promotes missions. Missions has become synonymous with the name Baptists. You can hardly think of Southern Baptists without thinking of the mission movement started by Jesus. In the tenth Chapter of Luke, Jesus appointed seventy missionaries and sent them out two by two into the towns and cities. Baptists want to continue sending missionaries, so they continue to give more and more money through the Cooperative Program.

There was a time when Baptists did not have hospitals and medical missionaries. But knowing that Jesus was the great physician who was concerned with a healing ministry, Baptists are trying to follow in his steps with a healing ministry. This healing ministry has established hospitals, clinics and mission stations through the support of the Cooperative Program.

Finally, Baptists believe that the teaching part of the Great Commission is important. So, they are supporting numerous schools around the world to educate the youth. Jesus was called Teacher forty-five times in the New Testament, and Baptists want to be good stewards in the ministry of teaching.

These are a few reasons why Arkansas Baptists are giving more and more money, year by year, through the Cooperative Program. —RD

New Hope Increases

The New Hope Baptist Church in Boone County Association is increasing its giving 33 1-3 per cent for the Cooperative Program in 1957. Rev. Elmer Cox is pastor of this progressive and wonderful rural church. They have one of the best buildings of all of the rural churches and they have a great pastor and some of the salt of the earth are in this church. We thank the Lord for the church and we thank God for their giving to missions. — B.L.B.

The text of the daily meditations of The Upper Room, Methodist-sponsored devotional guide now circulating about three million copies, will be recorded beginning in January for the benefit of the blind. There are 320,000 blind persons in the United States and only about 10 per cent can read the Braille edition of the magazine.

—Survey Bulletin

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