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Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

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January 31, 1952

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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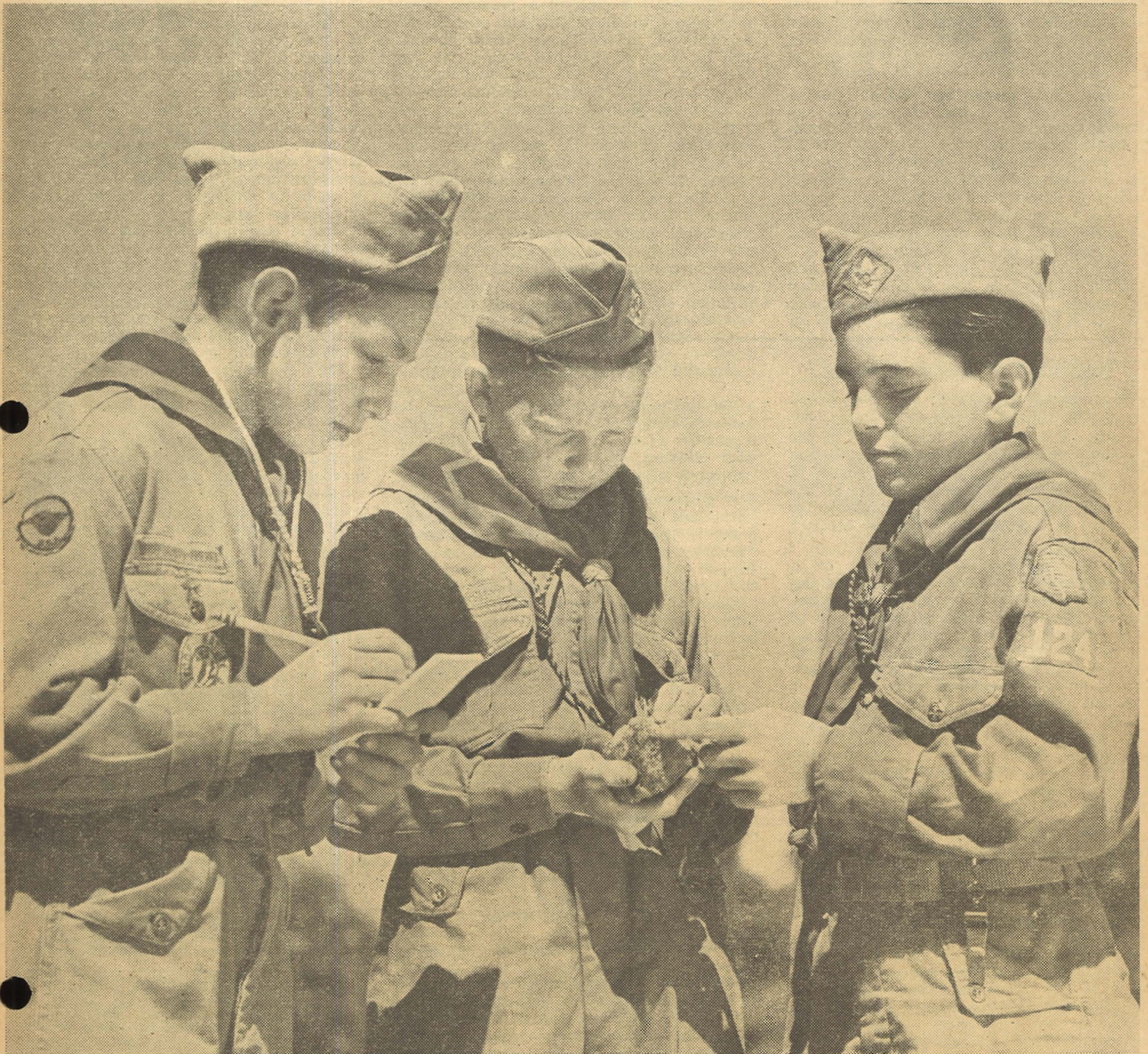
ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 51

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, JANUARY 31, 1952

NUMBER 5



—H. Armstrong Roberts

Boy Scout Week, February 6 - 12

Celebrating the Forty-second Birthday of this Organization of 3½ Million Members

"Forward On Liberty's Team"—Theme for 1952.

**NORTH LITTLE ROCK
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
LIBRARY**

Doctor Haswell Elected President Of Ouachita

By the Editor

We received with a great deal of interest and gratification the news that the Board of Trustees of Ouachita College had elected Dr. H. A. Haswell as president of the college. Doctor Haswell has served as administrative dean of Ouachita since the resignation of Dr. S. W. Eubanks as president last summer. During this interim period Doctor Haswell has proven himself to be an efficient administrator; he has demonstrated his knowledge of what is required of the administrative staff of a senior college. Without any fanfare but with quiet efficiency Doctor Haswell has administered the affairs of Ouachita in such a manner that the Board of Trustees were convinced of his ability as an administrator and, therefore, elected him to the presidency of the college.

Doctor Haswell has had the able assistance of W. R. Reed, business manager, and Tommy Tedford, who has handled the publicity for the college.

A forward step in the program of Ouachita is the establishment of an extension school in Little Rock providing two hours a week under competent instructors. It is expected that other extension schools will be established as opportunity affords.

Ouachita College has had a long and fruitful ministry in the field of Christian education. The college has had its ups and downs. It has gone through periods of

struggle and triumph. It has survived by the sacrifice of many people, particularly the administrative offices, and the members of the faculty.

We believe that Ouachita has come to a new day and that she is beginning a new chapter in her contribution to the Baptist cause in Arkansas. With the larger and more adequate financial support of Arkansas Baptists through the Cooperative Program, it seems reasonable to expect that Ouachita will not have to face the embarrassing financial problems which have harassed her during the immediate past. Doctor Haswell has outlined a program which is expected to make Ouachita eligible for accreditation by the North Central Association by April of 1953. We believe that the Board of Trustees and that the Baptists of the state will support President Haswell in his program for Ouachita.

It seems entirely possible that beginning with 1953 an item for capital needs can be put into the Cooperative Program budget of the State Convention, not only for Ouachita but for the Bottoms Baptist Orphanage. If our Baptist people will commit themselves to this purpose and will support the Cooperative Program with the capital needs of our institutions in mind, it will be possible to expand both the programs and facilities of our institutions at a normal rate through the years to come.

Universal Military Training

It is not our purpose to enter into a discussion of Universal Military Training, but to call the attention of the readers of the *Arkansas Baptist* to the fact that legislation will be proposed in the present session of Congress upon the recommendation of the National Security Training Commission to establish in this country Universal Military Training.

Universal Military Training will be a radical departure from the historic principles of America and will if established and maintained over a comparatively brief period of time change the whole face of American civilization. Universal Military Training will confirm the hold which the military now has upon our government. The military is now and has been for almost a generation dominant in the life of our government. Yet this trend is taking place in the government of the United States in the face of the fact that no nation in the history of the world was ever saved by Universal Military Training.

If you want to have the most comprehensive and complete analysis of the proposed legislation which will establish Universal Military Training and a discussion of the results upon our national life which may be expected from this militarization of the nation, we would suggest that you write the *Christian Century*, 407 South Dearborn Street, Chicago 5, Illinois, and ask for a reprint of the twenty-four page section of the *Christian Century* which appeared recently in that publication. These reprints are available for ten cents per copy, fifteen copies for \$1 or \$5 per hundred.

We would also suggest that you write your senators and representatives in Washington, letting them know your stand on this question.

Send Us Your Church Bulletin

We invite all churches of the state to mail us your weekly church bulletin. Quite a number of the churches are mailing us their bulletins, and we would like for this number to be greatly increased.

It is interesting to read the church bulletins. But besides this personal interest in bulletins, they frequently carry news items which we can use in the *Arkansas Baptist*. In fact we are starting a new feature on the news pages of the *Arkansas Baptist*, "Arkansas News Briefs From Here and There." Many of these news briefs though not justifying a headline are important, and will make good reading matter in which the Baptists of the state will be interested. If you will send us your bulletins week by week we shall scan them for any interesting news to be included in this column.

Also we hope you will report the news from your churches. People throughout the state are interested in what you are doing; what your church is doing in the way of promoting an aggressive and comprehensive program.

Mail us your bulletins and report to us your special news features.

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Congratulations Crittenden County

We sincerely congratulate the good people of Crittenden County in their successful campaign to defeat the Dixie Downs race track. The pastors and church people did an excellent piece of work in organizing their forces and contacting the voters of the county. They did this in the spirit of prayer, depending upon God to direct their efforts and prompt the voters to take their stand on this vital issue.

Beginning Of Salvation

A Devotion by the Editor

"... and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims . . ."

Have you no reason to be ashamed before God? Have you never tasted the forbidden fruit? Have you never disobeyed the explicit commands of God? Have you never felt the pangs of conscience, the sense of guilt, the prospect of impending punishment? Have you never felt your estrangement from God, a lack of fellowship with Him, a sort of frightened sensation at the possibility of His immediate presence?

A personal introspection suggested by such questions will make plain to us two or three things about our own spiritual condition and our relationship to God.

First of all, no matter what our pretensions to goodness, this self-examination will uncover to us our own lack of goodness, our estrangement from God, and our depraved nature which is so inclined to lead us astray from God. The same self-examination will reveal to us our need of salvation. We come to know, by a simple method of introspection, that we cannot meet our own spiritual needs, and that God alone is equal to the needs which we recognize and feel so deeply.

God at once made provision to repair the damage and restore man to a friendly relation with Himself. This provision is set forth in three things, which God did immediately. And the whole plan of salvation, as subsequently revealed and worked out in human redemption, is implicit in these three things.

There is first the promise of recovery. This promise is found in the statement, "It (the seed of the woman) shall bruise thy (the serpent's) head."

The second thing God did was to cover their shame. Man had exhausted his own ingenuity, and had failed utterly and miserably to feel that he was fit for the holy eye of God to look upon. He tried to cover his shame, but his efforts were futile and as frail as the leaves which fade and fall and are torn into bits by the winds.

The third thing that God did was to set up an altar, or a mercy-seat, on the outside of the garden.

There has always been a mercy-seat. And there is a mercy-seat today.

"So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life." Genesis 3:8-24.

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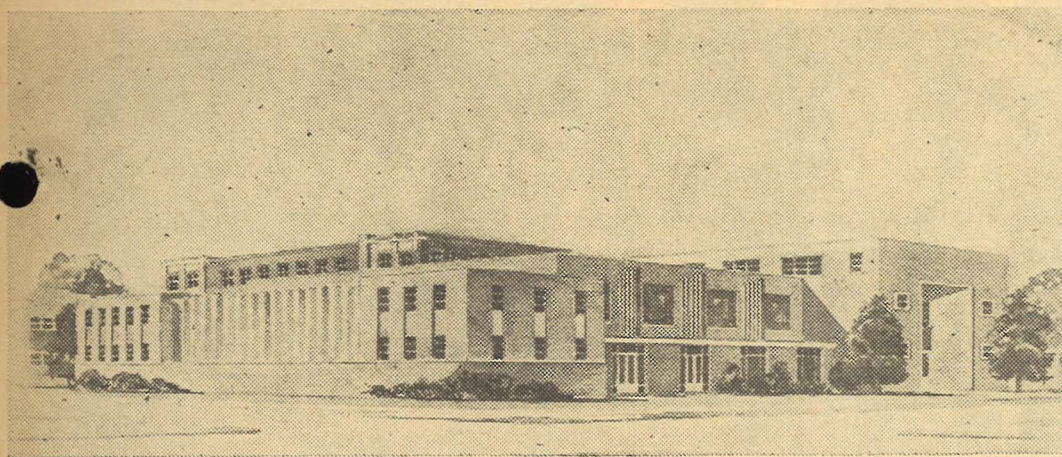
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Prospective of First Church, Pine Bluff



By a Member of the Church

Majoring in pastoral administration is literally "paying off" at First Church, Pine Bluff, under the leadership of Dr. W. B. Tatum, formerly assistant to the president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky. A native of Louisiana and a graduate of Baylor University and Southern Seminary, Doctor Tatum took over the helm at First Church, Pine Bluff, two years ago last September when the church was in the throws of a near crisis. The masterful administrative leadership of Doctor Tatum was felt from the very first and it was soon understood by all that a wise and experienced leader was giving guidance to the work.

A parsonage problem of long standing was one of the first to present itself. However, plans were perfected, financial difficulties were worked out, and the parsonage was completed in May, 1950, at a total cost of \$35,000. The parsonage was dedicated debt free on November 26, 1950. It is conceded to be one of the finest to be found in the South.

Over a period of several years, two concepts developed relative to the church program and its promotion, concepts which tended to align the members into two groups with equal sincerity of conviction. It was indeed a pastoral problem of great concern. However, Doctor Tatum gave this phase of his pastoral ministry the best that he had in the way of general guidance, personal counseling, and Christian churchmanship. Without the slightest eruption and under the finest auspices sixty-six members of the church were granted letters of full fellowship in October, 1950, to organize what is now the Bethel Church in Pine Bluff. The manner in which Doctor Tatum conducted himself and directed the attitude of the people has endeared him to the membership of both churches as well as to the whole city. Both churches are now going forward in a splendid way. First Church has just closed one of its best years in the history of the church. Contributions to all causes have set a new high mark of \$134,744.77.

Following almost complete reorganization of several phases of the work of First Church, Doctor Tatum led the church to adopt the plan of financing the church through the Sunday School. To strengthen the Sunday School the system of grading was perfected to include the adults.

In the newly graded set-up, provision was made for more adult classes by the renovation of the Sunday School building which

was erected in 1926. This renovation program also ties in with the all-over master plans adopted by the church for future building. The renovation work was begun in January, 1951, and completed at a cost of \$18,500.

On May 9, 1951, plans for the new church plant were adopted. The plant is to be built in units, the first of which is to be the main auditorium, two adult departments, a primary department, and the music studios. Ground for this unit was broken September 16, 1951, and construction is well under way. Allocations of critical materials have been granted in sufficient amounts to allow the work to continue on schedule.

Cost of the first unit is \$350,000. With some funds on hand a \$250,000 campaign was launched November 21, 1951, the purpose being to pay for the building upon completion and have sufficient funds left over to begin the second unit which is to cost \$140,000. The second unit is to comprise a fellowship hall, chapel, and adult classrooms for two departments. Balance needed for this unit is to be cared for out of the regular budget. On January 1, 1952, the financial campaign had raised in cash and pledges the amount of \$243,410. It is expected that \$262,410 will come in as a result of the campaign by the time the building is completed.

The centennial of the First Church is to be celebrated in October, 1953. Doctor Tatum not only hopes to have the building completed and paid for by then, but hopes at that time to launch a new budget with fifty per cent of all receipts to go for the Cooperative Program. He hopes to lead Arkansas in missionary example.

Local missions have always received strong emphasis by First Church, being the mother church of practically every Baptist church in Jefferson County. In May, 1950, the church under Doctor Tatum's ministry began a mission at Grady. At the business meeting of the church January 9, 1952, plans were made to construct a small building at an initial cost of \$3,500. It is expected that the organization of the Grady Church will take place following the completion of the building. Ellis Holman, a Ouachita student, is mission pastor for half-time.

All the administrative accomplishments have been coupled with a steady spiritual growth by First Church. Much ground work has been in order and the proposed emphasis in 1952 on visitation and evangelism



Dr. W. B. Tatum, Pastor

and the centennial goal of fifty per cent of the church budget to the Cooperative Program should put the church out in the forefront as a truly great church.

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Promising Beginning At Park Place, Hot Springs

Pastor James H. Fitzgerald reports a promising beginning of his work as pastor of the Park Place Church in Hot Springs. Pastor Fitzgerald recently came to the Park Place Church from the Walnut Street Church, Jonesboro.

Having been with the Park Place Church only a month, 15 persons have been received into the membership of the church, and one young man has surrendered to the gospel ministry.

A study course has been conducted in which the book of J. Clyde Turner, "The New Testament Doctrine of the Church," was taught. An enrolment of 135 was registered for this study course, and 103 persons qualified for awards.

Pastor Fitzgerald will do his own preaching in a revival meeting beginning Easter Sunday, and W. E. Ward, minister of education and music at the South Side Church of Pine Bluff, will direct the singing. This revival meeting is in co-operation with the Simultaneous Evangelistic Crusade in the southwest district.

Stockton and Elledge

Evangelist Purl Stockton, 321 South Martin, Little Rock, is to be with Pastor Harvey Elledge and the Northwest Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, for the next three months in an enlargement campaign and a visitation program.

Pastor Harvey Elledge went from the Baring Cross Church, North Little Rock, to the Oklahoma City church.

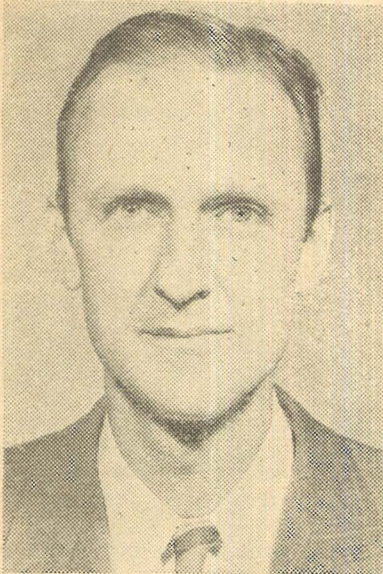
Evangelist Stockton will not move his family to Oklahoma City, but will maintain his home in Little Rock. Last year he did this same type of work in the Immanuel Church of Paducah, Kentucky, where he spent three months in an enlargement campaign and a visitation program.

Eight Page Issue

Because there are five Thursdays in January, this issue of the **Arkansas Baptist** must be reduced to one-half for financial reasons.

The Editor.

Song-Sermon Programs To Be Published



Fred Becker

A second song-sermon outline originated by Fred Becker, director of the Ouachita College Choir, will soon be published by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. The new publication will include Becker's "We Would See Jesus" program, which he originated for use with the Ouachita College Choir.

Several years ago B. B. McKinney, secretary of the Music Department of the Sunday School Board, used one of Becker's song-sermon outlines in a booklet, "Thirteen Song Sermons." The new booklet will soon be published by the Music Department.

The Ouachita College Choir has presented the song-sermon over 100 times in Arkansas appearances. Many decisions have been made during services conducted by the O. B. C. singers.

Based on the statement of Philip of Bethsaida, recorded in John 12:21, "Sir, we would see Jesus," the sermon as outlined by Mr. Becker urges the world to see Jesus through Faith, Enduring Grace, Journeying Light, Everlasting Needs, and Adoration.

New Church Organized

The Percy Church in Central Association was organized on November 25, 1951. On the day of organization the church adopted a budget which included an allocation to the Cooperative Program.

The new church does not have a house of worship as yet, but it is proceeding with the establishment of the various church organizations.

Group Tries to Stop Freedom Rally

Governor Gordon Browning has been strongly pressed by a group led by H. Frank Taylor, leading Tennessee legislator, to cancel an agreement with Nashville Protestants leasing the War Memorial Auditorium for a Religious Freedom Rally, February 1, at which Paul Blanshard is to be principal speaker.

The group argued that Blanshard's address will desecrate the memory of Catholic boys among those for whom the auditorium was established as a memorial. The governor tried to get the Protestants to relinquish the contract.

—Baptist Press.

A Ride in the Little Red Wagon



A unique ending to a friendly contest is pictured above as Mrs. Ralph Lillard wins a ride to Training Union in the little red wagon which is drawn by Mrs. Frank Highfill.

It all started this way: The Training Union attendance of First Church, Gentry, was so closely approaching the Sunday School attendance that the spirit of friendly rivalry was stimulated. Mrs. Highfill, adult director, boasted recently that she would

pull Mrs. Lillard, the general Training Union director, to Training Union any time the Training Union attendance exceeded the Sunday School attendance on the same day. On December 23, the Sunday School attendance was 254, and the Training attendance was 258.

So Mrs. Highfill fulfilled her promise, Mrs. Lillard won her ride, and both the Training Union and Sunday School are happy.

Arkansas News Briefs

From Here and There

Upon the resignation of Pastor Gray Evans from the pastorate of First Church, Berryville, the executive board of the Carroll County Association adopted a statement of appreciation for Pastor Evan's leadership, fellowship, and co-operation in associational work and commended him to such fields of service in the future to which God may lead him.

Central Church, Jonesboro, Reese S. Howard, pastor, and First Church, Fordyce, J. T. Elliff, pastor, announces the inauguration of Family Night on Wednesday evening of each week. The plan proposes to arrange for meetings at these churches which will be of interest to all the members of church families. Teachers' meeting for the the teachers; Brotherhood meeting for the men; junior organizations of the W. M. U. for the young people and boys and girls. The series of services will be closed with the midweek prayer service.

It is announced in the bulletin of First Church, Harrison, that Pastor Lehman Webb, who has served First Church, West Helena, for the past four years, has accepted the call of the Harrison Church and will move on the field some time in February.

Miss Peggy Flatte, a member of Beech Church, Texarkana, dedicated her life to the Lord as a mission volunteer on Sunday, January 13.

Ronald Anderson, a member of First Church, El Dorado, was the first Boy Scout in El Dorado to earn the **God and Country Award**, an award granted by Boy Scouts of America. The presentation was made at the morning worship service, Sunday, January 13.

Pastoral Changes

John Holston has resigned the pastorate at Lexa to accept the call of the First Church, Lonoke.

Patrick D. Sullivan resigned the pastorate of the Calvary Church, Benton, to accept the call from Cavalry Church, Rose City, North Little Rock. He began his work with the North Little Rock church on January 27.

First Church, Eudora, Dillard S. Miller, pastor, has scheduled a revival meeting to begin February 13, to be conducted by a youth team made up of students from Ouachita and the University of Arkansas.

The missions committee of Immanuel Church, Little Rock, made a survey of Pulaski County on Saturday, January 19, in an attempt to find the places in the county where mission work is needed. The mission committee along with Missionary E. A. Ingram spent the entire day in this survey.

The Bradshaw Lumber Company's mill whistle is being blown each morning at 9 o'clock through the month of January in response to a request from the Woman's Missionary Union of First Church, Hamburg, as a signal for a moment of silent prayer for world peace.

Nineteen churches in Central Association have the **Arkansas Baptist** in the church budgets.

Central Association Executive Committee has purchased grounds near Bismarck, Hot Spring County for an association assembly ground. The Central Association will invite adjacent associations to co-operate in building an encampment program.

As a result of the 95 per cent response to the tithing campaign in First Church, Malvern, receipts have increased more than \$100 per week.

Baptist Brotherhood of Arkansas

NELSON TULL, *Secretary*

Get Out of the Groove!

When we study the problems involved in getting God's men over into God's work, we find that many Christian men are already settled in a pattern of living which leaves little or no time for God and His work. These men are too busy! To work for their Lord would involve their changing the pattern of their lives; and the idea of change is not pleasant. To such men we would say:

"GET OUT OF THE GROOVE."

Habits and patterns are hard to break; and the Devil knows it. So, if the Devil can possibly bring it to pass, he will gradually work a man into a pattern of living which involves ALL the man's life, and settle him in this pattern; and then oppose strenuously any effort which threatens to change the pattern.

The Devil cannot rob a Christian man of his salvation. So his efforts toward the Christian must be designed to keep the Christian from doing any effective work for the Lord. The sad, sad truth is that he succeeds with many, many of God's people.

Jesus says to His people, "Follow me." And to follow Him is to get out of the Groove! Jesus wants to establish us in "paths of righteousness," so that our pattern of life will be fixed entirely inside His blessed will for us.

Pity the Christian man whose pattern of life is fixed outside God's will!

An alert Christian will be constantly on the watch for the Devil's tricks to get him (the Christian) into grooves which will channel his energies away from God's will and God's work.

A Christian who is spiritually asleep has already arrived at the state where his business, his lodge meetings, his avocational pursuits, his pleasures, and his habits, have filled his life completely full of activities which have crowded God out.

Now there is no compromise between being awake and being asleep. An alert Christian will want ALL his life placed within the will of God. But a Christian

who is willing to keep any area of his life from God is beginning already to fall into a spiritual sleep from which he may never really awaken until his life is done on this earth, and every opportunity to serve the Lord in this life is gone forever.

The author of this article has on many occasions been struck by the difficulty of getting the vast majority of church members to do any real work in behalf of the Lord and His church. The reason is that most of God's people are living out a pattern of life that has no room nor time for working for God. Many can't attend a revival faithfully because there is no place in their life-pattern which will allow them to come—no time in their life-pattern to give to the Lord.

Of course there are many Christians who have allowed a little time on Sunday to attend a service or so; but they can't do anything for the Lord between Sundays; and all they can ever do is to come to church. Their lives are fixed in a series of grooves which hold them powerless.

And they will continue to be without power as long as they stay in the grooves of spiritual uselessness. To get out of these grooves requires a strong exercise of the will and a course of positive action. It isn't a pleasant experience. (The devil will make it very unpleasant, indeed!) But there are joyful compensations which will carry through this life into God's eternity!

A Christian will profit immeasurably if he will deliberately examine his pattern of life, and tear from it every activity which gets in the way of God's will. A Christian, with the wisdom of God which God has promised to those who ask for it (James 1:5), can deliberately order his life within God's will. He can build a pattern of life which will keep him busy within God's will, and make his vocational work just a part of his over-all service to the Lord.

Then he will really begin to live!



Preparation for Sectional Crusades

The Evangelistic Conference is over, but the spirit of it will be felt for many months to come. The fires of evangelism will be kindled in every area of the state as a result of this great Conference. But along with the quickened interest in evangelism should be some definite planning for the Sectional Crusades.

There is value in simultaneous revivals. The results of our 1950 crusade proved that. During that year, when the majority of our churches were in a revival at the same time, we baptized 16,367 new converts. Last year, without the simultaneous emphasis, we baptized only 14,500 people — a loss of nearly two thousand.

The Methodist people, seeing the results of the Baptist Simultaneous revivals, are now projecting similar movements in their churches. Last December, all Methodist churches in Louisiana and south Arkansas had a week of simultaneous services. And at this writing, all their churches in north Arkansas and south Missouri are having a similar program. There is no question but that the Baptists are in the lead

in evangelism and are now the fastest growing denomination in our nation. However, unless we continue to stay together in a definite evangelistic program, we may lose our place of leadership in evangelizing the world. A paraphrase of Napoleon's statement should become our slogan,—"Evangelism has made us, and evangelism must maintain us."

Below are some things that should be done immediately in preparation for the Sectional Crusades:

1. Secure the co-operation of every church in the association. This will be the responsibility of the associational organizer.

2. Churches should secure the evangelistic help without further delay.

3. The Steering Committee should begin functioning—census should be taken, publicity should be planned, special rallies should be set up and speakers secured, a definite prayer plan should be initiated, personal workers should be trained, and radio time should be secured—these and many other detail plans should be done AT ONCE.

Minister Claimed By Death

L. P. Guthrey, a Baptist minister widely known in Arkansas, passed on to his heavenly home on November 16, 1951.

Mr. Guthrey was a graduate of Ouachita College and spent his entire ministry in the state of Arkansas. His first full-time pastorate was at Paris where he led in erection of a church building. Later he was missionary in Liberty Association and organized the First Church in Smackover.

Last August he preached his last sermon in the First Church at Paris where he began his full-time ministry.

The subject of that last sermon was "Our Hope," in which he used John 20:21 as a text. He developed his theme in five great statements: The hope of the world is Christ; The hope of Christ is the gospel; The hope of the gospel is the church of Christ; The hope of the churches are her saved, consecrated, and spirit-filled members; The hope of the church members is the Holy Spirit.

We never saw a happy woman who wasn't beautiful or an unhappy one who was.

My Pledge

What is a pledge? Godward, an accepted assignment; churchward, a co-operative covenant; manward, a reliable responsibility.

To God, first of all, I must pledge all that I am and have.

That means: I must pledge my time, every moment of it; my talent, every mite of it; my toll, every stroke of it; my thought, every throb of it; my talk, every word of it; my tithes, all ten of them.

And why: It focuses my wish from fog to shower. It harnesses my will for efficiency. It animates my word with vitality. It energizes my work with controlled power. It clarifies my watch with vision of the invisible. It enhances my worth to God and man. It deposits my wealth in vaults eternal.

So I should, and would,—pray and plan; plan and pledge; pledge and pay; pay and prosper!

—Hight C. Moore.

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The strength of the union is renewed from the lower middle class, welded by the upper middle class and dissipated by the lower and the upper classes.

BAPTIST COLLEGE EAST TEXAS

Marshall, Texas

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Summer School, June 2, 1952

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Training Union Department

RALPH W. DAVIS, *Secretary*

Tournaments To Feature State Training Union Convention

Three interesting state tournaments will be conducted at the State Training Union Convention, First Church, Little Rock, March 14-15. Mr. Maines Rawls, Training Union Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, will direct the Speakers' Tournament for the Young People. All participants from the associations will meet Mr. Rawls at the Young People's sectional meeting Friday afternoon, March 14. The elimination tournament will be held during the sectional meetings. The four best speakers will participate in the Speakers' Tournament finals at Robinson Auditorium Friday night, and the state winner will be sent to Ridgecrest, July 24-30, with all expenses paid.

The State Intermediate elimination Sword Drill will be held in the two Intermediate sectional

meetings, Friday afternoon; one for 13-14 year olds, one for 15-16 age groups. Only one sword drill representative may be sent from each association. The four best sword drillers from each of these elimination tournaments will participate in the State Sword Drill finals at Robinson Auditorium Friday night, and the winner will be sent to Ridgecrest with all expenses paid.

The State Junior Memory Drill will be conducted Saturday morning in the main auditorium of First Church, and all Juniors who do not make any errors will be awarded a certificate and a seal. All Juniors who do not make over one mistake in the associational drill may participate in the state drill. All memory drill participants are asked to meet in the Choir Room of First Baptist Church, Saturday morning at 8:45.

Church Music Department

MRS. B. W. NININGER, *Director*

Music For Denominational Rallies

The following people will assist Mrs. B. W. Nininger in presenting the services of the Church Music Department at the Denominational Rallies which are scheduled to take place in forty associations February 12-22: James E. Burkhead, Crossett; Rev. W. E. Perry, Nashville; W. E. Ward, Pine Bluff; S. O. Reynolds, Rogers; Mrs. Joe Simmons, North Little Rock; M. O. Kelley, North Little Rock; Lawson Hatfield, Little Rock; Mrs.

Jim Merritt, McGehee; Mrs. Bill Fowler, Boxley; Ray McClung, Hot Springs; and Miss Odessa Holt, Mt. Ida.

Besides learning about methods of making church music more meaningful, all who come to these rallies will have the privilege of hearing a great Youth Choir sing. This choir will be representative of all the churches in the association and is to be directed in most cases by the director of the host church.

Baptist Student Union

DR. DALE COWLING, *Director*

Learn More About Your B. S. U.

This column will feature a story concerning the BSU on a different college campus each week for the next several issues.

It is hoped that you will carefully read each week's story in order to understand what is being accomplished on each particular campus. You would also become conscious of the needs of the students. Perhaps you will be amazed at the wonderful work that many of our students are doing under such outstanding handicaps.

Let us urge each high school senior to seriously consider coming to the State Student Spring Retreat at Camp Couchdale April 25-27. You parents could give your

graduating sons and daughters no better present than a trip to Couchdale for this Retreat.

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PRAYER

An old lady in England, who had stood the bombings with amazing fortitude, was asked the secret of her calmness in the midst of such frightful danger. She replied, "Well, every night I say my prayers, and then I remember 'ow the parson told us God is always watching; so I go to sleep. There's no need for both of us to stay awake."

—Selected.

Of all the things you wear, your expression is the most important.

Woman's Missionary Union

MISS NANCY COOPER, *Executive Secretary*

Young Woman's Auxiliary Focus Week

February 10-16

Suggestions for observance of Young Woman's Auxiliary Focus Week have been sent to every organization in the state. Wherever there is an organization representing the "Miss in Missions", opportunity of special recognition and service should be given them. These were Miss DeVault's ideas:

Sunday: 100% attendance of Y. W. A. members in Sunday School. Use of Y. W. A. members on assembly program in various departments. Sit together at morning worship service. (Could a special musical number be given?) An afternoon of visitation for enlistment.

Monday: Practice for the Wednesday night program. Begin study of **Tangled Threads**.

Tuesday: Visit unsaved friends. Conduct a cottage prayer meeting.

Wednesday: Perhaps present "Where I Am", the new community mission playlet. (Order from W. M. U., Birmingham 3, Ala-

bama, for 15 cents per copy), or pantomime "O, Zion Haste" (15 cents from same source).

Thursday: Heart banquet with mothers as guests, or a Valentine Banquet with "the best boy friend" as guest.

Friday: Complete mission study. Form a Y. M. A. Book Club.

Saturday: Write Arkansas girls attending our Training School. A small gift would thrill them, too. They are: Misses Maurine Sparkman and Esther Dixon at the W. M. S. Training School, 2801 Lexington Road, Louisville, Kentucky. Miss Violet Ward, New Orleans, Louisiana; the following at Seminary Hill Training School, Fort Worth, Texas: Misses Johnnie Godley, Mary K. Hagan, Nita Stewart, Billie Anne Cramer, Gloria Joan Hink, Olive Nichols, Betty Joe Hicks.

(The mother organization would do well to also remember these young women—"our girls"—who are preparing for full time Christian service.)

Sunday School Department

DR. EDGAR WILLIAMSON, *Secretary*

Make Your Assembly Reservations Now

Arkansas Baptist Assembly reservations are now being received. In Assembly-owned dormitories we can accommodate approximately 300 girls and 160 boys, or a total of 460 persons. To be assured of a place to stay, we suggest that reservations be made NOW.

IMPORTANT: When reservation is requested, please send us, with the \$2.00 reservation fee the following information: Name, sex, and age. (This information applies to all persons twenty-four years of age and under.) **ALL** who request reservations are expected to furnish us, along with the reservation fee, the name of each individual, post office, and church.

Coming Events

January 31, February 1—State Vacation Bible School Clinic, Little Rock.

March 30—Home and Foreign Missions Day in the Sunday School.

April —Sunday School Training Courses (use book on teaching).

June —Vacation Bible Schools.

July 1-9—Arkansas Baptist Assembly, Siloam Springs.

September 2—Associational Sunday School Leadership Conference.

September 16—"B" Night in the Associations.

October 13-14—State Sunday School Convention.

"Worry kills more people than work; but this is so because more people worry than work."

"You can't change the past; but you can ruin a perfectly good present by worrying over the future."

"You would not worry what people think about you, if you

could know how seldom they do!"

The greatest fault, I should say, is to become conscious of none.

Available Again

Matthew Henry's Commentary on whole Bible. Complete set, \$24.50 plus sales tax. Ask about our budget plan.

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A Pharisee And a Repentant Woman

By MRS. HOMER D. MYERS

Lesson based on "International Sunday School Lessons; the International Bible Lessons for Christian Teaching," copyrighted 1951 by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A.

This is one of the greatest lessons on LOVE we have in the scriptures; study carefully and prayerfully the Bible text suggested above. Two extremes are contrasted in this lesson, the very sinful and the good moral person; the very penitent and the indignant, self-righteous.

The setting for the lesson was one of those occasions when Jesus was invited into the home of a Pharisee for dinner, some think in the city of Capernaum. A notoriously sinful woman, a woman of the streets, heard that Jesus, the mighty worker of miracles rumored by some to be the Messiah of the Old Testament prophecies, was there, so she purchased an alabaster box of ointment, (a modern translation renders this a "flask of perfume") and set forth to see the Master.

Let us keep in mind some of the customs of the East in order to clarify the lesson; they removed their sandals upon entering the house; they reclined on couches to dine; we are told people felt free to enter a home while the occupants and guests were dining, and sometimes carried on conversation with them. So, the sinful woman was not out of order according to Oriental custom of her day, when she entered the home of Simon and began to anoint the Savior's feet.

The Pharisees were taught from childhood to avoid all contact with the unclean. If they touched a dead body, a diseased body, they were contaminated, rendered unclean, for a period of days and had to go through certain rituals to be cleansed. And during those days of contamination, they were isolated from other people.

Imagine then the horror of Simon, when the sinful woman walked into the room and began kissing the feet of Jesus; her very touch being considered a defilement. Immediately, Simon began to doubt that Jesus was a prophet, for if He were, He would know who the woman was and would not allow her to touch his body. Jesus answered his thoughts with one of His very timely illustrations: "Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee . . . Once there were two people who owed a certain man; one owed him \$50, the other \$500. When the time came to pay, both were bankrupt, neither had anything with which to pay. The creditor did a very unusual thing, he cancelled both debts, freely. But which one would appreciate the

Sunday School Lesson for

February 3, 1952

Luke 7:36-50

gift the most? Simon suggested the one who owed the greater obligation."

HUMANITY IS BANKRUPT BEFORE GOD

Jesus was teaching Simon a spiritual lesson; here was the picture of divine action; herein all can revel in God's forgiving grace. All humanity stands bankrupt before God. "In my hand no price I bring"—simply because there is no price one can bring that will pay his sin debt. Whether a woman of the streets, or a cultured dignitary of the world, or a self righteous Pharisee; whether a king on his throne or a victim of the underworld, all are sinful, all are carnal before God, all have come short of God's standard of goodness, none can save himself, all are penniless and bankrupt in His presence. He must forgive our debts—we cannot pay them.

If we presume that Simon was saved, and we know the woman was for Jesus said so, we have before us two types of Christians who have many descendants in the flesh. The ones who have gone so deeply in sin, and those who have always lived upright, moral lives. According to the story of Jesus, the ones who have sinned most often have a keener sense of appreciation, and many times have a greater devotion for Christ than their more fortunate brothers and sisters. It should not be so, but sometimes it is true that the \$50 debtor does not feel so obligated to the Lord as the \$500 one.

Notice the contrast Jesus made between the two in this lesson: Simon did not kiss the Lord upon His arrival, though it was customary in that day. A good host in that age would bathe the feet of his guests, for they wore open sandals, which were left at the door upon entering the house, but Simon neglected that act of courtesy. It would have been entirely proper for Simon to have annointed the head of Jesus, but he didn't bother. Yet the sinful, penitent woman kissed the Master's feet, unbathed as they were; she bathed his feet with her tears and dried them with her hair.

The woman loved the Lord a great deal because she was forgiven much, but others love sparingly because they do not realize the depths of their own sin, nor what they really owe the Lord for the great love wherewith He loved us. He suffered

the same agony for the good, moral man that He suffered for the harlot. He died the same death for the self righteous that He did for the criminal. Only God could tolerate the depths of ingratitude which He receives from His indifferent and careless children.

NO PREMIUM ON SIN

We would not extol nor exalt a life of sin for the purpose of emphasizing the love of God. Blessed is the person who has lived a clean life. There has never been a premium on sin. One need not drink of the dregs of life in order to repent and glorify God in their salvation. We should avoid both extremes which we find in this lesson: sin never honored anybody—neither does self righteousness. No human being can rightfully point the finger of scorn at another, for there is none righteous, no not one. All are saved by the grace and mercy of God, or lost for lack of faith in Christ Jesus.

The high point of this study is this: A penitent heart is a beautiful thing, whether in the upright or in the downcast. A consciousness of sin, and a contrite spirit because of that realization, should develop a consecrated life to the glory of God, and that life is becoming to every son and daughter of Adam's race.

We believe Jesus meant what

He said when He told certain religious people, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." We believe one must be conscious of sin, and convicted of sin ere he can become saved. One does not repent until he is convicted.

It is not the depth of sin to which one has fallen, for all are sinners, but the fact that the sinner must come to Jesus for salvation. The commendable thing in the woman who came to Jesus was not the sin in her life, but the fact that she came to Jesus in tears of contrition; she came to the Savior in spite of her sins.

Sin is repulsive; but so is self-righteousness. He has made ample provision for the sinner, but none for the self-righteous, till he realizes he is a sinner.

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

Announcing Team Personnel

DENOMINATIONAL RALLIES

February 12-22

FIRST WEEK, FEBRUARY 12-15

Agency Represented	Team No. 1	Team No. 2	Team No. 3	Team No. 4	Team No. 5
Orphanage	H. C. Seefeldt (Hamburg & El Dorado)	L. H. Davis (Russellville & Van Buren)	W. O. Miller	W. A. Herring	H. C. Seefeldt (Mt. Ida & Mena)
Hospital	A. L. McDaniel (McGehee & Monticello) J. F. Queen	Stanley Jordan (Springdale & Rogers) Mrs. C. H. Brough B. H. Eustis	Miss Juanita Straubie Walter N. Hill	Mrs. J. F. Queen Reese S. Howard	J. Harold Smith (Waldron & Fort Smith) J. A. Glibbreath Felix Williams
Arkansas Baptist Paper	N. R. Griffin (McGehee, Monticello & Hamburg) Clyde Freed Jr. (El Dorado) E. E. Griever	M. E. Wiles (Russellville & Van Buren) Rel Gray (Springdale) A. L. Leake (Rogers) Miss Blanche Mays Miss Nancy Cooper James A. Overton H. E. Williams Edgar Williamson Stanley Jordan Lloyd A. Sparkman Walter L. Johnson Theo T. James S. O. Reynolds	C. W. Caldwell	E. Clay Polk	R. A. Hill
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SECOND WEEK, FEBRUARY 19-22

Agency Represented	Team No. 1	Team No. 2	Team No. 3	Team No. 4	Team No. 5
Orphanage	Jay D. Tolleson	W. B. Tatum (Pine Bluff & Conway) Dillard Miller (Morrilton & Clinton)	Mrs. Allen Toney (Helena & Earle) E. C. Brown (Tyronza & Osceola)	W. O. Miller (Jasper, Harrison & Mountain Home) H. C. Seefeldt (Little Rock) John Stratton (Jasper & Harrison) T. E. Funderburk (Mountain Home) R. H. Green (Little Rock)	W. A. Herring
Hospital	Wesley Lindsey (Arkadelphia) James Harris (Texarkana) Russell Armer (Ashdown) Jacob King (Hot Springs) J. H. Fitzgerald E. E. Griever Mrs. C. L. Randall Mrs. Vernon Hall L. S. Williams J. I. Cossey Arlie L. McDaniel Dell Hames B. L. Bridges Dale Cowling E. E. Griever W. E. Ward (Texarkana, Ashdown & Hot Springs) W. E. Perry (Arkadelphia)	Mrs. C. H. Brough Hugh Owen M. E. Wiles Miss Kathleen Jolly Miss Nancy Cooper H. A. Haswell H. H. King Edgar Williamson Howard Kolb David O. Moore W. E. Speed Lloyd A. Sparkman Mrs. Joe Simmons (Pine Bluff, Conway & Clinton) M. O. Kelley (Morrilton)	Miss Juanita Straubie T. K. Rucker C. W. Caldwell Miss Adeline DeWitt Mrs. R. H. Jones Ralph Douglas Amos Greer George Hink Leland Hall Theo T. James Roy Fish Ray Branscum Mrs. B. W. Nininger	John Stratton (Jasper & Harrison) T. E. Funderburk (Mountain Home) R. H. Green (Little Rock) L. C. Tedford Delbert Garrett Miss Blanche Mays Miss Doris DeVault Dewey W. Stark H. E. Williams Rel Gray Ralph W. Davis N. R. Griffin Miss Bobbie Holland Nelson Tull Mrs. Bill Fowler	J. T. Elliff (Fordyce) W. F. Montgomery (Heber Springs) L. H. Roseman (Batesville & Melbourne) Dale McCoy R. A. Hill Mrs. V. M. Shook Miss Exie Seright W. F. Montgomery A. C. Rudloff W. R. Vestal Aubrey Hearn L. E. Coleman Lee Garner R. W. McMillan Ray McClung

*The speakers will remain with the same team for each association unless noted.

Consult ARKANSAS BAPTIST, January 24 issue, pages eight and nine, for further information.

N 22-A-B
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