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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 49

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, JANUARY 5, 1950

NUMBER 1



—H. Armstrong Roberts

It's Here — 1950 — What Will We Do With It?

NORTH LITTLE ROCK
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
LIBRARY

Baptist World Alliance Sunday

February 5, 1950

The Church

A Devotion by the Editor

It is most fitting that Baptists around the globe should set apart each year, the first Sunday in February to proclaim to the world our essential oneness in the Lord Jesus Christ, and to promote the spirit of fellowship, service, and co-operation among our people.

A year and a half ago there was formed an ecumenical body known as the World Council of Churches. Forty-five years ago the Baptists formed an ecumenical organization which is truly world-wide and known as the Baptist World Alliance.

Speaking of it the late Dr. J. H. Rushbrooke, a past-president of the Alliance, said: "It is no casual or temporary phenomenon destined to soon pass into nothingness, but the logical and fitting expression of our unity. In that sense it rounds off our denominational policy. We belong together, by virtue of a common religious experience; we have found one another, and we have clasped hands in a world brotherhood acknowledging our Lord, one faith, one baptism. What God hath joined together no man may put asunder."

What can we do in our churches on Sunday, February 5, which will strengthen the cause of our Fellowship, and so extend the Kingdom of God throughout the world? Many things of great spiritual value may be done:

First, we can pray for our people in private and in corporate prayer. We have over sixteen million members scattered throughout the world. In some countries many of our people are on the verge of starvation, some are imprisoned; a number are labelled, and are compelled to live, as Displaced Persons; some congregations are not allowed the sacred privileges of public worship.

Who can measure the mystic power of prayer on their behalf? A world fellowship of prayer will certainly tap the resources of God, and just as every shore feels the pulse of the tides of the sea, our Baptist people the world over will feel the tides of the Spirit of God moving in their souls in answer to prayer.

Secondly, we should praise God for the privilege of serving our less fortunate fellow-Baptists in the war-torn areas of the world. God has opened the hearts of our people, and their liberality has flown from their love for their Lord. It would be impossible to estimate the worth of the gifts of food, clothing, money, and other things that have gone forth to the needy peoples. Some countries out of their austerity "have poured forth a flood of rich generosity." Let us then praise God for this fellowship fostered by our Alliance; a fellowship that in no way interferes with the independence of our churches, but moves the soul to sing "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;" a fellowship which hises above racialism and narrow nationalism, and which claims all believers to be brothers and sisters in Christ; a fellowship which is moved by, and enters into, the sufferings of others, causing the persecuted and the deprived to feel that they are not left alone in their struggles.

Thirdly, we may well from our pulpits on this February 5, once more sound forth those great principles for which we stand. If there was ever a time when it was necessary to propagate Baptist principles and the tenets of our faith, it is now. Corruption of New Testament doctrine and domination of state or church over the souls of men has done much

to bring about world unrest and world revolution.

One of the primary purposes for which our Alliance exists is to proclaim and safeguard soul liberty for all people everywhere. This is not the hour to lay down "the sword of the Spirit."

Fourthly, on this Alliance Sunday, Baptist churches in many lands will be taking a special offering for the work of the Alliance. Each year the number of countries and conventions thus participating is growing. No memorial to the great leaders who have given so much to promote our Alliance could be more fitting than helping maintain the heritage they have bequeathed us.

Alexander MacLaren, J. H. Shakespeare, John Clifford, Robert S. MacArthur, E. Y. Mullins, J. H. Rushbrooke, John MacNeill, and George W. Truett, these are some of the men who have passed on and left to us in sacred trust the Alliance which claimed so fully their devotion. In praising the Lord for their lives, let us dedicate ourselves to carry on their work.

Fifthly, let our people everywhere know of the coming Congress to be held in Cleveland, Ohio, July 22-27 of this year, 1950. It will be a history-making gathering, and Baptists even in the most remote and restricted places of the world will eagerly await the deliverances of this Congress.

The theme of the Eighth Baptist World Congress is "And the Light shineth in the Darkness." To many of our brethren the mere word that the Congress is being held will come like a ray of hope shining through the darkness of our times.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Baptist World Alliance.

C. Oscar Johnson, President

H. H. Bingham, Vice-President

Arnold T. Ohrn, General Secretary

W. O. Lewis, Associate Secretary

—000—

Catholic Journal Backs Southern Baptist Radio Petition

America, a Roman Catholic weekly published in New York, gave editorial support in October to a Southern Baptist petition for 168 church-operated FM stations in Texas. The petition is pending before the FCC.

The weekly said the FCC "is asking itself whether, now that the Supreme Court has ruled in the McCollum case that the government cannot give even indirect assistance to any and all religions, religious radio stations can constitutionally be licensed."

America granted that the Baptists could reasonably be required to show that their projected stations would serve the public interest. However, the journal declared, it was "intolerable that they be expected to convince a Federal agency that it is not violating the American Constitution by allowing, in its regulation of public property, access to the air to a religious group."

"The real question facing the FCC," America said, "is whether or not denial of the petition would constitute denial of freedom of speech to a religious group."

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Death is not a journeying into an unknown land; it is a voyage home. We are going, not to a strange country, but to our Father's house, and among our kith and kin.

—John Ruskin

"The pillar and ground of the truth"

There was a rich and worldly man in a certain community who questioned the value of the church and refused to contribute anything to a new church building. In conversation with this man one day the pastor said to him, "My friend, there is something I want you to think about. What was real estate worth in Sodom?"

It is obvious that Jesus did not build His church for the purpose of enhancing the value of real estate in terms of dollars, and yet that is a subsidiary result in every community where there is a church.

If by some authority over which you have no control all the churches of your community were disbanded and their buildings turned to other uses; if by the same authority the Gospel were forever prohibited, never another sermon in the community, never another Bible, never another Gospel hymn, never another prayer, never another Sabbath; tell me, my friends, what would your homes be worth? Would you continue to live in such a community? And if you should undertake to sell your property and move to a Christian community, what do you suppose you could get for it?

Would not such a state of affairs be like that described by the young infidel who said, "I have come to the conclusion that a community without churches and Sunday Schools and Sabbaths and Bibles is too much like Hell for any man to live?" Property is cheap in Hell. In fact, you can have all you want free. Whereas the mansions in the New Jerusalem cost the infinite price of the lifeblood of the Son of God.

Paul described the church in his first letter to Timothy as "the pillar and ground of the truth." The meaning of such a picture is not strange to us. We call it a statue or a monument. It is the picture of a broad and firm base supporting a tall column such as the Statue of Liberty or Washington's Monument.

Paul said that the church is the statue or the monument of truth.

"But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." I Timothy 3:15.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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Official Publication of the Arkansas Baptist
State Convention

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MRS. HOMER D. MYERS ED. ASST.

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Thanks To Our Many Friends

The entire staff of the Arkansas Baptist is the Editor in expressing our thanks to our many friends throughout the state who have sent us greetings during the Christmas season. Please know that we appreciate your good wishes, your generous words of commendation, and your prayers.

Your encouragement and co-operation mean more to us than you know in our effort to produce the best Baptist paper in the southland. Your continued help will enable us to produce an even better paper. We enter 1950 with the full confidence of your loyalty and support and co-operation and prayers.

This 1950 is a challenging year. Our Baptist program is a challenging program. Your paper is committed one hundred per cent to the promotion of that program and to the interests of the kingdom of our Lord as represented in that program.

We wish for each of our readers the very best that the New Year holds for you. There will be problems and difficulties and disappointments, but there will also be joys and satisfactions and challenges. The only way to meet successfully the adverse circumstances is to enter enthusiastically upon the opportunities which will be presented.

May each of you know the thrill of meeting successfully every challenge and opportunity which the New Year brings to you. You may be assured of the presence of the Lord and sustaining grace throughout the year ahead.

May you not fail to call upon Him, stand upon his promises, as you give to Him your devoted service. May the Lord's blessings abide upon each of you.

Bishop Reaches New Low

Arch-bishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston has reached a new low in his attack upon Protestants and other Americans united for the Separation of Church and State in comparing this organization with the Ku-Klux-Klan.

The Bishop refers to "dazzling" slogans about separation of church and state and "glittering generalities." However, there is nothing dazzling about slogans of the organization to which the Bishop refers, nor does it deal in generalities. In fact, this organization is very specific in its slogans, and very definite in its work.

The organization was set up to preserve the historic and time-honored principle of separation of church and state. Because Catholics have made and are still making such a desperate effort to secure tax funds for their parochial schools, Protestants and other Americans united for the Separation of Church and State have fought this movement most vigorously.

The same organization would be just as vigorous in its opposition to the state assuming the functions of or exercising authority over the churches. The fact is that when anyone who is a party to a dispute resorts to name-calling, vilification, and like tactics, he acknowledges at once the weakness of his cause and admits that he is defeated by logic. Therefore he substitutes vilification for reason, and

Executive Committee Meets In Nashville

We publish elsewhere reports by the Baptist Press of the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville December 14 and 15. We wish that you could know the seriousness and the earnestness with which the members of the Executive Committee addressed themselves to the work assigned them.

Weighty responsibilities rest upon this committee, and the men composing the committee are fully aware of those responsibilities. The Executive Committee is divided into several sub-committees, each with his own particular phase of the Convention work to consider.

These sub-committees, after thoroughly studying the phase of the work assigned to them, make their reports to the full committee, which may be accepted as presented or changed or rejected according to the wisdom of the full body.

Other committees also met at the same time the Executive Committee was meeting. The Sunday School Board, for instance, held its meeting during that week, also the Evangelistic Committee under direction of the Home Mission Board.

State secretaries, editors of state papers, heads of the southwide institutions were present, and were called into conference by the various sub-committees of the Executive Committee.

It was a great meeting and the interests of the Southern Baptist Convention were represented and received a full hearing. It was a forward-looking meeting with "advance" as the key-note. Southern Baptists are on the march. To be convinced of that fact one would need only to look in on the meetings in Nashville during the meeting of the Executive Committee and other committees meeting in conjunction with it.

We solicit the prayers of all our people for these men who compose the Executive Committee of our Southern Baptist Convention and the other southwide committees upon whose shoulders we have placed such heavy responsibilities. They need your prayers, your sympathetic understanding and co-operation, and we are sure that you will give them just that.

seeks to win sympathy for his cause by belittling his opponents rather than the principles for which they contend.

A poor loser will try to confuse the issue involved in a dispute by trying to cast reflection upon his opponent, by appealing to prejudice, and by attempts to arouse emotions. These are the tactics of the Catholic hierarchy in the current dispute over the granting of Federal funds to private and parochial schools.

We must all be alert and watch for this issue to reappear when the eighty-first Congress re-assembles after the first of the year. We could wish that every Baptist in Arkansas would write your Senators and Congressmen in Washington and let them know that you oppose the granting of Federal aid to parochial schools,

Strange Baptist Doings

An effort to seek Federal aid for the Baptist Hospital at Birmingham, Alabama, was narrowly defeated in the Alabama State Convention which met recently in Mobile. Whereupon, the State Convention returned the hospital to the Birmingham Baptist Association in Birmingham.

The Executive Board of the Birmingham Association voted to recommend to the Association that it seek Federal aid for the expansion of its hospital. This recommendation of the Executive Board was defeated by a vote of 380 to 337 at a special meeting of the Association.

It is difficult to understand how any sizable group of Baptists in Alabama or anywhere else would be in favor of seeking Federal aid for a Baptist institution. Such action on the part of Baptist bodies violates every principle which we have held dear in the matter of state support for denominational institutions.

The Texas Baptist Convention took a bold and courageous stand and instructed its many institutions to reject all Federal aid. This action is in line with the time-honored principles Baptists have held to through the centuries. It is heartening to know that the Baptists in general do not seek Federal aid for their institutions, and where it is offered have, in almost every case, rejected it.

However, the few instances where Baptist institutions have accepted tax money weakens in some measure the Baptist protest against the general policy of government support for denominational agencies and institutions. We sincerely hope that all Baptist institutions now considering receiving such funds will reconsider their position and reject any tax funds from the government.

Royalty Defends the Home

It is heartening to note that Princess Elizabeth has denounced in the strongest words the rising divorce rate in England, and has made a strong appeal for a high moral standard and a "well-balanced code of right and wrong."

She told a group of 3,600 mothers that "one of your first objects is to uphold the sanctity of marriage."

"I do not think," she said, "you can perform a finer service than to help maintain the Christian doctrine that the relationship of husband and wife is a permanent one, not to be lightly broken because of difficulties or quarrels."

She also urged the mothers to give their youngsters that "sound Christian teaching which is essential to us all, but which is sadly lacking in so many homes today."

The message of the Princess is entirely appropriate and much needed in America, and might well be addressed to every American home and to every American father and mother.

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Take time to pray—it helps to bring Christ near, and washes the dust of the earth from our eyes.

A man may fall down several times, but he isn't a failure until he begins to say somebody pushed him.

—Nuggets

Kingdom Progress

Dr. Ferguson Recuperates

(Note: Our readers will be happy to read the following letter from Dr. B. V. Ferguson, pastor, First Church, Fort Smith.—Editor.)

Dear Dr. Duncan:

I appreciate your letter and your request to give some word about my illness and recovery.

Sickness is not a very cheerful subject to write about, however, in my illness there are many happy sides to it as well as those not so happy. In the first place it has revealed as nothing else could, the multitude of friends and their thoughtfulness. It has revealed to me as nothing else could, how the church has appreciated my ministry and how they love me. If I were never able to go back into active service I would have some assurance that I haven't lived in vain.

I am making what physicians call "satisfactory improvement." It is naturally slow and would be discouraging if one permitted it to be so, but I am reconciled to the fact that my recovery naturally has to be slow.

I look back on 45 years of my ministry and realize as never before how gracious the Lord has been to me. I only wish I could have rendered better service. In these 45 years, from the date of my ordination to the present, I have never had a serious spell of illness and have done more work all the time than any one man should have attempted, and my efforts, poor as they have been, have been so singly blessed of the Lord.

If I could have a word to my brother ministers, I would say to them be diligent, give the best every day to the Master and to the services that far excel all other service committed to the hands and hearts of men.

I am grateful for the way my people are carrying on the work in my absence, and for their faith and prayers for my recovery. I am grateful for the prayers of my many brethren, not only in Arkansas, but all over the country.

Of course my greatest ambition is to get back into the harness and do better work than I have ever done before. I trust the brethren will continue to pray for my full restoration.

May the Lord's richest blessings be on Arkansas Baptists and all the friends of Christ everywhere.

Most cordially,

B. V. Ferguson

D. C. Baptists Plan For New Churches

District of Columbia Baptists decided in their recent convention to spend \$250,000 in the next ten years to establish new churches, according to R. Edward Dowdy, editor, *Capitol Baptist*. They also voted to divide mission funds 50-50 after deduction of operating expenses and to plan definitely for the 1951 evangelistic crusade. Dr. Frank Burress, pastor, Fountain Memorial Church, was elected president.

Batesville Church Dedicates Building

Calvary Church, East Batesville, dedicated a new rock auditorium on Sunday, November 27, which was the outgrowth of a Sunday School, started in 1939 by Guy Wright, a Baptist minister who was living in the community. The church was organized the same year with six charter members; by February, 1940, the church had grown to forty members, and called Byron King to the pastorate.

Another year developed a serious need for larger housing facilities and in May, 1941, the old building, which had been in use, was razed and the new structure begun. The forty-two members of the church met under the trees during the summer while the foundation was laid for the new building. No sooner had construction begun than the World War broke out and the government froze all building materials, and it was March, 1943, before building could be resumed. It was September, 1943, before the building could be used, but the church had continued to grow in spite of adverse conditions and a full time church program was established in the fall of 1943, even though the group was meeting in an East Batesville school building.

Byron King served as pastor the first eight and one-half years; H. W. Wooten, a student in Arkansas College, has been the pastor since Mr. King moved from the field.

Rescue Church Ordains Deacons

Rescue Church, White County Association, and Pastor Homer D. Myers ordained two deacons Sunday afternoon, December 18. The candidates were Loyal Black and Hollis Rice. The ordaining council was composed of: Harley Harris, clerk; Associational Missionary W. C. Rowe questioned the candidates; Pastor Glen Giles of Kensett delivered the charge and the sermon; the ordination prayer was offered by J. W. Ray who is a deacon in Rescue Church. Other members of the council were C. J. Nance and Herman N. Williams, both deacons at Rescue, and the pastor acted as moderator.

Pastor Chester Ware and the Second Church of Conway had the services of Evangelist Gus Poole in a revival meeting November 27 to December 9. Sam Hider, a Cherokee Indian, conducted the song services.

Nine people united with the church on profession of faith and for baptism, fourteen came by letter, and two by statement. One young man expressed his desire to become an evangelistic singer, and one surrendered to become a missionary.

Pastor Ware says, "These two men make a splendid evangelistic team. Mr. Poole's preaching is sane, sensible, and sound, and brings men face to face with their soul's condition before God. Mr. Hider's singing is dynamic."

Pastor Arlie L. McDaniel and the First Church of Mena had the services of Pastor T. K. Rucker of Malvern in revival services November 27 to December 4. Pastor McDaniel directed the music.

There were seven additions to the church membership by baptism and three by letter. Pastor McDaniel says, "Brother Rucker won the hearts of our people completely. He is a warm-hearted and fervent preacher."

The Abernathys Go To Korea

Dear Friends:

After repeated requests from Korean Baptists to our Foreign Mission Board that they send missionaries to help them, and after a careful survey of the field by Dr. Cauthen, Secretary for the Orient, he and the Foreign Mission Board asked us to consider going to South Korea to work and study the field for a minimum of one year. If at the end of the year it is felt that Southern Baptists should project a long term program in that field we are to make such recommendations to the Board.

During the survey of South Korea, Dr. Cauthen found forty active Baptist churches that were organized into a Convention. Many of these churches had been carrying on over a period of two generations without any missionaries to help or encourage them. The five years following the bombing of Pearl Harbor Baptists in Korea suffered terribly at the hands of the Japanese government.

Most of the preachers and leaders spent many years in prison because they wouldn't compromise their faith in God by going to the Shinto Shrines to worship. Also, because these leaders dared to say that Christ is greater than the Japanese emperor, and was "Lord of Lords and King of Kings," many died in prison; others were so weakened at the time of the Japanese surrender they soon died. Dr. Cauthen met some of the survivors. You will feel, as our Board does, that such Christians as these are worthy of our help and support.

There are over 16,000 Chinese in South Korea, most of whom came from our Shantung Province. There are already some Chinese Baptist Churches there. Also, many Korean Christians who used to live in Tsinan and with whom we were privileged to work are now living in South Korea. We shall feel at home from the time we arrive in Korea and can go right to work. We will not have to learn a new language, many Koreans speak Chinese and English.

We are sailing February 3, 1950, from San Francisco on the "S. S. President Cleveland" of the American President Lines, for Yokohama, Japan. It is planned for us to spend a few days there consulting with Dr. Edwin Dozier, who accompanied Dr. Cauthen to Korea, about plans for the work in Korea. Then we shall proceed by ship or plane on to Seoul where we will live. Seoul is a modern city in many respects with a population of 1,500,000 souls.

Our temporary mailing address in Korea will be "% Reverend Horace Underwood, Chosun Christian University, Seoul, Korea" Mail sent to us at Fort Smith will be received before we leave, or forwarded to us.

It has been a joy to fellowship with all you dear folks during our stay in America, and to speak in your churches about what God has done through you by your representatives in China through the years. We have spent thirty of the best years of our lives as missionaries to China. It is not going to be easy to begin work in a new country and start at the bottom as we set up house-keeping again. May we continue to count on your prayers, as in the past, God will use us in His own way in Korea. Our God is Able!

We love every one of you and thank you for every kindness shown us while in your midst. May the dear Lord continue to richly bless you in all you do for Him is our prayer.

Yours in His glad service,

John and Jewell Abernathy

THE BAPTIST HOUR

CHARLES WELLBORN, Preacher

January 8—Subject:

"This Thing Called Sin"

Stations in Arkansas:

At 2:30 P. M., CST, Sundays: **KELD**, El Dorado; **KFSA**, Fort Smith; **KTHS**, Hot Springs; **KGHI**, Little Rock; **KCLA**, Pine Bluff; **KBRS**, Springdale.

**Strong Baptist Church
Makes Progress**

A recent letter from the pastor of the First Baptist Church, Strong, tells something of the fine accomplishment of this church during the current year. A portion of this letter is given here.

Dr. Edgar Williamson:

"November was our best month ever. Four years ago our Sunday school enrolment was 111 with an average attendance of forty-four. Last month our enrolment was 205, and our average was 138. This average passed our record by three. We had ten additions to our church last month and our budget receipts passed all previous records.

Last month we voted to build an additional building to provide more Sunday school space and give us a Youth Building and recreational center. The Building Committee met Sunday afternoon, December 4, and worked out plans to canvass the membership for funds. We already have cash on hand as a starter and we are challenging our people to give today and build for tomorrow. By the grace of God we will build and grow more."

R. O. Ekrut, pastor.

NOTE: On Sunday, December 4, First Church, Strong, reported 139 in Sunday School; sixty-seven in Training Union, and one addition to the church. John C. Norris is Sunday School Superintendent.

Under the leadership of Pastor R. O. Ekrut, the First Church of Strong has advanced along all lines of the Baptist program. The church has voted to send the offering of each first Sunday to the Cooperative Program, and a regular love offering to the Orphanage and to Associational Missions.

New records have been set in Sunday School and Training Union, and offerings have been increased. The church has voted to participate in the Simultaneous Crusade in April.

The Temple Church of Fort Smith recently had the services of State Evangelist M. E. Wiles in a revival meeting. There were thirty additions to the church membership by baptism, four by letter, and thirty re-dedications. Henry Beckel was in charge of the music, and Mrs. J. T. Narramore was the pianist.

While the revival was in progress, an R. A. Chapter was organized and was named the M. E. Wiles Chapter. Evangelist Wiles also met with the pulpit committee in view of calling a pastor.

Benny Bates, First Church, Southern, Bell Gardens, California, a student in the seminary in California, is also a busy evangelist. In a recent revival campaign with First Church, where he holds membership, there were eighteen professions of faith, thirteen re-dedications, and three additions to the church by letter. The youth of the church were used in every possible way in the revival.

Mr. Bates is an Arkansan; he was ordained in Little Rock, and has conducted several revival meetings in this State.

**Patterson Defends
Baptist Convictions**

Editor, Christian Century
407 So. Dearborn Street
Chicago 5, Illinois

Dear Sir:

I wonder sometimes as I read your magazine, and I always read it, if you are as ignorant of what Southern Baptists believe as you seem to be, or if you just want to misrepresent us before your readers.

In the December 7 issue you make this statement, "The Oklahoma and Arkansas purges were intended to stop a growing tendency among Southern Baptists to accept members of other evangelical churches and Christians . . ." This implies something that is absolutely false and I am taking for granted that you do not know any better because of your lack of knowledge of the Baptist position on Salvation. I have never met a Baptist who questioned a person's salvation because he or she was a member of some other Evangelical church. Certainly you should know that Baptists believe that one is saved by his accepting Jesus Christ by faith as a personal Savior apart from membership in any church.

We do have certain things in connection with church membership, as all other churches have, and we believe these things are based on the teachings of the New Testament. We have no falling out with any church teaching anything that it wishes to teach in connection with church membership, and we desire to have the same right for ourselves.

I might add this since you are leading in the ecumenical movement. We believe that Baptists have a message that no other Evangelical church can deliver for us, and because of this conviction we will continue to plant churches wherever people live regardless of how many churches of other denominations may already be located there. We believe that other churches which have like convictions should do the same thing. If a church does not have conviction that it has a message that no other church can deliver for it, then why not disband and go out of business?

I want you to know that this letter is going to all Southern Baptist papers in the South, and I believe you owe it to us to correct the false implication that you have left with your readers.

Very sincerely yours,

E. N. Patterson

*Baptist Theological Eeminary
New Orleans, La.*

—000—

An Invitation

Are you acquainted with Lincoln, Arkansas? The members and friends of the Swope Park Baptist Church of Kansas City, Missouri, of which I am pastor, are beginning to get acquainted. On three separate occasions during the past three years we have had groups of people from that fair community. The first visit was by chance, since some people were near the church at the hour of worship. The second visit was suggested by one of the first group when about 30 high school seniors from Lincoln were visiting here last spring. The last was a group of 50 that came for the American Royal last fall, and sat in a body in our morning service. We believe that this is unusual.

There are many people in our church membership that have lived in some community in Arkansas at one time or another. You will find them from Little Rock, Fort Smith,

**Sunday School Board
Contributed \$5,000**

Sunday School Board Votes \$5,000 For Christmas Day Baptist Hour: The Baptist Sunday School Board has voted \$5,000 to pay for the radio broadcast of the Gospel message by Dr. Robert G. Lee on the Baptist Hour over 132 stations on Sunday, Christmas Day, Dr. T. L. Holcomb, executive secretary, has announced.

"We appreciate the splendid work the Radio Commission is doing in sponsoring the broadcast of the Word of God over an enlarged network which reaches into millions of homes," Dr. Holcomb said, "and we think of no better investment than to have a part in sending the real message of Christ into American homes on Christmas Day."

Dr. Holcomb pointed out that the business men and ministers on the Sunday School Board felt that the investment of the \$5,000 through the Radio Commission for the Christmas Day broadcast would be in line with the expanded program of Bible teaching which the Board has been promoting.

There may be other individuals, organizations, or churches in the Southern Baptist Convention who would want to write Dr. S. F. Lowe at Atlanta and ask for the opportunity of having a part in preaching to millions, Dr. Holcomb said, "It is our prayer that others will catch the spirit which has prompted this gift by the Sunday School Board."

First Church, Stephens, and Pastor Hugh Cantrell, recently had the service of Pastor Lloyd A. Sparkman of Southside Church, Pine Bluff, in a revival meeting lasting one week. Joe Gilmore of Homer, Louisiana, and a student at Baylor, directed the music and young peoples' work. The meeting resulted in seventeen additions to the church, eight of them for baptism. Attendance to the services were said to be the best in five years. Pastor Sparkman is a former pastor of the Stephens Church.

Pastor Sam Reeves reports that the First Church of El Dorado had the services of an evangelistic team from Baylor University November 27 to December 4. Milton Du Priest and Bob Randall did the preaching, and Bob Feather led the singing.

There were nine additions to the church membership by baptism and two by letter, with a large number of re-dedications. This was the fifth annual youth Revival held in the El Dorado Church.

Milton Simmons, a high school student, acted as pastor for the week.

Camden, Fayetteville, Harrison and other smaller communities. Kansas City has many people from Arkansas. A brother of Mrs. B. V. Ferguson and his family belongs here. We are located in one of the fastest-growing sections of the city, where more than 85% of the people own their homes. Our Sunday School attendance has grown during the past three years from an average of 400 to 700.

Two morning services have been conducted from the start in order to accommodate the crowds. We will have the formal opening of the new \$200,000 auditorium about February 5. Worship with us when visiting in Kansas City. "Come thou with us and we will do thee good." Mrs. Edwards and I grew up in Arkansas and we have found it easy to "be at home" among the people here. Welcome!

—W. Ross Edwards

*** Christian Horizons ***

Virginia Editor Interprets Purpose of Christian Church: The Christian church is not an end in itself, according to Editor Reuben Alley, of the *Religious Herald*, state Baptist paper. In a recent editorial he declared, "Jesus conceived his church for a purpose. A demand for ecclesiastical conformity, which erroneously places emphasis upon the church as an end, will lead men astray into untrue or sterile evangelism—an evangelism which substitutes enrolment in the church for the sparkle and glow of Christian salvation. As the church loses itself in the true Christian mission of evangelism, thoughts about ecclesiastical differences give place to concern about lost men and women. And that seems to be in keeping with the mind and purpose of Jesus.

"Jesus founded the church to provide strength through Christian fellowship and to assure growth through Christian evangelism. One might say that evangelism is that outreach of Christian experience which rests as a necessity upon everyone who has shared life with Jesus. Evangelism—the Christian mission—is irresistible.

"The kingdom of God will not come by proclamation. The mission of Jesus Christ cannot be realized by public announcement. The disciples of Jesus who constitute his body as the church must give themselves to evangelism in order to make the Gospel a power unto salvation. Evangelism is the responsibility of all Christian disciples. As long as the church depends upon ministers and missionaries for the propagation of the Gospel, progress of the kingdom will be slow and quite ineffective.

"An awareness of this weakness has aroused Protestant churches to new action. Denominations have plans to enlist members of the churches in personal evangelism—visitation evangelism, it is called."

Texas Baptists Have 16 Chairs of Bible: The recent opening of two additional Bible chairs brings to 16 the total number now being sponsored by Texas Baptists.

Southwest Texas State College at San Marcos and Texas Western College at El Paso are the sites of the two newly-opened chairs. They are housed in Baptist student centers on properties owned by the state convention which serve as meeting places for devotional, promotional, social, and Bible study activities.

Oklahoma Baptists Get Favorable Tax Ruling: District Judge Glen O. Morris has ruled that the Oklahoma Baptist Convention will not have to pay taxes on its headquarters building in Oklahoma City, even though a book store is operating on the ground floor. Oklahoma County Assessor Cragin Smith said the defeat was only temporary. The Baptists are building a new headquarters, and when they move into it they expect to lease the present building to business firms. When they do that, Smith will put it on the tax rolls.

The assessor argued that he could tax the Convention at present because the book store competes with other stores in Oklahoma City. He also wanted to force the Baptists to pay 1947 taxes on two lots which now

have been sold to a Methodist church.

Judge Morris said he could not agree with the tax assessor that the book store and lots served no religious purpose.

"The book store is an integral part of the Baptist organization for the Church's welfare in Oklahoma," he said, adding that to tax the property would be a violation of the state constitution.

Mobility of Americans Called Major Church Problem: Because 70,000,000 Americans have moved their homes in the past eight years, the first task facing The Methodist Church "is to create Christian concern in hundreds of churches for the new and strange people within our cities and rural communities."

This opinion was expressed before the annual meeting here of the Board of Missions and Church Extension of The Methodist Church by Dr. Earl R. Brown, executive secretary.

"Each of a thousand churches in America should become the 'mother church' in sponsoring a new congregation in a nearby community and standing by until the new church learns to get along by itself," Dr. Brown said, "Only the local church—not the denominational board—can break through barriers and develop the bond of concern necessary for a united fellowship."

Pointing out that the postwar "mobility" of Americans was forcing the nation's churches to change their "home missionary service" program and methods, Dr. Brown said:

"The need goes deeper than the new techniques we have to develop and the new type of home missions. Tensions between people are not resolved in the offices of church boards and agencies. Nor are they lessened by well-meaning resolutions passed in conferences.

"Our first task as we face the future, is to create Christian concern in hundreds of churches for the new and strange people within our cities and rural communities."

Man Who Helped Texas Baptists Raise Millions Soon to Retire: Dr. J. W. Bruner, modest preacher whose work as endowment secretary for the Baptist General Convention of Texas has guided millions into Baptist institutions and work, has announced his retirement for the near future.

Bespectacled, deliberate Dr. Bruner said a lot of the big gifts received by his department—in which he was a one-man staff and whose salary has been \$6,292 a year—came simply from giving men of wealth "information." "A lot of people," he said, "thought I went around asking for money. I never asked people for money. I simply showed them what they could do with their money for the promotion of Christianity."

An idea of the work of Dr. Bruner is indicated in this paragraph from a report given at the meeting of the convention:

"In 1940 all of the institutions had a total of \$6,519,408.98 in endowment; these same institutions are reporting \$18,094,481.21 this year. In 1940 the Baptist schools and hospitals had a total property value of \$13,304,780.31. In 1949 the property value of the schools and hospitals is \$29,153,035.16.

A Smile or Two

A small boy was being reproved by his mother. "Why can't you be good?" she asked. "I'll be good for a nickel," he said. "Ah," responded the mother, "you want to be paid for being good. You should copy your father and be good for nothing."

—Exchange

An old lady from the country and her son were driving to town when a huge automobile bore down on them. The horses were badly frightened and began to prance, whereupon the old lady leaped down and waved wildly to the chauffeur screaming at the top of her voice. The chauffeur stopped the car and offered to help get the horses past.

"That's all right," said the boy who remained composed in the carriage, "I can manage the horses, you just lead mother by."

—Bulletin

A stranger entered the church after the sermon had begun, but he soon began to fidget. Turning to a white-haired man beside him, evidently an old member of the congregation, he asked: "How long has he been preaching?"

"Thirty-five years in this church alone," said the old gentleman.

The stranger composed himself in the pew, "I'll wait then," he said, "he must be nearly through."

—Quoted

"Johnny," said the mother as she vigorously scrubbed the small boy's face with soap and water, "didn't I tell you never to hit your face again? Here I have been scrubbing for half an hour and it won't come off."

"I-I-ouch!" sputtered the boy, "I ain't your little boy. I-ouch! I'se Mose de colored lady's boy."

—Borrowed

Four-year-old Maurice was so quiet his mother became suspicious of his whereabouts. Finally she found him sitting on the floor, perfectly still, doing nothing.

"Maurice, what are you doing?" she asked. "Can't you see? I'm only living!"

—Arkansas Methodist

A bus driver was filling out a report about a highway breakdown. When he came to the line: "Disposition of Passengers," he wrote: "Mad as hornets."

—Exchange

Mother: "What, Bobby! You ate all that cake without thinking of your little sister?"

Bobby: "I was thinking of her all the time. I was afraid she would come before I finished."

—Borrowed

"These pictures don't do me justice."
"Lady, you don't want justice. You want mercy."

—Sanatorium Out

A week before daylight saving time ended, five-year-old Janie voiced this complaint as her mother put her to bed:

"It's daylight when I go to bed, and it's daylight when I get up in the morning. I don't get any night life at all."

—Quoted

Executive Committee Plans Advance Program

By Baptist Press

Executive Committee Asks Sunday School Board To Begin Development of Glorieta

The Sunday School Board was given a green light by the Executive Committee, Dr. Duke K. McCall, executive-secretary, for the development of the western assembly at Glorieta, New Mexico, just as soon as a clear title to the property can be obtained. The approval was made in keeping with an action of the Convention last May in Oklahoma City. The Executive Committee was in session here this week for its mid-winter meeting.

The name of the Public Relations Committee will be changed to the Public Affairs Committee, if a recommendation of the Executive Committee is adopted by the 1950 Southern Baptist Convention. The move came out of a report of the Administrative Committee of the Executive Committee. Dr. J. M. Dawson, Washington, D. C., will continue as director of the Public Affairs Commission.

Dr. Merrill D. Moore, director of promotion, was authorized to visit South American mission fields in the near future.

The title of Albert McClellan, director of publicity for the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention was changed to director of publications, more descriptive of his duties. He is editor of *The Baptist Program*, a monthly magazine for ministers with 22,000 circulation, the *Baptist Bulletin Service*, 500,000 weekly, the *SBC Tract and Mat Service*, and director of the Baptist Press.

Dr. Duke K. McCall, was instructed to contract for an auditorium in San Francisco in which to conduct the 1951 Convention. The authorization came after a full consideration of a survey recently completed to determine popularity among Baptist ministers of a decision made last year to hold the 1951 convention in San Francisco. The Southern Baptist Convention has never met outside the traditional South or its border cities. The survey showed that 66 per cent of the ministers favored the San Francisco meeting place.

Proposed 1951 S.B.C. Budget Provides Money for Two Additional Seminaries

Money will be provided for two new theological seminaries in 1951, if a recommendation of the Executive Committee adopted in Nashville last week is approved by the Southern Baptist Convention at its annual meeting in Chicago next May. The new seminaries are proposed for the far west and the southeast. Each of them will have \$100,000 the first year. The money will come from the first \$4½ million, or operations budget of the Cooperative Program.

The total 1951 operating budget will be distributed to the agencies as follows:

Foreign Mission Board	\$2,250,000
Home Mission Board	660,015
Relief and Annuity Board	500,040
Southern Baptist Seminary	200,025
Southwestern Baptist Seminary	200,025
New Orleans Baptist Seminary	200,025
Golden Gate Seminary	100,035
Proposed Seminary in East	100,035
W.M.U. Training School	40,050
Baptist Brotherhood	40,050
Southern Baptist Hospital	40,050
Radio Commission	76,050
American Baptist Theological	

Seminary Commission	45,000
*Other Commission	48,600
(*Education, \$15,000; Social Service, \$12,500; Historical Society, \$10,000; Public Relations, \$11,000.)	

The next \$2½ million above the \$4½ million operating budget will be known as the capitol needs budget. Money distributed to the agencies from the capital needs budget may be expanded only for permanent investment, such as land and buildings. Home and Foreign Mission Boards may apply portions of their operating budget to capital needs where necessary to safeguard their missionary programs.

All money raised above the seven millions is to be designated to foreign missions.

The Convention operating budget for 1951 is as follows:

Convention Expense including Annual	\$45,000
Special Committees	10,000
Reserve Fund	35,000
Executive Committee	75,000
Southern Baptist Foundation	15,000
Baptist World Alliance	25,000

The Sunday School Board will pay \$60,000 of the Convention operation budget. The rest will be provided from distributable funds before allocations to the agencies are made.

A new plan was approved to determine extent of participation in the capital needs budget of the Convention by the agencies. The agencies will review all designated gifts received since January 1, 1946, to determine how much of the designations should be charged to the long-range program. Following this review agency executives will meet in a conference with Dr. Duke K. McCall, executive secretary of the Executive Committee to work out an equitable distribution of capital funds. This conference is to make its report to the 1950 pre-Conference Executive Committee meeting at Chicago.

All special offerings in connection with the Baptist World Alliance Sunday, February 5, 1950, will go to the relief committee of the Alliance except \$4,000 which will be distributed to all-over Alliance needs.

S.B.C. Executive Committee To Plan Five-Year Program

Southern Baptists will plan a five-year program covering the years of 1951-1955. The Executive Committee of the Convention voted at its mid-winter conference to call a conference of executives of Southern Baptist agencies to be held early in 1950 to plan for the program and to develop themes. It will be followed by a promotional conference of state and Southwide Baptist leaders to be held in June.

In 1951 emphasis will be on enlistment of non-resident members, the world Advance Program, young people in missions, and a simultaneous evangelistic crusade. In 1952 emphasis will be on young people's adventuring in stewardship, the 160th anniversary of modern missions and a convention-wide simultaneous stewardship study and every member financial canvass. In 1953 emphasis will be on establishing of mission churches. Guides for 1954 and 1955 have not been established.

The 1950 Southern Convention promotional plans fitted carefully into the promotional

plans of the states, will center in a Tithers Visitation Enlistment to be led by Dr. Merrill D. Moore, director of promotion. They will emphasize use of visual aids. Most important is a scientifically prepared "turn-over chart" to lead people to see their obligation to give ten per cent of their incomes into the churches. A new series of "share-the-space" tracts and posters presenting both Southern and state convention causes is planned. Also to support the program will be a filmstrip, *Southern Baptist Advance*, special tithing church bulletins and special stewardship Sunday School lessons.

Dr. Hill Will Direct Promotion For Southern Baptist Assemblies

Dr. John L. Hill, retired book editor of the Baptist Sunday School Board, will serve as director of promotion for the Baptist assembly at Ridgecrest, North Carolina, and the new assembly at Glorieta, New Mexico.

The appointment was made recently by the Sunday School Board during its mid-winter meeting. Dr. Hill accepts the position, effective immediately.

The Board also announced the election of W. F. Howard of Dallas, Texas, as secretary of the Board's Department of Student Work, Howard is secretary of student work in the Texas Baptist Convention.

Howard had not announced a decision regarding the work. However, if accepted he will succeed the late Dr. Frank Leavell, who served for 27 years as director of student work. A graduate of Baylor University, Waco, Texas, and the University of Texas at Austin, he has served as director of Baptist student work for the past six years.

Dr. T. L. Holcomb, executive secretary of the Board, announced that William Fleming of Fort Worth, Texas, Baptist layman, has offered \$25,000 toward financing a \$100,000 auditorium to be constructed at the Glorieta assembly. The Board voted to match Fleming's gift with an additional \$25,000 as a part of the \$100,000 which the Board has voted for the development of the summer assembly site.

Harold Ingraham, business manager of the Board, reported that 34 new book titles had been published during the past 12 months with a total of 523,586 volumes. Including reprints, there have been 2,372,440 books published during the year.

Foreign Missions To Benefit From Increase In 1951 Budget

Most important of the changes in the proposed 1951 Southwide Cooperative Program budget, if adopted by the Convention, will be an additional \$250,000 for foreign missions and \$200,000 for two new seminaries.

Dr. M. Theron Rankin, in commenting on the significance of the increase said, "I am going back and tell the department of personnel of the Foreign Mission Board to plan to step up appointment of new missionaries to 100 (from 75 as planned) in 1950 on the basis of the 1951 budget action taken."

—OOO—

We live in a world in which multitudes of people regard the gospel neither as good news nor bad news. To them it is no news. They do not reject it. They merely ignore it.

—Georgia Harkness

Achieving Unity And Efficiency In Church Council

By DR. G. S. DOBBINS

*Basil Manly Professor of Church Administration
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
Louisville, Kentucky*

Our God is a God of infinite variety. Trees have their likenesses, but botanists tell us that no two leaves are exactly alike. Human beings have many similarities, but the chances of two persons being duplicates are astronomically remote. Identical twins may look alike but they do not think alike.

Many Men of Many Minds

Perhaps in no other field do we find greater variety and contrast than in religion. Is not this to be expected, since religion is intensely personal? We think of the early Christians as bound together by strong bonds of unity, but we do not read far in Acts until we discover sharp differences. Certain Jewish Christians believed strongly that Gentiles could come into Christianity only by way of Judaism. Others maintained just as stoutly the opposite. Instead of throwing each other out of the family, what did they do? Luke tells us how they came together at Jerusalem in a council, where both sides had full opportunity to present the case.

The result of the discussions was a clean-cut victory for evangelical Christianity, with certain concessions that satisfied the Judaizers and thus preserved the peace of the churches. The council for counsel is the New Testament way. Should it not be the Baptist way?

The Democratic Process

A New Testament church is well described as a spiritual democracy. What breaks down democracy? Several things: (1) Ignorance and indifference on the part of the constituency; (2) Lack of faith in the people's ability to govern themselves; (3) Unwillingness to admit the right of others to difference of opinion; (4) Dictatorial methods that rob the people of their right of representation in discussions and decisions.

The democratic process demands the sharing of differences as well as likenesses. The process is essentially that of free discussion under guidance. In a pure democracy everybody takes part in the discussion. Since this becomes impractical when large numbers are involved, representatives are chosen to care for particular interests. Obviously these representatives must come together for free discussion if there is to be teamwork in the body which they represent. Lacking such meeting of representatives, the various interests tend to become divided, sometimes even antagonistic. In no other institution is the democratic process more necessary than in a New Testament church if it is to maintain its character as a spiritual democracy.

The Church Council the Baptist Way

Deacon, by their very name, are servants of the church, not its bosses. Yet deacons, seeking earnestly to serve, may have thrust on them so much responsibility for decisions until they become in effect the church's managers. They may do well, but they would be supermen to know all the needs and problems of all the church organizations and always reach wise decisions concerning their difficulties and opportunities.

Sunday School officers and teachers are likewise servants of the church as it functions in the realm of Bible study, but a successful Sunday School functions in so many areas that it is almost identical with the church. A Sunday School, or some part of it, may actually become independent of and superior to the church to which it belongs.

The Training Union is the training department of the church, and its officers and leaders are servants of the church. Yet a fully graded Training Union functioning effectively includes many of the major matters that constitute a church at work.

Woman's Missionary Union is the women's division of the church, organized primarily to promote missions. A study of the Yearbook will quickly disclose, however, the complexity of the organization and its ramifications into many areas of the church's life and work.

The Brotherhood proposes to bring together the men of the church to secure their fuller enlistment in all of its interests and activities meant for men, with a program that is distinctive in its masculine appeal. The choir or choirs may be carefully organized with meetings and responsibilities that must be taken into account if the church's music is to be of the best. The midweek prayer meeting remains one of the most important services of any church, and this precious hour should be protected against competition. The Sunday worship services are supremely important, and no other interests or activities should be permitted to detract from their primary or rob them of their centrality.

When we look at this complex picture, we are bound to ask, How can we bring unity out of this diversity? The practical answer is: **Through the church council.** Sometimes referred to as "the church cabinet," but now more generally as "the church council," council being thought a better Baptist word, this group of representatives of the several organizations and interests of the church, and of the church at large, meeting in regular conference may see together their needs, their objectives, their plans and programs, their problems and difficulties. In true Baptist spirit they may thus give and take, arrange and rearrange, consider and reconsider, compare and contrast, until conclusions are reached for the best interests of the several organizations and of the church as a whole. Is not this truly the New Testament and therefore the Baptist principle of democratic cooperation?

The Church Council in Action

First, the church council is authorized and constituted by church action. Ordinarily it will consist of pastor, educational director, church secretary or other staff member, ex-officio; church clerk, treasurer, choister; one or more representatives from deacons, Sunday School, Training Union, Woman's Missionary Union, Brotherhood; and two or three members at large. Usually the pastor will preside, with church secretary or clerk as secretary of the council.

The council agenda carefully prepared in advance might be somewhat as follows: (1) Scripture reading and prayer. (2) Reports of progress since last meeting. (3) Calendar of activities and meetings for the month or quarter ahead. (4) Problems which need joint consideration. (5) Needs which should be supplied co-operatively. (6) Objectives which call for teamwork. (7) Possibilities of friction which should be prevented. (8) Spiritual emphasis in which all may

join. (9) Denominational calendar which should be taken into account. (10) Season of prayer for special objects. **If at headquarters of the several organizations, through the Inter-Agency Council, the same sort of democratic process has resulted in correlation and coordination at the top, the work of the local council will be greatly facilitated and its successful operation assured.**

Keeping the Council Democratic

The danger of such a council is that it may become a kind of Baptist "presbytery." This danger will be obviated if the church at the beginning clearly defines the council's limitations. It is always to be a "council for counsel," never a legislative body. Its findings and conclusions are always to be brought back to the church for confirmation, amendment, or rejection. Its inter-organization agreements are always to be referred to the group or groups involved, never imposed arbitrarily.

The spirit of the council is of paramount importance. In the Jerusalem conference, factions at first violently opposed were reconciled through frank discussion, honest consideration of the facts, respect for one another, dependence on the Holy Spirit for guidance, mutual devotion to Christ and his cause. Such a spirit, with the church council as agency, would prevent most church difficulties and bring them quickly to solution should they arise.

A happier day will dawn for all our churches when the church council becomes a permanently established feature of their life.

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Archer Calls Klan Charge "Ill-Advised"

Dr. Glen L. Archer, executive secretary of Protestant and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State, called a recent charge likening his group to the Ku Klux Klan "unsubstantiated" and "ill-advised."

The charge was made by Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston in an address to the Archdiocesan Union of Holy Name Societies. At that time, the archbishop said that "activities of organizations like Protestants-United" are a "refined form of the Ku Klux Klan."

In a statement here, Dr. Archer said "it is getting to be a chronic habit of the leaders of the Roman Catholic Church to cry 'bigoted and persecution' each time the clarifying spotlight of publicity is thrown upon their political machinations."

Protestants-United, he added, "has consistently exposed these machinations." Dr. Archer mentioned specifically "attempts to grab public school funds for parochial schools and to substitute Roman Catholic ecclesiastical law for American law in American courts presided over by Roman Catholic judges."

"It is with such dangerous threats to America's free institutions, and not with anyone's beliefs, that POAU contends," he said. "If this be 'evil' POAU accepts the label."

—Baptist Press

California Convention Willing to Acquiesce

Dr. B. O. Herring, chairman of the invitation committee for the Southern Baptist Convention to meet in San Francisco in 1951, has announced the following action of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California in its annual session in Long Beach:

"At the 1949 session of the Southern Baptist Convention in Oklahoma City we extended to you our invitation to meet in San Francisco in 1951. We were genuinely and fraternally sincere in so doing. It was just such an act as has occurred annually for years far beyond our memory. We are not aware of any political wire pulling or of any western bloc for pressure purposes.

"We are aware that the vote in favor of San Francisco over another worthy city was measured by a small majority. This, too, we accepted in good faith as just another incident in the operation of Baptist democracy. Relative thereto many reports have been published in sections of our press with which all are more or less acquainted, but the grounds for same are to us positively unknown and unbelievable. If the vote had been just the opposite we would have accepted it in the same co-operative spirit.

"We would like to say to the brethren of the Convention that if it be the sincere and unbiased will of a majority of our people not to come to San Francisco for the 1951 session then we would gladly yield the rights and privileges which the Oklahoma City vote granted to us. Perhaps the instrumentality of a simple poll without undue persuasion of press or speech would yield some guiding data If the index thereof should indicate a majority desire to meet elsewhere in 1951, then you may count our former invitation for that meeting to be automatically cancelled, though we are exceedingly anxious for the Convention to come to us.

"We would then claim the privilege of planning another invitation, just as sincere and warmhearted as the first, to be presented to some future session of the Convention as wisdom in such matters might seem to warrant."

Ballots for this poll have been mailed from Berkeley, Calif., to all Southern Baptist ministers whose last name begins with A, N, or O. Mr. Porter Routh, Southern Baptist Convention secretary and denominational statistician, advised the procedure used in the poll in order to secure an accurate survey. These particular letters of the alphabet were chosen because they represent a cross section of the Southern Baptist Convention. The returns on the poll will be compiled in the office of the Department of Survey, Statistics, and Information in Nashville, Tenn. The results will be released as soon as a sufficient number of ballots have been returned to assure accuracy in the report. The report will have been compiled prior to the publication of this announcement.

The small margin by which the Southern Baptist Convention voted to hold its 1951 session in San Francisco has been the occasion for the contention of some that the decision should be reversed at the Chicago session in 1950. Dr. Herring emphasized that it was the desire of California Southern Baptists that the Convention be held in San Francisco, but California Baptists felt that the will of the majority of Southern Baptists should rule.

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Let us be of good cheer, remember that the misfortunes hardest to bear are those that never come.

Poll Indicates Majority Prefer California In '51

A random sample poll of Southern Baptist ministers completed this past week indicates that 66 per cent still want to go to San Francisco, for the 1951 meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, Dr. B. O. Herring, chairman of the California Invitation Committee, has announced.

The tabulation showed that only 30 per cent did not favor the California site while four per cent were undecided.

At the meeting of the California Convention, it was voted to make the poll to test present views of Southern Baptists since there had been some question about the vote at Oklahoma City. In the letter which Dr. Herring sent to nearly 1100 ministers he stated, "We would like to say to the brethren of the Convention that if it be the sincere and unbiased will of a majority of our people not to come to San Francisco for the 1951 session then we would gladly yield the rights and privileges which the Oklahoma City vote granted to us. Perhaps the instrumentality of a simple poll without undue persuasion of press or speech would yield some guiding data."

Returns were received from 390 pastors, representing all types of churches from all states, by the Department of Survey, Statistics, and Information at Nashville, Tennessee, and the tabulation sent by Secretary Porter Routh to Dr. Herring.

Of those who indicated that they attended the Oklahoma City Convention, sixty-seven per cent favored the California site. Of those who indicated that they planned to attend the Chicago meeting, seventy-three per cent favored the meeting in California. Sixty-four per cent of the city ministers expressed a preference for the West, and eighty per cent of the open country ministers voted for California. No state voted a majority for not going to California. Texas voted four to one for going West.

"We ought to live up to our agreement" was the comment on several cards.

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Millionaire Convert Testifies

Asa G. Candler Jr., of Atlanta, heir to the Coca-Cola fortune, flew to Philadelphia in his private plane to give his Christian testimony at the Methodist Advance.

"You can't get people to church—especially the worse kind of sinners, of which I've been one—unless you go out and get them," the millionaire convert told 1,000 visiting pastors who were conducting a crusade for new members in 330 Philadelphia area churches.

Candler told how "after many years of dissipation and drunkenness, I have found service to be more satisfying than selfishness."

In recent years he said he had placed himself at the call of the Church to do anything and go anywhere, "realizing that the Lord's business comes ahead of my own, and that all my money really belongs to the Lord."

"I was brought up right in a Methodist family but I didn't stay that way," he said. "Neither my wife nor my uncle (the late Senior Bishop Warren Candler of the M. E. Church South) ever nagged me for my drinking. It would not have done any good. Nagging never does any good, for when a man drinks he is selfish."

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William Colgate, soap manufacturer, was urged by an old sea captain to make good soap, give an honest pound, and set aside a tenth of every dollar earned for God.

New Year Message

By C. OSCAR JOHNSON, President
Baptist World Alliance

Greetings to the Baptists of the World:

It is 1950. A year memorable in the life of our entire world. Most important to the Baptists of the world because in the middle of the year, July 22 to 27, thousands of our brethren will assemble from many parts of the world in Cleveland, Ohio, for their World Congress.

We send our greetings to you for this New Year. We are praying that it may be a better year than many have hoped. The hour is late. The need of the world is tremendous. The co-operation of our brethren is a delight and a joy. We have many kinds and types of people making up our fellowship. This variety turns out to be a great blessing to all of us. We are made of one blood. Christ alone is our head.

Our great Fellowship, in its free, democratic practice, is persisting with its message in many places under great difficulty. Persecution and suppression, not to say oppression, is the rule, and under these difficulties our brethren are measuring up with the courage and faith of the early Christians.

Those who are more fortunate in the lands where such destruction has not come have shown a remarkable spirit of concern in relieving the physical needs and in assisting displaced persons to new locations. This New Year should witness their removal from the terrible conditions in which they have been living to much more comfortable surroundings. We should see this program virtually completed during this year.

We are still mindful that there are millions who are not classified as Displaced Persons, but have even greater needs. They must have our love and concern and help in the spirit of our Lord who is no respecter of persons. This fellowship, which we have in the Baptist World Alliance, is something which we cherish and which we should hold at all cost. Whatever of debate and argument and difficulties there may be in the separate constituent bodies, we must hold together at the top in the Baptist World Alliance a fellowship which is more valuable than gold.

To do this we must have an understanding heart and a willing mind. We must give much time to prayer. If we remain constantly in prayer we will find that many of our difficulties which seemed insurmountable will disappear. It is still true that we can pray mountains out of existence.

Let us, therefore, in this New Year, with a firmer purpose than ever, devote ourselves to prayer and service and fellowship in the spirit of the Lord Jesus. If we but know His mind, and will let that mind control us, I am sure that we will find at the end of this year a closer co-operation, not only among ourselves, but among all believers who truly believe in the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Whatever the difficulties are, brethren, let us face them in the same gracious, sweet spirit in which those early followers of our Lord faced their difficulties in their time.

—00—

H. Z. Duke, Texas multi-millionaire merchant, began as a tither and increased his percentage of giving until before his death he gave practically all his income to the Lord's work.

Woman's Missionary Union

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

MRS. F. E. GOODBAR
President

MISS NANCY COOPER
Executive Secretary and Treasurer

MISS DORIS DeVULT
Young People's Secretary

Resolve To Witness

Is one of your major objectives for 1950 a superior service for the superb Savior? He would have us lift life, love the lonely, lighten loads, look—lead to Him.

In materials recently mailed to the president of each missionary society were splendid plans for community missions activities for the year. Study them. Use them as your guide in planning a year of superior service. Also study carefully plans found on pages 15-17 in the Guide Book.

Because of the difficulty in condensing the program material for the Day of Prayer for Community Missions for publication in the January 5 issue of the *Arkansas Baptist*, it will be sent in detail to each W.M.U. president the first of the year. In the meantime, plan for, publicize, and prayerfully prepare for the observance. January 30, the fifth Monday, is the suggested date. We need the awakening, the surge of sympathy, the motivated concern that will come from such a day.

Re-check the following and revitalize your efforts:

January

1. Emphasis on visitation evangelism.
2. Observe Community Missions Day of Prayer January 30.
3. Plan for study of chapters five and six in *The Southern Baptist Program of Evangelism* by Dr. Matthews.

February

1. Study above chapters.
2. Plan for community missions survey in March.
3. Take religious census. Find people not attending any Sunday School. Visit homes and invite to church.

Leadership Conference January 10-11

Next week associational W.M.U. leaders along with District and state officers will convene at Central College for a two-day consideration of organization promotional plans within the unit of the association. Conference leaders will include Miss. Doris DeVault, young people's secretary; Mrs. Ralph Douglas, community missions chairman; Mrs. Ford Maggard, stewardship chairman; Mrs. R. H. Jones, mission study chairman; Mrs. H. M. Keck, program writer; Mrs. F. E. Goodbar, presi-

dent of Woman's Missionary Union of Arkansas; Miss Nancy Cooper, executive secretary and treasurer; and others.

Miss Amanda Tinkle, on furlough from Nigeria, will speak to the group at the evening session concerning her experiences.

Every associational superintendent, associate superintendent, associational young people's counselor, associational chairman of community missions, mission study, and stewardship are urged to attend. The cost will be \$3.50 per person, plus transportation. The conference will open at 10 a. m. January 10, and will close at noon January 11. Are you numbered among those who should and will attend?

New Series of Home Mission Books Available

Already on the shelves ready for distribution by the Baptist Book Store, 303 West Capitol Ave., Little Rock, are the 1950 Home Mission Graded Series of mission study books. The theme of the series is "The Church in its Community (Rural)." Two books are offered for adult and Y. W. A. study: *The Prophet of Little Cane Creek* by Harold Dye, whose *Shining Like the Stars* was a phenomenal favorite two years ago, and *Buried—Living* by John D. Freeman, a former Arkansan at present working with the Home Mission Board in developing rural church programs. *Heirs of the Soil* by Joshua and Dorothy Grijalva is a discussion of Mexican migrants in search of employment on farms and is recommended for study by Intermediates. The Grijalvas are missionaries to the Mexican people of San Antonio. The Juniors are to study *The Greshams of Greenway* by Marel Brown, and the Sunbeams have another picture story book entitled *The Farmer Twins* by Anne Crittendon Martin. The *Rural Resource Book* covering the entire series was prepared for teachers by Janice Singleton. All books except the ones for Intermediates and Juniors are 50 cents each. They are only 40 cents. Order your requirements early.

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The most effective answer to doubt is service.

—Charles Wellborn

Baptist Brotherhood of Arkansas



NELSON F. TULL, State Secretary

219 Baptist Building
Little Rock, Arkansas

Make Your Brotherhood Felt

Brotherhoods exist for the purpose of building greater churches and a greater denomination. A church Brotherhood should make itself felt through the whole life and work of the church.

A church Brotherhood is a service organization which endeavors to put concentrated Christian man-power into every phase of the work of the church.

To make itself felt in the church, a Brotherhood must do effective work. To do effective work, certain things are necessary. They are:

1. The Brotherhood must be organized for work. Certain offices and work committees must be set up, and staffed with men who are in some measure qualified to fulfill the tasks for which these offices and committees exist.

2. The Brotherhood must set up a program of work. Each officer must be charged with particular duties, and each committee must be charged with particular items of work. The work program of the Brotherhood should be decided upon by the Brotherhood executive committee; then accepted by the Brotherhood; and the various items charged over to the Brotherhood committees. The various activities which make up the activities program should each meet a felt need.

3. The Brotherhood must carry through its program of work. Every committee should report on each single activity at every Brotherhood meeting. This engenders enthusiasm. "Nothing succeeds like success." New activities should be added to the Brotherhood work program as the old ones are worked off or carried out. Some of the activities, of course, will be perennial or of long duration.

Some Brotherhoods never complete their organization, and thus never get into a position where it is possible to render effective service. Some other Brotherhoods do complete their organization, but never set up a program of activities; and thus never get any work done because they have no particular work to do. A few Brotherhoods even go as far as to complete their organization and set up a program of work, but never charge the items of the work program over to the com-

mittees; and thus they get no work done.

It takes as much consecrated thinking and planning to lead a Brotherhood into effective and continuing service as it takes to lead a Sunday School or Training Union into effective service. A Brotherhood can no more coast into effectiveness of work than can any other organization. Prayerful and intelligent planning are just as necessary to insure a success of a Brotherhood as are needed to make a success of any other organization.

Make your Brotherhood felt by organizing it for work, charging it with work, leading it into work!

Let us make 1950 the greatest year of our lives! Every Baptist man ought to resolve that with the help of God he is going to make 1950 count for his Savior, not only by being a better man and a better Christian, but by doing for the Lord the most effective year's work that he has ever done.

Let's make it so!

—000—

Missionary Geo. H. Lacy

By M. THERON RANKIN

Dr. George H. Lacy, director of the Lacy Bible school in Morelia, Mexico, died November 27 in Morelia. His body was laid to rest in Saltillo, Mexico.

Appointed in 1903, Dr. Lacy was the last of the veteran missionaries whose service dates back beyond the revolution that brought mission work in Mexico to a standstill early in this century. When he reached missionary retirement age in 1936, he "retired" to Mexico and became director of the preachers' training school which bears his name. It is controlled by the Mexican Baptist Convention.

A Mexican national said of Dr. Lacy: "He ate our food, and identified himself with us so completely that he often said 'We Mexicans.'"

—000—

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Department of MISSIONS

C. W. Caldwell, Superintendent

State-Wide Evangelistic Conference

The State-Wide Evangelistic Conference to be held in the Second Baptist Church, January 16-18, is the next important event for Arkansas Baptists. The program has been mailed to pastors, missionaries, and evangelists. Room and breakfast will be provided free in the homes of Little Rock and North Little Rock Baptists. Reservations may be made by writing to the Department of Missions, either in a home or hotel. Write at once.

Churches should provide all traveling expenses for their pastors. This Conference is of such great importance that no pastor should fail to attend. The church that arranges for its pastor to attend will certainly receive a blessing. He will get information and inspiration that will enable him to lead the church in a greater way.

The entire program is built around the idea of the 1950 Evangelistic Crusade. Every agency of the Southern Baptist Convention is putting its power and influence in this Crusade. The same is true with every department in the Baptist Convention of Arkansas. J. N. Barnette of the Sunday School Board and Dr. Edgar Williamson of Arkansas will tell what the Sunday School plans to do in the Crusade. Also, Nelson Tull of the Brotherhood Department, Ralph Davis of the Train-

ing Union, Miss Nancy Cooper of the W. M. U., and Fred Vogel, the Baptist Student Union Secretary, will all speak about the part their departments will have in this great evangelistic movement. Denominational leaders believe that 500,000 baptisms will be reported for 1950.

Laymen and women should attend the Conference. Large groups of men from churches for several miles around should drive in for the night services. Perhaps women who cannot attend night services could attend in large numbers during the day. Pastors, of course, should plan to attend from the beginning to the end.

The choir of Arkansas Baptist College will sing Monday night. That will be a treat, indeed. No pastor should miss this Monday night program.

In addition to the great great messages of Dr. Perry Webb, there will be other out-of-state speakers. C. Y. Dossey, Associate Secretary of Evangelism of the south, will speak Tuesday afternoon. And still another special feature will be the message by the world traveler and lecturer, Charles Wells, who speaks Wednesday morning.

All in all, it is a great program. The group conference will be the very heart of the whole program. All the associational committees should attend their respective conferences.

Baptist Training Union Gains For 1949

The Training Union enrolment of the churches of Arkansas increased in 1949 from 51,423 to 61,118, or an increase of 9,695, which was a 19 per cent gain over the year before. Only 7 associations reported a loss in Training Union enrolment.

Association	1948	1949	Gain
Arkansas Valley	861	1,152	291
Bartholomew	2,102	2,362	260
Benton	1,342	1,616	274
Big Creek	293	143	L-150
Black River	527	651	124
Boone-Carroll	1,083	1,049	L-34
Buckner	504	702	198
Buckville	88	85	L-3
Caddo River	766	508	L-258
Carey	667	943	276
Caroline	998	1,310	312
Centennial	745	1,033	288
Central	2,622	3,020	398
Clear Creek	1,164	564	L-600
Concord	2,811	3,273	462
Conway-Perry	180	485	305
Current River	438	709	271
Dard-Russellville	406	632	226
Delta	1,675	1,761	86
Faulkner Co.,	738	897	159
Gainesville	381	618	237
Greene County	1,733	2,199	466
Harmony	2,535	3,181	646
Hope	1,695	1,968	273
Independence	693	657	36

Liberty	3,549	4,685	1,136
Little Red River	485	529	44
Little River	928	1,194	266
Mississippi County	3,112	3,701	589
Mount Zion	1,776	2,186	410
Newton County	156	154	L-2
Ouachita	345	774	429
Pulaski County	5,985	7,091	1,106
Red River	1,516	1,526	10
Rocky Bayou	279	296	17
Stone-Van Buren	352	457	105
Tri-County	1,679	2,004	325
Trinity	1,110	1,404	294
Washington-Madison	1,198	1,440	242
White County	1,268	1,210	L-58
White River	258	292	34
Woodruff	380	657	277
Totals	51,423	61,118	9,695

Wish Bone People

They hope for, they long for, they wish for and sigh; They want things to come, but aren't willing to try.

The Order Has Been Reversed

ERNEST O. SELLERS

Pastor James H. Harris of Beech Street Baptist Church, Texarkana, comes up with a note in his church bulletin with the above caption. He sounds a much needed caution. First as to the way Bibles are so often abused, neglected, and low-rated. In almost any church we find old, torn, neglected Bibles, many of them with names inscribed as being gifts from loved ones or friends. The inference is too plain to need comment. In these same churches there is usually a shortage of hymnals, a reverse of proper location, the Bibles in the church and the hymnals in the home.

We have often speculated upon the evident lack of proper ethical thinking when we find church hymnals in private homes and no seeming appreciation of the fact that this would justify the charge of the possession of stolen property. Those hymnals do not belong to any private person even though a member of the particular church. They were bought by the church and their proper place is in the church where they might be available for the purpose for which they were purchased.

One of America's religious bodies requires of its individual members to purchase its official hymnal, which costs two dollars per copy. The principle of individual ownership is to be commended. Each member should have his individually owned Bible and along with that each home should have and use home owned hymnals.

We need to revive the sense of property values, Ministers should be willing to call attention to this abuse without fear of offense. Let us be honest, no joking.

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Great minds have purposes, others have wishes. Little minds are tamed and subdued by misfortune; but great minds rise above them.

—Washington Irving

Figures To Inspire

December 18, 1949

	Sunday School	Training Union	Additions
Fort Smith, First	1,160	465	3
Little Rock, Immanuel	1,126	414	2
Including Missions	1,357	659	6
El Dorado, First	839	233	2
Little Rock, Second	744	148	4
N. Little Rock, Baring Cross	742	276	2
Including Missions	853	358	
Hot Springs, Second	658	207	3
Pine Bluff, First	674	216	
Camden, First	572	231	4
Including Missions	781	369	
Paragould, First	568		1
El Dorado, Second	560	196	
Pine Bluff, South Side	553	265	3
Including Missions	617	303	
Little Rock, Tabernacle	537	167	2
*El Dorado, Immanuel	517	311	2
Including Missions	554	345	
Texarkana, Beech Street	506	206	5
Crossett, First	502	225	3
Hope, First	483	123	
Ft. Smith, Immanuel	472	197	14
Warren, First	461	177	
Magnolia, Central	456	177	1
Including Missions	585	174	
West Helena,	450	140	3
Forrest City, First	447	238	
Pine Bluff, Immanuel	439	210	
Hot Springs, Park Place	437	153	
Fordyce, First	436	225	
Hot Springs, Central	435	168	1
Paris, First	413	156	
Including Missions	453		
Russellville, First	403	179	1
Including Missions	470	211	
Ft. Smith, Grand Avenue	397	176	
Lake City, First	388	220	5
Rogers, First	377	105	
Springdale, First	371	301	3
Including Missions	566		
Smackover, First	349	121	2
Ft. Smith, Calvary	348	91	6
Conway, First	348	83	1
Hot Springs, First	340	97	
Little Rock, South Highland	341	118	1
Siloam Springs, First	326	203	1
Norphlet, First	303	273	
Monticello, First	295	101	
N. Little Rock, First	292	101	
Including Mission	328		
Pine Bluff, Second	276	101	
Jacksonville, First	247	127	
Little Rock, Calvary	269	72	
Harrison, First	267	98	
Mena, First	265	107	
*Ft. Smith, Bailey Hill	262	91	
El Dorado, West Side	242	108	
Gurdon, Beech Street	209	84	1
Hot Springs, Piney	189	153	
*Little Rock, Hebron	177	104	
Little Rock, Bethany	161	91	1
Strong, First	132	64	
Hot Springs, Grand Avenue	125	58	
Hot Springs, Lake Hamilton	123	77	
Pine Bluff, Matthews Memorial	120	72	
Sweet Home, Pine Grove	106	115	1
Little Rock, Tyler Street	103	45	
Melbourne	100		
Kelso	88	94	3
Little Rock, Bethel	87	2	
Monte Ne, First	79	63	
Little Rock, West Side	78	60	
Douglassville, Second	72	51	
Hot Springs, Immanuel	53	40	3
Viny Ridge	15	14	

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Foreign Mission Advance

By M. THERON RANKIN

Dr. Gill Will Visit Latin American Field

Dr. Everett Gill, Jr., secretary for Latin America, will spend January and February in Latin America by authorization of the Foreign Mission Board in session December 8.

Dr. Gill will confer with executive committees of five Latin American Mission groups, inspect new stations opened since 1947, study personnel needs and proposed building plans, restudy theological education in Spanish-speaking areas, confer with new missionaries studying in language schools in Columbia and Brazil, and collect material for mission study books to be published in 1951.

Cauthen to Return to States

Dr. Baker J. Cauthen and his family expect to leave Hong Kong the latter part of December to return to the States for a minimum of six months or perhaps a year. They will come by way of India and Dr. Cauthen will bring recommendations on the establishment of missions in India after a visit there en route to this country. He expects to arrive about February 20.

In a report mailed from Hong Kong, Secretary Cauthen told of the Communist advance over the last China mission stations with the taking of Kweilin and Wuchow. Missionaries in those cities were reported safe and mission work behind Communist lines is still progressing. It is possible now for missionaries to secure travel permits within Communist territory and mail is going to Shanghai by ships with no indications of censorship.

McGlamery Here from Colombia

Dr. Roy C. McGlamery, who recently secured a license to practice in Colombia, spoke to the Board on medical needs in that republic. He proposes a fifty-bed hospital, twenty beds for charity patients and thirty for paying patients. Catholics have charity hospitals in Colombia, he said, but Baptists cannot enter them unless they take Catholic vows. Practicing nurses in Colombia often have very little medical training, Dr. McGlamery said, and hospitals are needed to give nurses' training as much as to care for the sick.

Appropriations

Funds appropriated by the Board included \$12,400 for property in Manresa, Spain; \$35,000 for building missionary apartments and an orphanage dormitory in Rome, Italy; \$12,000 to aid Baptist groups in foreign countries to send representatives to the Baptist World

Alliance meeting in Cleveland next July; and \$20,000 for construction of a church in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Smaller amounts were appropriated to operate an airplane in North Brazil, establish a Baptist center in Encarnacion, Paraguay, purchase a missionary residence in the Hawaiian Islands, and supply salaries for two Japanese-Americans to be employed by the Japan Baptist Convention.

What is A Missionary Call?

It is possible that some of our people are sincerely mistaken as to what constitutes a missionary call?

"Surely this must be true, since 110 ministers choose to remain in the Southland for every minister who actually goes outside the continental United States," says Mr. Samuel E. Maddox, personnel secretary for the Foreign Mission Board.

Mr. Maddox asked several foreign missionaries to define their missionary call. Here are a few of the responses:

When God called me to preach, one missionary stated, I did not say, "Yes, Lord, if you will assure me that my entire ministry will be in the south of the United States of America." His was an unconditional surrender.

I wanted to go where the need was greatest, another said, and I realize many ministers were willing to serve in the States, while only a few were willing to go overseas.

Christ's command is "Go ye-," said another; I could never get away from the personal application of that.

I wanted the privilege of preaching to people who were not "gospel-hardened," was the surprising reply of another.

Mr. Maddox lists four factors which should be present in every missionary call:

- 1) A consciousness that humanity is lost without Christ.
- 2) The feeling that one has adequate preparation — spiritually, mentally and physically.
- 3) An unconditional surrender to be used wherever God needs one most in his program of redemption.

4) A definite conviction that God wants one to serve overseas.

We have 25,545 Baptist ministers in the South; only 231 Southern Baptist foreign missionaries are ministers. Is this a fair proportion when the need is so much greater among people who have never heard the gospel?

IT TAKES COURAGE

To stand up for an absent person who is being abused.

To live honestly within your means and not dishonestly on the means of others.

To be a real man, a true woman, but holding fast to your ideals when it causes you to be looked upon as strange and peculiar.

To be talked about and yet remain silent when a word would justify you in the eyes of others, but which you cannot speak without injury to another.

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Church Music Director



TO PASTORS, ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONARIES, ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL, TRAINING UNION, STUDENT UNION AND CHURCH MUSIC WORKERS:

This has been a year of progress all along the line for Arkansas Baptists. We have demonstrated this year, to a large extent, what may be accomplished by Baptist peoples working together. The workers in the churches have demonstrated a high degree of efficiency; churches within the State Convention territory have worked, and workers and churches have co-operated beautifully. The result has been advancement for every phase of the work.

We, the workers in the Religious Education Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, wish to express our appreciation of the opportunity to work with your workers in the churches, associations and colleges. We shall be praying for even greater advancement during the coming year. We hold ourselves ready for service and will respond whenever possible. We take this opportunity to thank you for your whole-hearted help during the year, and wish for everyone a Happy, Prosperous, and Fruitful New Year.

Sincerely yours,

EDGAR WILLIAMSON
Department Director and
Sunday School Superintendent
MRS. B. W. NININGER
Church Music Director
MRS. GRACE HAMILTON
Office Manager

RALPH W. DAVIS
Training Union Director

FRED J. VOGEL
Student Union Secretary

MRS. FREDILENE SNELLINGS
Office Secretary

MRS. HELEN EMMONS
Office Secretary

M-Night

December 5-9, 1949

Association	Attendance 1948	Attendance 1949	Churches Represented	Pastors Present
Arkansas Valley	90	48	9	8
Bartholomew	176	143	12	7
Benton County	87	264	16	12
Big Creek	33	39	8	3
Black River	35	91	13	8
Boone Carroll	132	167	10	9
Buckner	51	70	6	4
Buckville	—	—	—	—
Caddo River	52	30	3	3
Carey	83	95	6	5
Caroline	120	92	11	9
Centennial	83	—	—	—
Central	280	288	14	10
Clear Creek	108	62	5	5
Concord	244	663	17	13
Conway-Perry	65	125	9	5
Current River	50	57	7	6
Dardanelle-Russellville	36	43	6	6
Delta	173	125	9	9
Faulkner	7	14	2	1
Gainesville	28	25	2	1
Greene County	150	—	—	—
Harmony	160	133	11	8
Hope	177	233	18	11

Intermediate Sword Drill

Every Intermediate Union should promote the Sword Drill throughout the year. The Sword Drill material may be found in the quarterlies. The Sword Drill tract is now available and may be secured free of charge by writing Rev. Ralph W. Davis, 212 Baptist Building, Little Rock, Arkansas. Every Intermediate Union is urged to promote the Sword Drill and select a participant to attend the Associational Sword Drill, which should be held not later than the first part of March.

Associational winners will represent the Association in the State Sword Drill to be conducted at the State Training Union Convention, Immanuel Baptist Church, Little Rock, March 17-18, 1950.

Vocations Dedicated

The month of January is set aside by the Baptist Student Union as the time to stress the necessity of dedicating ones vocation.

Long ago, Lowell said, "No man is born into the world whose work is not born with him." Realizing this, and recognizing the importance of placing the hand of God on the motivating power and influence of the individual's work is the plan and purpose of Dedicated Vocation Week.

The influence of this emphasis will not be felt so much today as it will tomorrow when we find in the communities and cross roads of the world, business men, nurses, doctors, teachers, lawyers, administrators, local, state, national, and international leaders, and uncouthed other thousands whose influence will be felt for Christ and the principle of Chris-

tianity because they learned that it was important for God to be at the apex of their vocational goal.

The Baptist Student Union, the local church, and you the individual member of the church, cannot afford to do less for the Youth of today than to encourage them to include God and His leadership in their vocational thinking and planning.

My Covenant For '50

Universally, people turn their thoughts at this time of year to the making of New Year's resolutions. In the majority of cases, however, the inevitable end of these resolutions is the "happy hunting ground" for forgetfulness. Generally, no sooner are New Year's resolutions adopted than they are forgotten. This should not be true with Christians.

The Baptist Student Union, through the Master's Minority Movement, sponsors what is known as the My Covenant program which accomplishes that which we seek to achieve through New Year's resolutions. The MY COVENANT SERIES, a collection of eight books, written to encourage Christians everywhere in their resolutions to be more Christ-like will be of inestimable value as we plan for the year ahead. The titles of this series concern themselves with Salvation, Worldliness, Bible Study, Church Loyalty, Sabbath Observance, Christian Ownership and Witnessing. Each of these titles are on sale at our Baptist Book Store at \$1 each. In addition to this, there is a very helpful tract called MY COVENANT, published by the Baptist Student Union of the Sunday School Board, that you may receive free from the State Student Secretary.

Why not avail yourself of these helps and guides as you plan for 1950. Let us resolve that with Christ as our Helpmate we will live "Fifty," Faithful for Him.

I know not where his islands lift
Their fringed palms in air—
I only know I cannot drift
Beyond his love and care.

—John G. Whittier

Independence	90	43	6	6
Liberty	386	503	19	14
Little Red River	23	49	8	3
Little River	208	148	12	13
Mississippi County	155	193	19	14
Mount Zion	70	178	20	10
Newton County	—	16	3	2
Ouachita	70	59	5	4
Pulaski County	234	123	20	13
Red River	32	84	18	12
Rocky Bayou	47	54	4	4
Stone-Van Buren-Searcy	34	62	5	5
Tri County	145	131	9	6
Trinity	110	153	11	6
Washington-Madison	83	205	13	9
White County	24	23	4	3
White River	47	44	6	4
Woodruff	87	115	8	6
TOTALS	4,265	4,990	384	277

The Empowered Church

By MRS. HOMER D. MYERS

This discussion is based on the International Uniform Sunday School Lesson Outlines, copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education and used by permission.

Sunday School Lesson for
January 8, 1950
Acts 2

After the ascension of Jesus we found the apostles and disciples gathered together in the "upper room," there to await the fulfillment of God's promise that they would be "indued with power from on high."

They waited for ten days with prayer and supplications, being with one accord and evidently of one mind—their hearts and minds turned toward God and His will in their lives. This is the perfect and necessary setting for what happened in this lesson. The church empowered to carry out the great commission they had received from Jesus in person. When the day of Pentecost arrived the people were in the position and attitude to receive the blessing of God, the power of His Spirit descended in a unique manner upon the disciples and they began to speak in other languages as a miraculous manifestation of His imparted power to them. Seventeen nationalities are named in the succeeding verses, and all heard and understood what was being said in their own tongue.

The modern idea of people speaking in an unknown tongue is foreign to the Bible. Throughout the New Testament this gift was used to preach the gospel in another language and had to be interpreted then as it would have to be to most of us today. Paul went so far as to rebuke the Corinthian Church for going all out for speaking in other languages, I Corinthians 14; He said there was more important work for them to do than to spend their time speaking a strange tongue.

Peter's Message to Israel

Verses 22-36:

One of the greatest sermons ever to fall from the lips of a man was delivered by the Apostle Peter on Pentecost. The striking difference in the man is worthy of note; a few short weeks before he was a cringing coward, unable to stand in the presence of enemies and be identified as a follower of Christ. After denying the Lord during His trial, and after seeing and hearing Him after the resurrection, it seemed that Peter turned again to his fishing nets, giving up the whole idea that Jesus had propagated for three years.

But now, empowered by the Holy Spirit, Peter looks into the faces of the very people who had crucified his Lord, and who were of the same disposition toward the Lord's disciples, and told them in

no uncertain terms what they had done and where they stood with God.

"Ye with wicked hands have crucified and slain" the Lord of Glory. Peter is a mere fisherman, a nobody so far as Isarel is concerned—but he quoted their beloved David who had prophecied in the Psalms concerning this very person, and had foretold what they had brought to pass with their own hands in slaying the Lamb of God. He reminds them that they had seen the miracle of Jesus and knew from what they had witnessed that He was more than a mere man. He cited them to David's prophecy that Jesus would arise from the dead, and then Peter witnessed, personally, to His recent resurrection; and what was more, He had also ascended to the Father, honored and glorified, and He was responsible for the wonderful manifestation of power they were witnessing that day. This man Jesus, whom they crucified, is now occupying a place of honor at the Father's right hand.

And now Peter gets right down to where they live: "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly (without any doubt) that God hath made this same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ."

Message Brought Conviction

"When they heard this they were pricked in their hearts—and said, what shall we do?"

In His personal ministry the masses had only mocked and scorned Jesus, and sought ways and means of putting Him out of existence. We have no record that Peter had ever done anything outstanding, previous to this day. But now, the Holy Spirit accompanies his message in a manner not known heretofore, and the Holy Spirit uses the truth to bring conviction in the hearts of his hearers.

Eloquent speaking will never bring conviction to a sinner's heart, it is well-pleasing to the ear, it is a fine quality to possess, but is nothing unless empowered with God's Spirit. Tactfulness, a proper approach to people, well planned programs, and efficient organizations are well and good—if accompanied and blessed of the Spirit of God. But all the wisdom and efficiency of human minds is in vain and is hopeless and helpless to bring one sinner to Christ, if that is all one has. On the other hand, God uses the very ordinary talents and abilities

of the average people to do much of the good that is done in His Kingdom's work. God will not be limited to the wisdom of this world.

Conviction Brought Repentance, Verses 37-41:

People can be convicted of sin, but not deeply enough to be saved. Governor Felix trembled under the mighty message of Paul, but we have no record he was ever converted. These people were convicted to the point to act. "Repent and be baptized every one of you, in the Name of Jesus . . ." Peter is commanding these people to repent toward one whom they hated; to be baptized in a Name they had despised; "And it shall come to pass that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved."—That is the only way of salvation. If these Jews ever get to Heaven it will be through the One they had slain with wicked hands and cruel hearts. If they ever see God it will be by the authority of the One whom they had rejected and scorned. They must love One they had previously hated and despised. And three thousand of them came forth that day united with the church and were baptized in that Name they had sought so hard to erase. Surely, these were true conversions; conversions brought about only by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Here is another wonderful manifestation of the marvelous Grace of God. Salvation is freely extended to the very people who witnessed, no doubt had part in the crucifixion of the Lord of glory. "Whosoever"—it makes no difference how black his sins—even the slayer of the Son of God, can be saved when he calls upon that Name—the only Name given among men whereby we must be saved.

What We Believe

We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, the truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions should be tried.

The Bible culminates in Christ. He is the crown of the whole. All doctrine before and after Christ must be seen in the light which shines from him if we are to understand it. Christ, then, is God's message to us and we are to understand the whole Bible simply and solely in its relations to Jesus Christ, the Son of God and Saviour of the world.

—E. Y. Mullins

Pretty Close Together

We had come to one of the periodic Sunday school lessons on tithing. Every one knew that the teacher of the Adult Bible Class in our little Arkansas church did not believe in tithing. The situation was tense as he faced the class.

Sure enough, he began as everybody had thought he would, stating his position in unmistakable terms.

"How many of you believe in tithing?" he asked.

All fourteen in the class raised their hands—they'd put the teacher in his place!

But no one was expecting the next question, which came as a shot from ambush: "And how many of you tithe?"

One or two hands went up.

"See," said the teacher, "we are all pretty close together on this matter. I do not believe in tithing and do not tithe; you believe in it but you don't practice it!"

Erwin L. McDonald, Louisville

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Opportunity Comes Again

Once a year comes OPPORTUNITY knocking at the door of the pastor. It has been said that opportunity comes but once, but in this case it comes once each year.

Every January our married pastors have the opportunity of joining the Widow's Supplemental Annuity Plan. If they did not join the Widow's Supplemental Annuity Plan last January they "missed the boat" for a year. The Relief and Annuity Board has made it possible for a preacher to become a member of the Widow's Supplemental Annuity Plan during the month of January. If the preacher is eligible to join in January it is the only month in the year that he can join.

Each year of delay results in a 1/25 reduction in the widow's annuity. If you are eligible to join this Plan you ought to do so during this month.

Last year at least one of our preachers went to his heavenly home, and his wife became a widow. This preacher was thoughtful and had made provision for his widow by joining the Widow's Supplemental Annuity Plan. She is drawing a pension monthly. Wasn't it good that her husband made this provision for her? Some other preachers' wives may need it next year. Remember that one year's membership in the Plan is necessary before a woman could draw an annuity when her husband passes away.

It is inexpensive protection; one and one-half per cent of the preacher's salary month by month pays the bill. The denomination pays the balance. The local church pays nothing.

About a month ago application blanks were sent to all our eligible pastors. We hope they will pray about it, and if they want to make this provision for their wives it will be necessary to do so this month or wait another year, and if they wait another year they will forfeit 1/25 of the benefits. Behold, now is the accepted time.

Pastor Shaver and Batesville

Reverend Joe Shaver is the new pastor of the First Baptist Church in Batesville. He succeeds Dr. E. P. J. Garrott who has retired from the pastorate. Brother Shaver says that Dr. Garrott did a marvelous job in that church, and adds: "I want the church to keep on increasing gifts to world causes as the years go along."

The church has allocated \$5,300 for the Cooperative Program for 1950—an increase of \$1,300 over 1949. Shaver is a consecrated, vigorous leader and a good preacher. Cooperative Program increases like this will help to win a great mission victory in Arkansas in 1950.

We live in a world in which multitudes of people regard the gospel neither as good news nor bad news. To them it is no news. They do not reject it. They merely ignore it.

—Georgia Harkness

A Tribute To A Great Christian

Perhaps the headline of this tribute should be "The Beloved Physician." Whenever we think of Dr. G. E. Cannon we think of Paul's friend, Dr. Luke, the writer of two New Testament books. Dr. Cannon is a deacon in the First Church, Hope, Arkansas. He is such a great Christian and such a great Baptist that we feel constrained to let our people know about his interest in the cause of Christ, and about his help in carrying on the kingdom work.

We had to argue with Dr. Cannon before we got his consent. He is a modest Christian man and does not like publicity. He yielded when we argued that his example might inspire others.

Dr. Cannon has made special contributions to our Baptist work time and time again. Just a few days ago he sent two good contributions, one for the old debts of Arkansas Baptists, and one for the Ouachita College Million Dollar Fund. Recently he gave more than \$10,000 for an infirmary for Ouachita College and this building today stands as a monument to his generosity. He has made so many worthy offerings for our Baptist work that it would be impossible for us to recount them now.

But this is not all, Dr. Cannon is a great Christian in his personal life. He teaches a Sunday School Class and has been doing so for about twenty-five years. On Sunday morning you can find him at the First Baptist Church even though he may have waited on the sick all the night before. He is a liberal contributor in his own church.

Dr. Cannon has been profoundly interested in our plans to pay off our old Convention debts. He says "I hope we may soon wipe that stain away. Absolute honesty in money dealings shows whether we are true Christians."

Miss Emma Riley and Ouachita

Miss Emma Riley of El Dorado and Little Rock has made another special contribution to Ouachita College. The Rileys have for a long time been special friends to Ouachita. You remember that the BSU Building at Ouachita came from the Flenkens and the Rileys. Miss Emma was a member of the Ouachita College Board of Trustees for a long time.

Miss Riley is making this contribution for the new Library Building. The gift is large and reflects the spirit of love for the institution. The gift is greatly appreciated by all of us. The Board of Trustees is naming the building in honor of the donor.

D. C. Baptists Report Membership of 28,882: District of Columbia Baptists reported at their recent convention 1323 baptisms and 1813 other additions during the year, bringing their total membership to 28,882, according to R. Edward Dowdy, editor, **Capitol Baptist**, official paper for Washington Baptists. Sunday School enrolment was announced as 21,473. All churches contribute to all causes a total of \$1,488,885.78.



Dr. G. E. Cannon
Hope, Arkansas

A great soul like Dr. Cannon is an inspiration to preachers and laymen everywhere. Therefore, we wanted you to know about him. We are simply giving credit where credit is due, and we did not want to wait until this man of God crosses the river before we say something about it. He is a very active man, and as a physician he uses every opportunity to lead people closer to Christ. His love for his church and pastor is an example and an inspiration. May the Lord keep him in service many years.

Straying Church Members

By EDWARD D. HAMER

I used to have a cow which I staked out. But she was bad about breaking loose, and wandering around. She would cross busy roads, endangering herself and others. She would stray into yards, gardens, and fields where she had no business being. And when I found her, she would raise her head and look at me with her big, innocent eyes as if to say, "What are you angry about? I have a rope around my neck." The cow reminds me of those "church members" who claim membership in some congregation "back home" or off in some city where they once lived. They have a "rope" around their necks and they say, "Why get excited? I'm a church member." But they tend to wander where they ought not to go. They are unattached, and they are a bother to the church where they are or where they have been. They require time of the minister and other church members which ought to be spent in more constructive efforts, instead of in trying to gather back the straying members.

—Baptist and Reflector

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