

Ouachita Baptist University

Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1955-1959

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

9-26-1957

September 26, 1957

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/arbn_55-59



Part of the [Christian Denominations and Sects Commons](#), [Mass Communication Commons](#), and the [Organizational Communication Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Arkansas Baptist State Convention, "September 26, 1957" (1957). *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1955-1959*. 76.

https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/arbn_55-59/76

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine at Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita. It has been accepted for inclusion in Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1955-1959 by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita. For more information, please contact mortensona@obu.edu.

ARKANSAS

Baptist

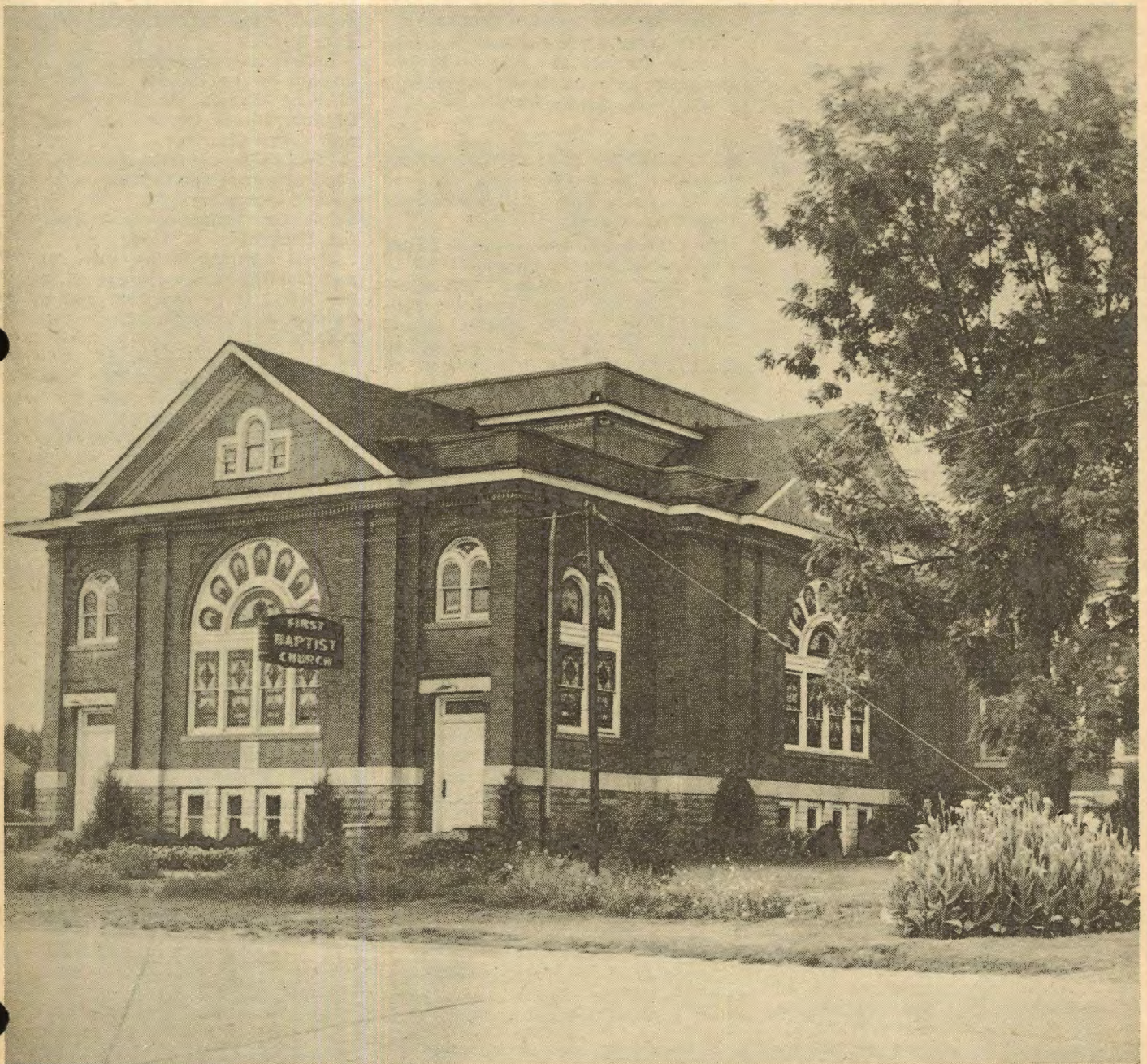
IN THIS ISSUE

Arkansas All Over	2
Editorials	4
Christian Horizons	6
Baptist Crosscurrents	7
Are Preachers Losing Humility?	8
National Day of Prayer	9
Departments	11
Children's Nook	13
Sunday School Lesson	14

NUMBER 56

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, SEPTEMBER 26, 1957

NUMBER 38



E. Jones Photo

Booneville First Makes History

Tillman Dies In Virginia

HAROLD B. TILLMAN, 52, former pastor of First Church, Conway, died of a heart attack, September 16, in Newport News, Va., where he was pastor of Orcutt Avenue Church. A native of Springdale, Mr. Tillman finished high school in Hot Springs and was a graduate of Ouachita College. Other Arkansas pastorates were Holly Grove, Des Arc, Clarendon, Lake Village and Osceola.



MR. TILLMAN

Mr. Tillman was prominent in denominational work, having served as chairman of the Arkansas Baptist Historical Commission, vice chairman of the Board of Trustees for Central College, and the Arkansas member of the Home Mission Board while in the state. He was moderator of the Peninsula Baptist Association and a member of the Foreign Mission Board at the time of his death.

Survivors include his wife; two daughters, Mrs. J. C. Strother, Wake Forest, N. C., and Mrs. Joe Lilies, Louisville, Ky.; his mother, and two brothers. (DP)

W. Memphis 1st Church Reports Progress

FIRST CHURCH, West Memphis, engaged in a weekend youth revival August 30 to September 1. Dickson Rial was the evangelist, Gayle Bone, the song leader, and Wincie Bond, pianist. The high point of the services came on Sunday, when 36 decisions were recorded for the Lord. There were 17 professions of faith, 9 received by letter, 9 rededications and one surrendered for special service.

RAY MCGHEE has recently moved to West Memphis to be minister of education at First Church. He comes from Palm Avenue Church, Tampa, Fla. He is a graduate of Murfreesboro State Teachers College and Southwestern Seminary. In the few weeks Mr. McGhee has been on the field all phases of the church program have taken on a new enthusiasm. He is ably assisted by his wonderful companion, "Dot" McGhee. They are making their home at 227 Fallis Street.

THE CHURCH has completed its new parsonage and the pastor moved into it on September 9. The home is one of the most beautiful in West Memphis, with an estimated value of \$50,000. Plans are now being made for the construction of a new educational building to be erected next year. An educational building erected in 1955 to take care of an additional 700 has been filled and three houses near the church

Carey Association Notes

BETHESDA CHURCH ordained two deacons recently, George Gresham and Terrell Strickland. M. H. McManus served as moderator, delivered the message and gave the charge. Lawson Hatfield led the examination. Mack Stallings led the prayer and H. E. Trussell served as clerk.

HOLLY SPRINGS Church ordained Judson Albritten to the gospel ministry. Serving on the council were: Tom Poole, moderator; John H. Graves, who led the examination; H. D. Harris, clerk; Hugh Howard, who led the prayer; Dan Dempsey, who presented the Bible; and Dr. J. F. Queen, who delivered the charge and the message.

JAMES COPELAND, pastor at Manning, has resigned and moved to Texas to enter the Southwestern Seminary.

JOHN GRAVES is the new pastor at Ouachita Church. He lives in El Dorado where he is employed as a welder. —Tom Poole, missionary

● ON SEPTEMBER 8, W. B. O'Neal, of Newport Route, Batesville, observed the 50th anniversary of the preaching of his first sermon.

Mr. O'Neal, who has served as pastor of numerous country churches and at



MR. O'NEAL

Judsonia, West Batesville, Lewisville, Yellville, Flippin, and Pangburn, preached his first sermon on the second Sunday of September, 1907, at O'Neal School House, in western Independence county, near Bethesda. In a revival he held at the school house a week later, with the assistance of two other preachers, he saw one of his own grandmothers, an uncle and wife, an aunt, and two cousins saved under his own preaching.

Mr. O'Neal received his education at Ouachita College.

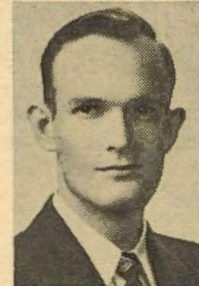
For 12 and ½ years Mr. O'Neal served as associational missionary, serving Independence County, White River, White County and Little River, and Stone-Van Buren. For two years he was a teacher in Nuyaka Indian School, 16 miles west of Okmulgee, Okla., under the Home Mission Board. He served as moderator one year of the Independence County Association, and served as an associational clerk a number of years. He is chairman of the Historical Commission in Independence County Association.

He and Mrs. O'Neal, the former Arena Meers, of Izard County, recently observed their 47th wedding anniversary.

have been purchased to care for the growing attendance. —Walter Yeldell, pastor.

Cancer Claims Life Of Marlin R. Hicks

MARLIN R. HICKS, 34, Southern Baptist missionary to Chile, died of cancer September 16 at Southern Baptist Hospital, New Orleans, La. He had returned to the States on emergency sick leave in June.



MR. HICKS

Funeral services were held Wednesday, September 18, at Rosen Heights Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Tex.

A native of Arkadelphia, Mr. Hicks received the BA degree from Baylor University, Waco, Tex., and the BD and MRE degrees from Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth.

Before his appointment to foreign mission service in 1950 he was pastor of First Church, Mertens, Tex., Dial Church, Honey Grove, Tex., and Deport (Tex.) Church.

In Chile he did evangelistic work in Santiago and Antofagasta before becoming secretary for the Sunday School Department of the Chilean Baptist Convention in 1956.

He is survived by his wife, the former Dorothy Gilbert, native of Meridian, Miss.; three children; and by his parents, Rev. and Mrs. O. C. Hicks, of Ingalls.

● HARRY G. JACOBS, pastor of First Church, Osceola, was the evangelist and Robert Barnett, of Marianna, the song leader in a revival at the Moro Church, according to Pastor John Collier. There were 12 additions by baptism.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

107 BAPTIST BUILDING,
LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

Official Publication of the
Arkansas Baptist State Convention

ERWIN L. McDONALD, EDITOR

MRS. HOMER D. MYERS, MANAGING ED.
Publication Committee: Dale Cowling,
Little Rock, Chairman; John Holston, Lon-
oke; Homer Bradley, Eudora; Byron King,
Tuckerman; Dillard Miller, Mena.

Published weekly except on July 4 and
December 25.

Entered Post Office, Little Rock, Arkan-
sas, as second class mail matter. Accept-
ance for mailing at special rate of postage
provided in Section 1132, October 1, 1913.

Individual subscriptions, \$2.25 per year.
Church Budget, 14 cents per month or \$1.68
per year per church family. Family group
(10 or more paid annually in advance) \$1.75
per year. Subscriptions to foreign address,
\$2.75 per year. Advertising rates on request.

The cost of cuts cannot be borne by the
paper except those it has made for its in-
dividual use.

Resolutions and obituaries published at
five cents per word. One dollar minimum.

Articles carrying the author's by-line do
not necessarily reflect the editorial policy
of the paper.

Paragraph abbreviations used in crediting
news items: RNS, Religious News Service;
BP, Baptist Press; CB, church bulletin; DP,
daily press.



Booneville First Makes History

The Cover

ARKANSAS' first church to inaugurate the Forward Program of Church Finance with its spiritual approach to Christian stewardship is First Church, Booneville, the auditorium of which is pictured on this week's cover.

Despite a rainstorm that dumped more than four inches of rain upon the



MR. BLEDSOE church and 256 of them pledging to tithe.

Booneville area between 5 a.m. and noon on Sunday, September 15, Pledge Day at the church, Pastor Doyle B. Bledsoe and his committees report 320 in attendance at the morning services at the church and at its Southside Mission, with every one making a pledge to the church and 256 of them pledging to tithe.

Cards turned in at the night service and on the following day brought the total pledged offerings to nearly \$700, within \$100 of the weekly goal. Enlistment during the week was expected to put the church well over its goal.

In addition to pledges for the 1958 church budget, members of the Booneville church had pledged \$66,000 toward its goal of raising \$75,000 in the next three years for a badly needed education building.

Said Pastor Bledsoe, who has been with the church since last May:

"This plan has done more to unify our church, to increase visitation and to make each member feel a direct responsibility for the progress of his church than any other plan I have ever used."

Considering that the total church budget for the year just closing is \$25,000, and the new budget is to be \$41,600, plus the 3-year budget of \$75,000 for the building fund, the value of the new finance program for the Booneville church is obvious.

It was the privilege of the editor of the Arkansas Baptist to attend the Fellowship Supper of the church on Thursday night preceding Pledge Day and to note the enthusiasm of the membership as approximately 375 attended. One apparently spoke for many in saying, "This is the greatest thing that has ever happened to our church."

Another forward step is being taken by the church in voting to send the Arkansas Baptist to all of its families.

Outlines for Pictures:

Bottom picture, scene at Booneville First Church Loyalty Dinner.

Other pictures, First Church auditorium and Steering Committee.

Committee members: Seated, left to right: Mrs. Allon Harp, Report Snack; Mrs. Lloyd Chalfant, Assignment Supper; Mrs. Ray Looper, Loyalty Dinner; Mrs. Hugh Callahan, Secretary and Office Help; Mrs. Eual West, Reservations; Mrs. D. B. Bledsoe, Lesson Chairman; Mrs. Olive Jones, Promotion; and Mrs. J. W. Skinner, Children's Party.

Standing, left to right: C. E. Bryant, Budget Planning; Jack Willis, Chairman, Tally Committee; Jeral Hampton, General Chairman; Pastor D. B. Bledsoe; and E. W. Savage, Chairman, Pledging Committee.



"Are Preachers Losing Humility?"

ELSEWHERE IN THIS issue we carry an article by President J. Howard Williams of Southwestern Seminary based on a chapel talk he made some time ago on the topic, "Are Preachers Losing Humility?" The timely article has been given rather wide circulation since it appeared in the news bulletin of the Seminary. Some of our readers, including an Arkansas pastor or two, have suggested that we reproduce it.

We are carrying the article not because we agree with its implication that preachers as a whole are arrogant and domineering in their duties as pastors, but because we feel that too many preachers and too many Christians outside the ministry are lacking in humility and that every one of us needs to look at himself rather frequently through the eyes of others.

One could, if he so desired, multiply instances in which laymen, as well as ministers, have demonstrated something less than Christ-like spirits in the conduct of their affairs. Unless we are aware that all of us, preachers and laymen alike, are far from perfect, even in humility, and that we should love one another in spite of imperfections and bear one another up in prayer, the spreading of an article like this by the head of one of our great seminaries might cause great harm.

It should be said for President Williams that his talk was directed to the Seminary faculty and staff, and, even when it was published, was going primarily to readers who are pastors, missionaries, or other full-time church workers. As far as we know, he has not offered the material for general publication.

The church member who goes to church with a critical eye trained on the pulpit not only is likely to miss the blessing that comes from entering prayerfully and wholeheartedly into public worship services, but he is not doing anything to bear up the pastor in his vital place of breaking the Bread of Life to the people. We doubt that many members are justified in moving their memberships elsewhere merely because they found or imagine that their preacher is puffed up and trying to "lord it over" the church.

We are reminded of an experience our good friend R. T. Skinner, retired editor of *Western Recorder*, relates. As a young pastor, Dr. Skinner recalls, he was met after a Sunday morning preaching service by one of his laymen who told him in no uncertain terms, "Preacher, I don't like the way you preach." "I don't either," replied the young pastor. Then he asked his critic, "What are we going to do about it?" When the critic had no suggestion, the pastor asked, "would you be willing to pray for me that I might be a better preacher?" Of course, the layman had to agree to pray for the pastor. A few weeks later the erstwhile critic again met his pastor at the close of a service. With an outstretched hand and a friendly smile he said: "Pastor, it is amazing how your preaching has improved since I started praying for you!"

We do not believe that a high percent of our preachers are inordinately lacking in the Christian grace of humility. But if one is, here or there, overtaken in the fault even of pride and bigotry, every effort should be made to "restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted."

* * *

Committee Continues in Prayer

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE held a meeting at the Baptist building on Monday, September 16, for prayerful consideration of its task of finding someone to recommend for the position of general secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. The committee has reached no decision and continues to pray for the Lord's leadership, with no definite conviction. Another meeting of the committee has been called for October 7.

Following the meeting last week, the Rev. T. K. Rucker, pastor of First Church, Forrest City, who is chairman of the Executive Board, issued the following statement to the *Arkansas Baptist*:

"Your committee is diligently working at the task assigned to them. We are striving to keep faith with those whom we represent. We are not hastily making any decision. We are seeking all the information necessary to make an intelligent decision under the leadership of the Holy Spirit. Your committee meets again on October 7 for further prayer and deliberation.

"There is a most wholesome spirit prevailing in all our committee meetings. We so earnestly covet the prayers of all Arkansas Baptists as we, your servants, seek the man that God has for us."

Personally Speaking . . .

A Parable from the Farm

KIT AND SHORT were mules comprising one of the most unequally yoked "teams" anybody ever saw. As a farm boy I was plagued with them up and down the rows of our crops at London.

Kit was undoubtedly one of the triflingest, no-accountest critters that ever drew breath. She did not have to be tired to lag. From the earliest moments of the work day, she was dragging her feet.



MR. McDONALD

One of the kindest things anybody was ever able to say about Kit was uttered by a neighbor who rode with me for a mile or two in the wagon to which Kit and Short were hitched. "You will notice," he said near the end of the trip, "that Kit is no farther behind now than when we started—she is still just about three feet behind Short."

That was as far behind as the wagon and the harness would permit Kit to be!

As for Short, poor fellow, there was not a lazy bone in him. He was as willing as Kit was unwilling. But, just as there was a limit to how far Kit could bring up the rear, there was a limit as to how much Short could advance with a teammate like Kit.

There were two times each day that Kit really "came alive." That was at noon when we were headed home for lunch, and at night, when we unhooked from the plow and started home again.

Why all of this at a time when our churches' nominating committees are trying desperately to find enough teachers, officers and leaders to staff the church organizations for the coming year?

Nominating committees sometimes make mistakes that hurt their churches. They will occasionally get somebody elected who is not qualified—who is ineffective because of a lack of experience or spirituality. But one of the greatest dangers of all is that someone will be elected to a place on the "team" of church officers and leaders who will be dragging his or her feet almost from the beginning.

There is hope for one who lacks knowledge and experience if that one is consecrated and eager to gain wisdom and to serve well in his place. But what can be done with one who has accepted a place of responsibility merely for the "honor" and with no thought of serving willingly and faithfully?

Christians cannot be loyal to Christ and disloyal to His church.

"... who then is willing to consecrate his service (fill his hands) this day unto the Lord?" 1 Chronicles 29:5b.

● RUSSELL J. CLUBB has resigned the pastorate of Calvary Church, West Memphis, effective October 1, which is the eighth anniversary of his ministry in the city. He was pastor of First Church for four and one-half years and served Calvary Church the past three



MR. CLUBB

and one-half years. Calvary Church, located in Avondale Gardens, a new residential area, erected in the past year a three-story educational building, costing \$100,000. The pastor's plans for the future are indefinite.

Mr. Clubb attended Hardin - Simmons University, Abilene, Tex., and Southwestern Seminary. Former pastorates are Piggott, Tyronza, Osceola, each in Arkansas, and Clyde, Tex.

Calvary Church adopted a resolution on September 18 expressing appreciation for the ministry of Brother Clubb, wishing him and his family well and pledging the support of the church's prayers. Said the resolution in part:

"His staunch position with reference to the moral issues in our area and the influence of the church has been outstanding . . ."

Mr. Clubb, who would rather be known as an "evangelistic preacher than a crusader," has been prominent in the fight against legalized gambling in the state, especially in the effort to keep dog racing out of West Memphis and Arkansas.

Mrs. Clubb is the former Jessie Funston of Little Rock. The couple has a 14-year-old son, Russell Harrison.

● FIRST CHURCH, Gould, has added a wing to the educational building, 44 by 30 feet, at a cost of \$7,200. The debt-free addition is of concrete blocks and stucco construction. It houses three classrooms, an office, assembly hall and a kitchen. The building committee was Mrs. Claude Ringo, Lee Creel and Carl McCool. The WMU is sponsoring the landscaping. S. M. Williamson is the pastor. (DP)

● R. V. WILSON, pastor at Jessieville, returned to his home town, Blue Eye, Mo., for a ten-day meeting which resulted in eight additions to the church by baptism, according to Pastor J. E. Cox. The Blue Eye Church cooperates with Carroll County Association in Arkansas. During the two-year pastorate of Mr. Cox, the church has remodeled and redecored the auditorium.

● REV. AND MRS. W. L. (Wimpy) Smith, missionary appointees for Argentina, have left the States for San Jose, Costa Rica, where they will spend a year in language and orientation school. Their new address is Apartado 4035, San Jose. Mrs. Smith is a native of Fort Smith, and Mr. Smith, of San Saba, Tex.

Hope Association News

ALVIS DOWD, Atlanta, Tex., is the new pastor at Mt. Zion, Doddridge.

CALVARY CHURCH, Texarkana, has called James Greger as music-education director from Oaklawn Church, Texarkana.

J. C. CRABBE served as evangelist in a meeting at Pisgah, Jimmy Wilson, pastor. There were 10 additions by baptism.

MACEDONIA CHURCH and Pastor V. A. Bond had the services of T. N. Morrison, Hickory Street Church, Texarkana, in a revival resulting in seven additions to the church, two by baptism.

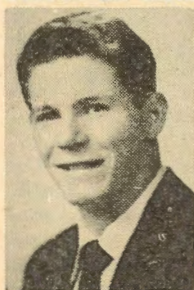
ROCKY MOUND is remodeling. Pine Paneling is being installed, along with hardwood floors and a new rostrum. The Sunday school rooms are being redecored. Charles Taylor is the pastor. —M. T. McGregor, Superintendent of Missions

● W. J. McCONAGHY, a retired Pulaski County pastor and a member of First Church, Geyer Springs, would like for friends over the state to know that Mrs. McConaghy, who was blind seven years, has regained her sight. She entered Baptist Hospital early in August for physical treatment. Her physician requested that she submit to an eye examination by another doctor at the hospital, although her condition seemed hopeless. Reasoning that she had it all to gain and nothing to lose, Mrs. McConaghy submitted to surgery, which was successful.

Mr. McConaghy served pastorates at Liberty, Lifeline, Pleasant Grove and Holly Springs, all in Pulaski County. He helped to build the old structure at Plainview, where he was ordained.

● REV. AND MRS. HARRISON H. Pike, missionaries to Brazil who have been in language school, will soon move to Vitoria and may be addressed at Caixa Postal, 488, Vitoria, Espirito Santo, Brazil. Both Mr. and Mrs. Pike are natives of Arkansas, he of Texarkana and she, formerly June Summers, of Fort Smith.

"BUD" HENDERSON, sophomore medical student, is Baptist Student Union President of the U. of A. Medical School. He attended Southwest Baptist



MR. HENDERSON

College at Bolivar, Missouri, and Ouachita Baptist College, where he was graduated in 1955. While at Ouachita he played football one year, was on the BSU council two years, and served on the State BSU Council. He was a member of Alpha Psi Omega, Chemistry Club, and Beta Beta social club. He is married to the former Miss Shirley Ann Carter of Stuttgart.

● W. H. HEARD has accepted the pastorate of First Church, Walnut Ridge, after five and one-half years with First Church, Bremen, Ga. Mr. Heard is a graduate of Georgia Tech and Southern Seminary.

The Bremen Church received 317 additions during the pastorate and Sunday school enrollment grew from 610 to 965. The church ranked 12th in the state in per capita mission gifts. A pastor's home was built and the auditorium was air conditioned. Mr. Heard is active in denominational work.

When he left the state, he was serving his second term as a member of the Georgia Baptist executive committee, was Haralson County Association chairman for the hospital and for the Christian Index, Georgia Baptist publication. He was a teacher in the extension program of Mercer University and a staff member for the past 11 years of the RA camp at Clayton.

Buckner Association News

MANSFIELD CHURCH has erected an educational building, costing \$18,000, made possible through a gift from a couple now deceased. Another donor gave the church a red trailer to be used for "hayrides." Clifford Lyon is the pastor.

A VISITOR on vacation at Jamesfork from Atlanta, Ga., saw the need for repair work on the educational building of the church and contributed the money for new shingles in memory of her grandfather, who was the first pastor of the church. Hugh McGehee is the present pastor.

MR. AND MRS. Dale Brubaker, Jefferson City, Mo., led Waldron Church in a music school, including courses in Christian Hymnody, Beginning Vocalist, Song Directing, and Music Reading. The different age groups met at different times each day for one week. Mr. Brubaker is secretary of church music in Missouri.

WALDRON CHURCH conducted a mission Vacation Bible School in the western part of town with 36 enrolled. A complete church survey revealed the need of other mission endeavors, according to Pastor J. M. James, who has selected 50 of his members to keep the survey up-to-date, month by month.

IN A SIX-WEEK attendance contest between the Sunday school and Training Union at Jamesfork, the Sunday school was the loser and served 12 gallons of homemade ice cream in a church social. They invited the missionary too!

A MISSION revival began at Blue Ball on September 15, in the interest of starting some Baptist work there. This community is in an area east of Waldron where there are no Southern Baptist churches for 40 miles—J. T. McGill, missionary

Retired Editor of Florida Paper Dies

Dr. Edward Davis Solomon, 82, Baptist minister for more than 60 years and editor of the FLORIDA BAPTIST WITNESS for 18 years of that time, died Friday, September 13, at Baptist Memorial Hospital, Jacksonville, an institution toward the building of which he had given much in many ways.

Dr. Solomon's death came on the second anniversary of the opening of the hospital. Ceremonies of the day were planned to be dedicated to Dr. and Mrs. Solomon who gave generously during the progress of the building campaign for the hospital and were influential in reaching many others for sizable gifts. Mrs. Solomon has also brought flowers daily to the patients of the hospital since it opened.

As editor of the FLORIDA BAPTIST WITNESS, Dr. Solomon saw the circulation increase from fewer than 2,000 subscriptions to more than 23,000. He was known and loved throughout Florida for his warm-hearted evangelistic preaching as well as for the vigor of his editorial writing, the stimulating character of his stories, and the healing contagion of his timely sense of humor.

Immediately before coming to Florida, Dr. Solomon served Louisiana Baptists as their State Missions Secretary from 1924 to 1930, following a four-year pastorate at St. Charles Avenue Church, New Orleans. Previous pastorates included First Church, Kaufman, Tex., First Church, McComb, Miss.; Main Street Church, Hattiesburg, Miss., and Fifteenth Avenue Church, Meridian, Miss. At three of these churches he led in the erection of buildings.

A man who was devoted to and active in denominational affairs, he had an unbroken record of attendance at the annual meetings of the Southern Baptist Convention from 1900 through 1955. He was vice-president of the Convention in 1941-42. He served as a member of the committee which conceived and drew up the Cooperative Program, the mission and benevolent giving plan of Southern Baptists, in 1925. He was vice-president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention in 1912.

Dr. Solomon's zeal for evangelism had carried him into 12 different Southern states for evangelistic campaigns. His sermon on Jonah was a classic which is vividly remembered by many throughout the Southland.

Dr. Solomon considered himself a product of Christian education and was a vigorous supporter of Christian schools and colleges wherever he went. He was a graduate of Mississippi College, an alumnus of Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky, studied at Baylor University and at Spurgeon's College in London, England and was awarded the doctor-of-divinity degree by John B. Stetson University in 1943. He was

prominent in the founding of Mississippi Women's College at Hattiesburg, Miss. He served as a trustee of Leland University, Baker, La. He was a member of the advisory council of Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville at the time of his death.

A leading spirit in the establishment of the Southern Baptist Hospital at New Orleans, La., he was one of its trustees for more than 20 years. Through the years his was always the voice of an enthusiastic booster and effective promoter of other hospitals.

Dr. Solomon was a chaplain of the National Guard in 1909-13 and a chaplain at Camp Polk and Camp Shelby in 1918. He was a member of the American Legion, a Mason (32 deg. Shriner) and a Rotarian.

Survivors include his widow, Mrs. Josie C. Solomon; two sons, Edward C. of Bronxville, N. Y. and J. Crawford of Jacksonville; a brother, Robert Solomon of Valley View, Tex., and a sister, Mrs. Josie Harpool, of Denton, Tex.

Funeral services were conducted at Southside Baptist Church, Jacksonville, September 14 by his pastor, Dr. Malcolm B. Knight, Dr. James A. Stewart, Dr. Madison V. Scott and Dr. Homer G. Lindsay.

● ELEVEN CHICAGO churches met September 6 at the Tinley Park First Church for organization of a new association to be called the Greater Chicago Baptist Association. Forty-seven messengers represented the 1,735 members reported. Visitors at the organization meeting were S. F. Dowis, Home Mission Board; E. Harmon Moore, associate executive secretary of the Illinois Baptist State Association; and Harold E. Cameron, area missionary.



RYUNOSHIN KUSUMI (left), editor-in-chief of the TOO NIPPO PRESS, Aomori City, Japan, is welcomed to the States by Rev. Carl M. Halvarson, Southern Baptist missionary to Japan who was stationed in Aomori before he came home for furlough. A friend of Baptists in his city, Mr. Kusumi is on a two months' tour of leading newspaper offices and journalism schools in this country under the educational exchange program of the State Department.

Atlanta Pastor to Lead New York Work

Dr. Paul S. James has been appointed by the Home Mission Board as director of Southern Baptist work in the Greater New York area. He will also become pastor of the Southern Baptist Chapel group in New York, which presently meets at the 23rd Street YMCA in downtown Manhattan, and which will soon be organized as the first Southern Baptist church in New York City. Dr. James has been pastor of the Tabernacle Church in Atlanta, Ga., for the past 16 years.

In a statement to his church, Dr. James said: "This is a call to lead Southern Baptists in the establishment of churches in one of America's greatest mission fields. It comes in the wake of the Graham Crusade when the time seems ripe for constituting churches and missions according to the pattern being followed by Southern Baptists.

Some may ask what Southern Baptists are doing in New York. The answer is a simple one: our Southern Baptist people are there by the multiplied thousands — living, working, studying; and they want churches like those they have served in at home. They want warm-hearted, informal, evangelistic churches that will reach out through the life of the vast metropolis, winning people to Christ and enlisting them in His world program. We are grateful for all that is being done, but the field is tremendous."

DR. HERBERT WINSTON PROVENCE, retired missionary-pastor-educator, died September 14, in Greenville, S. C. Dr. Provence was a missionary in Shanghai, China, from 1907 to 1911. He served one year in the Bible department at Mississippi College, Clinton, and 17 years in the Bible and English departments of Furman University, Greenville, S. C. From 1931 to 1933 he was president of the Greenville Woman's College. Pastorates included Clayton Street Church, Montgomery, Ala., and First Church, Ensley, Ala. (DP)

20 Mississippi Pastors Go Overseas To Preach

JACKSON, Miss. (BP) — Twenty Mississippi Baptist pastors will make a preaching mission to Argentina and other Central and South American countries next month.

The ministers will leave September 30 and arrive home one month later. Argentina Baptists invited them to come to that country.

In addition to Argentina, the ministers also will visit Panama, Colombia, Peru, Chile, Ecuador, Venezuela, and Brazil.

Chester L. Quarles, executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, will direct the tour.

Record Memberships

OVER THREE MILLION more Americans joined the church of their choice last year than in 1955, bringing total church and synagogue membership to a record-breaking 62 per cent of the population. Other equally impressive statistics are included in the 1958 Yearbook of American Churches, published Sept. 3 by the National Council of Churches.

The membership count is based on reports from 258 church bodies, including the Roman Catholic Church which counts all baptized infants, and the Lutheran and Protestant Episcopal communions, which now count all baptized persons. The others record only those who request and obtain membership. Not reporting was the Church of Christ Scientist, which forbids "the numbering of people and reporting such statistics for publication."

A breakdown of the major religious groups as shown in the Yearbook indicates that in 1956 there were 60,148,980 Protestants, 34,563,851 Roman Catholics, 5,500,000 Jews and 2,598,055 Eastern Orthodox church members in the United States. Largest of the denominations is the Methodist Church with 9,400,000; the Southern Baptist Convention with 8,700,000 and the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., with 4,550,000.

The "boom" in church building, also recorded in the Yearbook, shows church construction at a new peak of \$775,000,000 for the year, topping the previous year by \$40,000,000. Church schools, too, have been mushrooming to accommodate the year's 2.5 per cent increase in Sunday School enrollments — now put at about 40 million children. And 13,000 more ministers were serving churches than the year before, making a new high of 235,100 in 1956.

FREEHOLD, N. J. — The Prosecutor of Monmouth County has asked the newsdealers in the county's 53 municipalities to subscribe to a pledge that they will refuse to sell publications which carry indecent material or glorify crime. Police chiefs will distribute the pledge cards to the 250 newsdealers.

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Air Force announced it will diminish its ranks of Protestant chaplains by about 117 before the end of the year, in keeping with slashes in military personnel.

Start Fund To Replace Burned College Hall

BOILING SPRINGS, N. C. (BP) — A fund has been started to replace the recently burned Huggins-Curtis building at Gardner-Webb College. A designated gift of \$250 was sent by a former trustee of the college. Huggins-Curtis Hall, oldest and largest building on the campus, was destroyed by fire August 22. Built in 1907, the structure contained offices, classrooms, dormitory facilities for boys, laboratories, and storage space.

Baptist Crosscurrents

Influence of Rural Churches

By Carl A. Clark, Professor
Pastoral Ministry and Rural Church Work
Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas

WE HAVE KNOWN for many years that open country churches have been making large contributions to the growth of village, town and city churches. These contributions have been in the nature of the young people who move from the country to the city, and adults who have transferred from country churches to town and city churches. This contribution has also included a number of missionaries and ministerial students who have been sent out by country churches. The program of the small village and open country church will have a large influence in determining what the town and city churches of the future will be.

We must strengthen our country churches. The total life of the total denomination is unusually dependent upon this. If we leave our country churches weak, the village, town and city churches of the future will have to labor against serious difficulty. If we make strong rural churches today, the village, town and city churches of the future will have a much greater opportunity for service.

Our rural program then is of vital interest both to the people in the country churches and also the people in the town and city churches. It must be a cooperative effort. The kind of churches we have in the future, in country, town and city, will be determined by the kind of programs we have in country churches.

"Here is the answer to your need of complete information on all that Baptists are doing throughout the world."

Porter Routh
Executive Secretary
Executive Committee
Southern Baptist Convention



Every Family
in
Every Church
Subscribing

**NOTHING TAKES THE PLACE OF
The ARKANSAS BAPTIST in Your Budget**

Are Preachers Losing Humility?

Lately several things have happened which have caused me to think of the place of humility in the life of a Christian worker. About six months ago I had breakfast with one of the outstanding laymen of the nation. I have had the privilege of knowing him rather intimately for many years. He said to me, "What is happening to our preachers?" And, of course, I asked him, "What do you mean?"

He said, "Their growing spirit of domination, of lording it over the churches." I asked him if that was actually taking place, and he said he thought it was. He cited some instances that concerned him and remarked, "I think that one of the greatest qualities any preacher can possess is humility." And across the breakfast table he told me of preachers who have inspired him in the past, and he said they were "preachers whose chief characteristic was their humility."

Dr. Williams is president of Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.

About a week ago I received a letter from a very dear friend who is now a retired minister. He enclosed an article which he said he was thinking about publishing and asked me to pass on and advise as to the wisdom of its publication. He said, "It has grown out of observations and experiences of recent years and has to do with the tendency of preachers to lord it over the Lord's domain." The subject of his article is, "A Power-Mad Ministry."

He named two specific instances that recently had come under his observation. He gave no names, but, because I am acquainted with the individuals and the situations involved, I knew of whom and of what he spoke. He deplored the fact a certain preacher, not named, drove hard. As he unfolded his story I thought of a certain preacher who 20 years ago said, "While I am in the saddle I am going to ride." I do not know of anything that could hurt us more, whether we be ministers of music, education, or the pulpit than for us to become arrogant in spirit, proud, selfish, self-seeking.

Going down to San Antonio I sat by a lawyer who is a member of one of our Texas Baptist churches. He told me they were trying to get an educational director. They had been negotiating with one and had found common ground with him on everything except the salary basis. The pastor came to the layman and said, "The man wants another \$50 a month." The lawyer, conspicuously known in the state, remarked, "I said to the pastor, 'If that is his problem let's drop the whole matter. If he is thinking of \$50 a month when we were proposing to pay him \$550 a month and a home, let's forget him.'" And they did.

I had a brother-in-law who is gone on to his reward. He preached a com-

mencement sermon on the subject, "The Meek and the Mastery." His text was, "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth." Meekness is not weakness. It is one of the strongest of the virtues a man can possess. Those who lack this virtue will find that their period of usefulness is to be relatively brief and their problems in service will be ever increasing. I cannot imagine one trying to walk in the steps of the Saviour possessing an arrogant spirit, one who will let selfishness dominate him, whether it be in a desire for position in his church or his denomination.

A good deacon in a Texas church who is head of a going concern pulled me aside two or three years ago and told me this experience. "One Sunday morning recently I was passing through our church building just prior to the Sunday school service and my pastor said to me, 'I want you to come in here with me.' Upon going into the office I found that the pastor had called a superintendent of one of his Sunday school departments to the office. It seems that the superintendent had not planned to carry out meticulously some projected plan for the morning.

"The pastor did not ask for any explanation but proceeded to explode his wrath." This gray-haired layman said, "I have been in the world a long time and I have been around the business world a great deal, but never in my life have I heard anybody so thoroughly dress down a man as the pastor did that volunteer worker that morning. The worker did not answer the pastor but stood there and wept." Continuing, the deacon, polished gentleman that he is, said, "I went to church that morning and the pastor got up and talked piously in the pulpit, but I could not hear him. I had to move my membership as others have done because of this and similar experiences."

Such situations, I recognize, are unusual, but I wonder if they indicate something of a drift. "O why should the spirit of mortals be proud?" There are so many things to make us humble as Christians — the fact that we have been saved by grace, for instance. If we will sing "Amazing Grace" often enough it may help to keep us humble.

You know we can be proud and lacking in humility in our advantages. It does not take much to make some people strut. Someone has remarked philosophically that "Responsibility causes some people to grow, others just to swell up."

The spirit of the Master who came to serve calls us as Christian workers to go out not as rugs to be walked upon — and our brethren do not want us to fill that place — but as those who so obviously want to serve God. We must so obviously put the Lord and His cause first that the brethren out of gratitude to God for us will see that all of our necessities are met.

THE BOOK SHELF

CHEMISTRY IN ACTION, 3rd Edition, by George M. Rawlings and Alden H. Struble; D. C. Heath and Company, Boston, 1956

ALTHOUGH written primarily for use as a high school textbook in chemistry, this attractive book with its numerous illustrations, many in color, will appeal to any one interested in the great field of chemistry as it relates to every-day living. The study of this book by one who has never had chemistry in school will bring a greater understanding and enjoyment of one's environment. For those planning to enter college, it should help prepare for college entrance examinations.

The book contains discussions of many modern chemical developments: Atomic energy, new methods for controlling insect pests, man-made elements, the production of silicones, synthetic rubbers, and plastics are among the new things that have been included and related to the chemical principles on which their development was based.

The section on organic chemistry, because of its rapid growth in recent years and because the chemistry of man's body, his food, clothing, and shelter is so predominantly organic chemistry, is more extensive than that usually found in high school texts.

SHARE MY PRECIOUS STONES, by Eugenia Price; Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Mich., 1957, \$3

EUGENIA PRICE was well established as a radio producer writing for CBS and NBC at the time of her conversion to Christianity in 1949. Soon after her acceptance of Christ she closed her production office. For five years she was the writer-producer of the dramatic radio program, "Unshackled," for the Pacific Garden Mission, Chicago. Her books include DISCOVERIES, NEVER A DULL MOMENT, THE BURDEN IS LIGHT, and EARLY WILL I SEEK THEE.

SHARE MY PRECIOUS STONES is a book of devotions, one for each day of the year, compiled from notes the author made in her Bible across a period of several years. She gets the name from Isaiah 54:11-12.

WITH ALL THY HEART, by Leslie Savage Clark; Broadman Press, Nashville, Tenn., 1957, \$1.50

THE AUTHOR has come to be recognized as a poet through the publication of her poems in New York Times, Saturday Evening Post, Christian Century, and in other periodicals.

With All Thy Heart is 80 pages featuring a verse of scripture, a brief poem, and a prayer on each page.

Other Books Received:

COME INTO HIS PRESENCE, Compiled by Margaret Sharp; Convention Press, Nashville, Tenn., 1957, \$2

MISSIONARY MAMA, by Ruth Seamands; Greenwich Book Publishers, New York, 1957, \$2.75

Harmony News Notes

A JOINT revival, sponsored by Oak Grove, Plainview, Lee Memorial and Hardin churches, was held at White Hall, with Billy Walker as evangelist. There were 30 additions to the various churches by baptism and 12 by letter. JAMES EVANS led Yorktown Church in a meeting. There were five additions by baptism and four by letter. The church is pastorless.

EVANGELIST HAL BROOKS and Singer Bill Michel, from Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, assisted Immanuel Church and Pastor Theo T. James in a meeting resulting in 10 additions by baptism and 8 by letter.

CENTENNIAL CHURCH, Pine Bluff's youngest cooperating church, has purchased a pastor's home at 22 Carroll Street. Lex Eaker will be the first to occupy it as pastor.

SOUTH SIDE Church, Pine Bluff, will conduct a fall revival October 13-27, with Ronald Prince, First Church, Paris, Tex., as evangelist and Don Sparks, First Church, New Orleans, leading the singing. Roy Lambert is the pastor.

EVANGELIST S. M. Williamson assisted Johnson's Chapel and Pastor John Robertson, Sr., in a recent revival resulting in four additions to the church.

TEN ADDITIONS TO the Dumas Church was the result of a meeting conducted by Evangelist Fred Cherry and Singer Norman Green. Minor E. Cole is the pastor.

PASTOR AND MRS. Louis Clark, First Church, Altheimer, announce the arrival of a son, Dwight Eric.—Amos Greer, missionary

Greene County News

EIGHT PROFESSIONS of faith was the result of a Vacation Bible School at Eight-Mile Church.

MARVIN MAY was the evangelist in a meeting at New Friendship, resulting in two additions by baptism, two by letter, and 14 rededications.

THREE WERE added to the Stonewall Church during their August revival.

UNITY CHURCH is building an auditorium and seven classrooms.

THE MISSIONARY assisted Lafe Church and Bethel Station in revival meetings in August and participated in a School of Missions in northeast Missouri, September 1-6.—H. W. Johnston, missionary.

GREENFIELD CHURCH, Trinity Association, was assisted in a revival with Tri-county Associational Missionary Fred Suddeth serving as evangelist and Ben Balcom of Tyronza Church as music director. There were 20 additions by baptism and one by letter. According to Pastor B. G. Crabb, there are 18 boys and girls in the Junior department at Greenfield Church and all have accepted Christ as their personal Savior under the leadership of their Sunday school teachers, Mrs. Francis Cunningham and Charles Johns.

National Day of Prayer, October 2

By DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

WHEREAS, we are grateful for the faith in which our fathers found their strength, and for the hope which has guided our Nation from the earliest days; and



MR. EISENHOWER

WHEREAS, in our steady drive for enduring peace among men we must always seek the aid of the Father of mankind; and

WHEREAS, the Congress, by a joint resolution approved April 17, 1952, has provided that the President "shall set aside and proclaim a suitable day each year, other than a Sunday, as a National Day of Prayer, on which the people of the United States may turn to God in prayer";

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, President of the United States of America, do hereby set aside Wednesday, the second day of October 1957, as a National Day of Prayer;

and I call upon our citizens, each according to his own faith, to unite in prayer and meditation on that day.

In constant dependence upon our Creator for the Spiritual gifts required in the conduct of our affairs as individuals and as a Nation, let us now ask for wisdom and strength to fulfill the high purposes for which we are called, seeking the welfare of all peoples through a just and lasting peace across the face of the earth, bringing happiness to the home of the humblest family and to the courts of the Almighty. Let us pray with eager expectation that we may be inspired to sacrifice, at home and abroad, to achieve a life worthy of the children of God, for all men, everywhere.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this eighth day of August in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and fifty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and eighty-second.

(SEAL) DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER
By the President:

JOHN FOSTER DULLES
Secretary of State

● EVANGELIST JESSE S. Reed and Singer Mark Short, Sr., led Linwood Church, Moscow, in a revival September 1-8. Thirty-four united with the church, 15 by baptism. There were 14 rededications. New records were set with a Sunday school attendance of 143 and Training Union, 119. Jim Tillman is pastor.

* * *

● PULASKI COUNTY Association Brotherhood has named new officers for the coming year: C. L. Cowdrey, Jr., president; Edgar Gibson, Gaines Street Church, and Walter Simpson, Gravel Ridge, vice presidents; Joe Pat Clements, Riverside, secretary-treasurer; John Baw, Grace Church, chorister; Gerald Mauldin, Pike Avenue, pianist; B. P. Elmore, leader of Junior RAs and W. F. Sterling, Intermediate RA leader. (DP)

* * *

● TWO THOUSAND are expected to attend a Sunday School Workers Clinic in Little Rock, October 7-11, at Immanuel Church, 10th and Bishop Streets. Included in the faculty of 24 teachers and ministers will be Dr. J. M. Price, former professor at Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth; Dr. Donald Bell, Southwestern Seminary; and Dr. R. G. Lee, pastor of Bellevue Church, Memphis. The clinic is jointly sponsored by the Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., Arkansas Baptist State Convention, and Pulaski County Baptist Association. (DP)

● TWO OF OUR CHURCHES called pastors September 11: Second Church, Fayetteville, called Rev. Ewell Logue, who had been pastor at Farmington. The Farmington church called Rev. Johnny Heskett, a student at the University of Arkansas. Brother Heskett has just come here from Montavello, Mo., where he was pastor while attending Southwest Baptist College, at Bolivar.—Tommie Hinson, Superintendent of Missions, Washington-Madison Association

* * *

● PASTOR HAROLD COBLE of First Church, Cullendale, reports a good revival at Joyce City. There were two additions by letter and a number of rededications.

* * *

● R. WILBUR HERRING celebrated his fifth anniversary as pastor of Central Church, Jonesboro, on September 15. (CB)

* * *

● EVANGELIST JACK Thompson, native of Fort Smith, will lead Trinity Church, Fort Smith, in a revival campaign October 20-30. Mason E. Bondurant is the pastor. (CB)

* * *

● ONLY ONE-SIXTH of the families living in American cities have enough income to justify the purchase of a new house, according to the National Housing Conference, which has estimated that a family would have to have an annual income of \$7,156 to meet the costs of an \$11,450 house.

Ouachita Sets New Enrollment Record

ARKADELPHIA — An all-time high in enrollment at Ouachita College was reached September 12, with 848 registered at the close of the second day of registration.

The previous high for a single semester was in the fall of 1947 when registration reached 831.

The ten-year figures, — including the peak years when veterans flooded the campus — are: 1947, 831; 1948, 830; 1949, 806; 1950, 536; 1951, 459; 1953, 489; 1954, 575; 1955, 622; 1956, 748. Sixteen days remained for students to register for the current semester.

Student housing on the campus is taxed to capacity, including three dormitories for women and the mansion, the three dormitories for men, and the field house. Cottages for ministerial students, the college apartments and the north campus apartments, both for married students, are filled to capacity, Dr. Ralph Kirkman, dean of students, said.

Many students live in the city of Arkadelphia and several married students are renting living quarters in homes and apartment buildings.

Due to the onrush of new students course offerings have undergone considerable change from the original schedule outlined before registration got underway. Many new sections of basic courses have been opened as overcrowded sections appeared imminent.

Five new faculty and staff members have been added by the college, according to Dr. Ralph A. Phelps, Jr., president. They are Dr. Bob Riley, Little Rock, associate professor of history and political science; Richard Wood, assistant professor of business; Mrs. Wood, director of religious activities; Francis McBeth, assistant professor of music and director of the band; Miss Earnestine Kendrick, college dietitian; and A. A. Turner, part-time instructor in physical science.

James Orr was named business manager after serving a year as assistant business manager.

Classes began September 13. Final day for enrolling is September 28.

A native of Little Rock, Dr. Riley attended public schools in Pulaski county and was graduated from Little Rock Central High School. He received the bachelor and MA degrees from the University of Arkansas, and was awarded the doctor-of-education degree from the University last June.

Dr. Riley was twice elected as representative from Pulaski County in the state General Assembly, House of Representatives. He was on the faculty of Little Rock Junior College (now Little Rock University) for three years.

A veteran of World War II, he was wounded in action on the Island of Guam in 1944.

A graduate of Baylor University with a BA degree, Mr. Wood has completed

requirements for the MA degree, which is to be conferred in November at Waco. Mr. Wood, age 26, was born in Mount Vernon, Ill., and received his education in the public schools of that city. He formerly was partner in a printing and stationery company with his father in Illinois. He has served in leadership positions in the Mount Vernon Baptist Church and has been active in civic and service clubs for several years.

Mrs. Wood is a native of Texas and received her education in the public schools of Coleman, Texas. She received the BA degree from Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Texas; MRE degree from Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, and has begun work in English and Education on an MA degree at Baylor University. She has served as Youth Secretary of the Illinois Baptist State Association and represented that state at the 1953 meeting of the Baptist World Youth Alliance in Rio de Janeiro.

The Woodses have a twenty month old daughter, Margaret Lane.

Mr. McBeth received the BM degree from Hardin-Simmons University in 1954 and the MM degree from the University of Texas in 1957.

While a student at Hardin-Simmons he was a member and president of the world-famous Cowboy Band. He was honored as the most outstanding bandman in 1954 and served as student conductor in 1953-54. He served on the staff of the Hardin-Simmons summer band school and played in the Abilene, Texas symphony orchestra.

Several original compositions by Mr. McBeth have been performed by outstanding musical groups, including Concerto for Flute and Band, which was played by the 98th Army Band. His Overture for Orchestra was performed on the Southwestern Symposium of Contemporary Music by the San Antonio Symphony Orchestra. A third original work — Suite on a Biblical Event — was performed by the University of Texas Symphony Orchestra in 1957.

Mr. McBeth will direct the Ouachita College Tiger band.

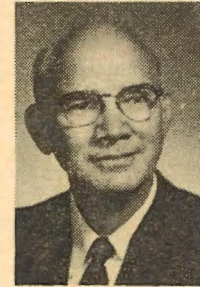
Miss Kendrick was graduated from Ouachita with BS degree in 1954. She majored in home economics and minored in science. Since graduating she has served two years as food supervisor in a woman's dining hall at Pennsylvania State University and an additional year assisting in testing and developing recipes, also at Penn State. During the past summer she worked on an MS degree at the University of Arkansas.

FOR SALE

Pews: 20, 8 ft. long; 11, 10½; 2, 9 ft.; 2, 4½; 2, 3 ft. 2 cushioned chairs; 1 pulpit; 1 Communion Table, made of gum, dark finish, good condition. Write or call Immanuel Baptist Church, Kirby & Division, Texarkana, Ark. Phones: 2-8005; 2-6687.

Jonesboro Convention

SPEAKING AT THE closing service of the 1957 Baptist Student Convention in Jonesboro will be Dr. G. Kearnie Keegan, director of the denomination's student work. Presiding at the meeting



MR. KEEGAN

will be Dale Jones state president and student at the University.

Theme of the convention will be "Christ in You — the Hope." Other speakers and leaders include Miss Josephine Scaggs, Dr. David Garland, Robert L. Smith, Dr. and Mrs. Payton Kolb, Dr. C. W. Caldwell, and others. Four hundred students from twelve Arkansas campuses are expected.

A special delegate to the convention will be a Michigan college representative. For some years the Michigan Baptist work has been associated with the Arkansas Baptist Convention. The Friday and Saturday morning session of the convention will be held at First Church. The Saturday night and Sunday morning sessions will be held at Central Church. October 11-13 is the date for the convention.

20th EDITION

Halley's Bible Handbook

(Formerly known as "Pocket Bible Handbook")

Book OF a Lifetime . . . For a Lifetime
Loved alike by . . . Young and Old
Widely Used in Colleges and Seminaries
Highly Commended by leading Magazines
Specially Useful for S S Teachers

It is an Abbreviated Bible Commentary, with Notes on Books of the Bible, their Historical, Geographical and Chronological Backgrounds, with 75 Illustrative Maps:

Amazing Archaeological Discoveries, Confirming or Illustrating Bible History, with 78 Authentic Photographic Reproductions:

Related Historical Data from the Annals of Babylon, Egypt, Assyria, Persia, Greece and Rome, touching the Bible Story:

How We Got the Bible, Formation of Old and New Testaments, Apocryphal Books, Manuscripts and Early Christian Writings:

An Epitome of Church History, Connecting Bible Times with Our Own; Early Church Fathers, Persecutions, Rise of the Papacy, the Popes, Luther and the Reformation.

Now Contains "Best Bible Verses". There is nothing published, of its size, that has anything like as much practical Biblical information.

[Further particulars sent on request]

4 x 6½ x 1½ inches

956 Pages Cloth Bound \$3.00

Order from your BAPTIST BOOK STORE

303 W. Capitol
Little Rock, Ark.

MUSIC

LeRoy McClard, Director

ONE HUNDRED sixty-eight attended the North Arkansas Music Conference, Sliam Springs Assembly Grounds, making a total of 453 in the two music conferences conducted this year. This represented a gain of 185. Two camps now become a "must" for the Church Music Department. Faculty and sponsors honored David Tyson of First Church, Forrest City, as the Star Camper. John Gardner of Fort Smith Grand Avenue Church was selected as alternate Star Camper. The Star Camper receives an all-expense trip to Ridgecrest Music Conference 1958. Winning honorable mention were: Richard Gibson, Don Buell, Sudie Abbott, and Christine Price. The Junior Star Camper was Paula Ray from Cabot, and the alternate was Jennifer Duncan. Highlight of the conference was the final festival program of music featuring the four choirs and the band.



MR. McCLARD

Eleven Men Hold the Key

September 30, eleven of our finest ministers of music will converge on Little Rock for a most important meeting. A whole day will be spent in training under the direction of a field promotion director, Cliff Holcomb of the Church Music Department, Nashville, Tenn.

This day of preparation will launch what we believe will be our greatest year of progress in the State Music Ministry. These men have been selected to assist every association in our State in the training of Associational Music Officers and the planning of an Associational music ministry for 1958. This week of advance is scheduled for October 28-November 1, one evening for each association. The ministers of music selected are as follows: Willard Burnham, First Church, Crossett; Bill Emmitt, First Church, Conway; Robert Foster, First Church, Springdale; Robert Glenn, Baptist Tabernacle, Little Rock; Gerald Howell, Grand Avenue Church, Fort Smith; Haskell Lindsay, First Church, Forrest City; Charles Mayo, First Church, Benton; Herbert Valentine, First Church, Hope; Joe Walters, First Church, Pine Bluff; Thurman Watson, Pulaski Heights, Little Rock; and Norman Webb, First Church, Warren.

Each minister of music will train four associational music committees and attempt to set out dates and locations of quarterly hymn and carol sings, associational and zone schools of music, graded choir clinics, music education conferences and promote State and Southwide music emphasis.

WMU

Nancy Cooper, Secretary

NORTH AMERICAN WOMEN'S UNION SECOND CONTINENTAL ASSEMBLY TORONTO, CANADA

Yorkminster Baptist Church
November 5-7, 1957

Beginning with Evening Session, Tuesday, November 5, ending with Afternoon Session, Thursday, November 7.

FEATURING: Chairman of the Women's Department of Baptist World Alliance, Mrs. George R. Martin and the continental chairmen: Africa, Mrs. J. T. Ayorinde; Latin America, Mrs. Ester de Silva Diaz; North America, Mrs. M. B. Hodge; Australasia, Mrs. A. C. Church; Europe, Mrs. F. F. Pepper; Asia, Mrs. Ayako Hino.

THEME: The Family Circle of God Outstanding Speakers and Leaders

Mrs. J. T. Ayorinde, Dr. Nannie Burroughs, Mrs. William McMurry, Miss Alma Hunt, Miss Cernice Cofer, Miss Miriam Corbett, Mrs. Harry Priets, Mrs. R. J. Marshall, Miss Violet Rudd, Mrs. R. L. Mathis, Dr. Margaret Applegarth, Mr. Robert S. Denny, Mrs. Edgar Bates.

A tremendous experience awaits those who come to this great assembly.

Send registration with \$2 to Mrs. R. L. Mathis, Baylor University, Waco, Tex.

Make your hotel reservation right away: THE LORD SIMCOE — 140 King Street W., Toronto 1, Ontario, Canada. Single—\$8.50 to \$13.50. Double, Twin Beds—\$12.50 to \$13.50. KING EDWARD SHERATON, 37 King Street E., Toronto 1, Ontario, Canada. Single—\$6.85 to \$11.50. Double, Twin Beds—\$13 to \$14.50. ROYAL YORK HOTEL, 82 Front Street W., Toronto 1, Ontario, Canada. Single—\$9.50 to \$12.50. Double, Twin Beds—\$13 to \$16.

Three or more in room \$3 extra (Folding bed or cot).

Exchange on U. S. dollar: \$1 Canadian equals \$1.06 U. S.

Counselor's Corner

By Dr. E. Lofton Hudson
Depressed Woman

QUESTION: I am thirty-four years of age, have a child twelve and one three and a half. Through the years I have gone to church and tried to live a Christian life.

Now I am depressed. Three months ago I attempted suicide by taking an overdose of sleeping pills. They kept me in a regular hospital for a while but I am still depressed. For the last three months I cannot pray and read my Bible. A psychiatrist wants to put me in a mental hospital and give me electric shock treatments. What should I do?



DR. HUDSON

ANSWER: When I pay good money to see a doctor I try to follow his advice. You can't be doctor and patient both. The truth is, electric shock treatments are a "specific" for depressions. You will need some counseling after you get a little higher up, out of your depression, but listen to your doctor for the time being.

Of course, you can't pray. No person in a deep depression can pray a healthy prayer. If you can pray you are not very depressed. If you are very depressed you can't pray. That's the way it works.

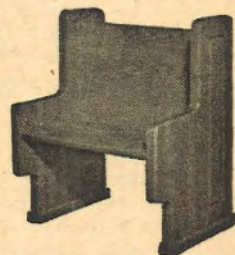
● TWO NEW BUDGETS and two new clubs are welcomed into the Arkansas Baptist family. The new budgets are Holly Springs, Carey Association, Judson Albritten, pastor, and Westfork Church, Washington-Madison Association, John Allen, pastor. The clubs are from First Church, Coy, J. E. Walls, pastor, and Faith Church, Tulot, Dorsey L. Crow, pastor.

Too Busy to Read Baptist State Paper?

"WE HAVE HEARD that some people do not subscribe to their state Baptist paper because they 'don't have time to read it.' Yet thousands of other busy people do read it. No doubt, there is more attractive reading matter than some of what goes into our Baptist paper, but to confess that one does not have (or does not care to take) time to read such a paper is to reveal a sad lack of concern about the cause the paper represents." —THE BAPTIST COURIER

CHURCH PEWS

At
A
Price



Any Church Can Afford
Write or Call
WAGONER BROTHERS MANUFACTURING CO.

Phone 246
BOONEVILLE, ARKANSAS

EVANGELISM

I. L. Yearby, Secretary

Associations and Evangelism

ARKANSAS BAPTIST churches are in the midst of the annual associational meetings. The association is a unit of organized Baptist life which is most vital and important to all our work, because the association is closer to our churches than any other unit of our denomination. We are greatly concerned that our associations give evangelism a good hearing in their annual meetings, and that they adopt the program recommended in the annual report.



DR. YEARBY

Recommendations

It is recommended that: 1. Every association elect an Associational Chairman of Evangelism at the annual meeting. The Chairman of Evangelism and officers of the association should select and recommend to the Associational Board for election a full Steering Committee as soon as possible.

2. Each church in the association set up and use the Church Council of Evangelism is the best possible means of maintaining a perennial evangelism in each church.

3. Each association hold an Evangelistic Clinic this fall or early next spring. Your Department of Evangelism will be glad to assist the associations in preparing a program for such a clinic.

4. Every association conduct an Associational Simultaneous Evangelistic Crusade in '58, that the date for such Crusade be set as early as possible, that each church be requested to participate, and plans for such Crusade be promoted throughout the association.

5. The churches of each association observe "Commitment Day," January 5, 1958. Every member of every church will be asked to sign a commitment card pledging to consistently witness for Christ week by week in '58. Every member will pledge to pray, witness and work to personally win souls to Christ in '58. Every member will be asked to participate in training for personal witnessing under the leadership of the pastor. In connection with this "Commitment Day," every member will be asked to turn in a list of prospects in whom they are interested and for whom they are praying.

6. And urged that all pastors of the churches, Associational Chairman of Evangelism, and members of Steering Committee attend the State-Wide Evangelistic Conference meeting with Second Church, Little Rock, January 27, 28, 29, 1958.

7. The churches of each association agree now that they will participate in the 1959 Nation-Wide Crusade on the date designated for each zone.

TRAINING UNION

Ralph W. Davis, Secretary

Arkansas Winners

EACH YEAR THE Training Union Department sends four young people to Glorieta or Ridgecrest. This year the two sword drill winners were David Brantly of Forrest City and Linda King of Temple Church, Fort Smith. David represented Arkansas at Glorieta and Linda represented Arkansas at Ridgecrest. Both won second place in the Southern Baptist sword drill.



MR. DAVIS

Each year there are two state speak-

ers' tournament winners — one from the 17-18-year group and one from the 19-24-year group. The two winners this year were Lyda Dunsworth of Helena and Dale Jones of Fayetteville. Lyda represented Arkansas at Glorieta and won second place in the Southern Baptist speakers' tournament. Dale represented Arkansas in a wonderful way at Ridgecrest. Ouachita College presented each of this young people with a tuition scholarship.

The sword drill and speakers' tournament finals will be held at the State Youth Convention on April 25, 1958, at Second Church, Little Rock. District tournaments will be held at the eight district conventions the middle of March.

—00—

"The big things in life are never done by fussy people." —Borrowed



Let's keep them

Happy Children

By Providing

HOME — SCHOOL — CHURCH — FOOD — CLOTHING

through our

Thanksgiving Offering

SUPPORTED BY ARKANSAS BAPTISTS PROGRAM

BOTTOMS BAPTIST ORPHANAGE

Monticello, Ark.

H. C. Seefeldt, Supt.

BROTHERHOOD

Nelson Tull, Secretary

RA Leadership Course

THE FULL Basic Royal Ambassador Leadership Course was taught recently to the Royal Ambassador leaders and to the Brotherhood-Royal Ambassador Committee of First Church, Fort Smith. The Brotherhood president was among those taking the course. C. H. Seaton, associate Brotherhood secretary, who served as instructor, reports an excellent response and an effective study of Royal Ambassador procedure.



MR. TULL

Other churches may well follow the example of the Fort Smith Church, which led five hundred of their people to study how better carry through on their responsibilities in all phases of the educational program of their church.

The Basic Royal Ambassador Leadership Course is a 4½-hour study of Royal Ambassador work. It can be taught on the church level to Royal Ambassador leadership in the church, or on the associational level to the Royal Ambassador leaders in the association. The course can be taught in one late afternoon and evening; or it can be taught within two consecutive evenings, or spread out over a whole week.

The Brotherhood Department suggests that all Royal Ambassador leaders, all members of the Royal Ambassador Committee of the Church Brotherhood, and the church Brotherhood president take the Royal Ambassador Leadership Course.

Write the Brotherhood Department for any additional information you may need.

Revival at Humnoke

Your Brotherhood Secretary recently had the opportunity to work with Brother T. S. Cowden in a week's revival at Humnoke at the Baptist Mission there. We enjoyed our labors again with this noble pastor and his good wife in a campaign for souls. The Lord gave 11 additions, 8 coming on profession of faith as candidates for baptism. The Lord also gave some wonderful experiences out on the field. Brother Houston Austin, of First Church of Coy, did an excellent job of leading the singing for the revival.

Brother Cowden, who lives in Little Rock, is one of those hard-working preachers whose persistent labor of love helped to make possible our Royal Ambassador camps in the past summer. He spent several days with hammer and saw; and then served as counselor during the Junior Royal Ambassador Camp. He is an effective worker for the Lord!



"a red hot value" ...

"at a real cool price!"



"That's E-e-e-lectricity!

Nothing else does so much for so little!"

"It's the most ... for the least, man. Crazy! The price of electric service stays low-down, while the price of everything else has been really jumping, man. I mean those prices are really up there!"

No matter what lingo you talk, electricity is the biggest bargain in your budget. Maybe your bill is higher, but that's because you use so much more. The men and women at your electric company are always working to keep electricity your best buy.

Arkansas

POWER & LIGHT

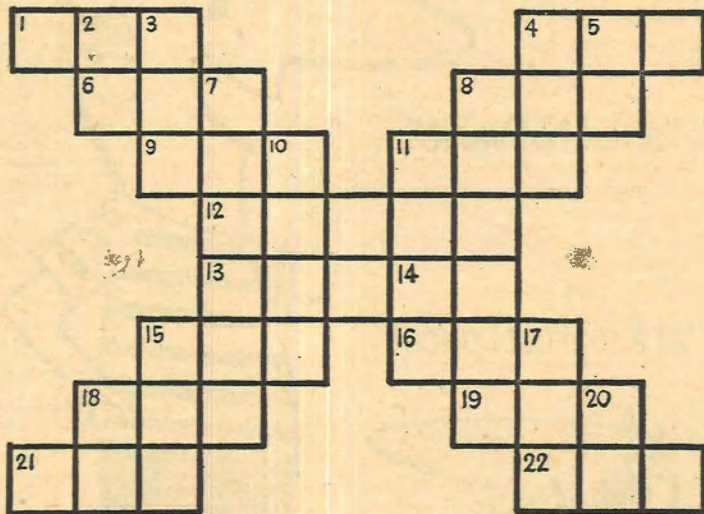
Company



HELPING BUILD ARKANSAS

A Crossword Puzzle

By LEDA PENNINGTON McBRIDE



Across

1. A country, Genesis 4:16
4. A helper of Moses, Exodus 17:10
6. A tribe of Israel, Numbers 32:1
8. Spoil, 2 Kings 3:19
9. To annoy by faultfinding.
11. Edge
12. Grandfather of Abraham, 1 Chronicles 1:26
13. A pronoun
14. A note on the scale
15. Abbreviation of Nehemiah
16. Part of the body, Matthew 10:27
18. A snakelike fish
19. To cut down
21. To make a mistake, Matthew 22:29
22. Place of Daniel's testing, Daniel 6:16

Down

2. Name of a king, 1 Kings 4:19
3. A tribe of Israel, Joshua 19:40
4. Son of Noah, Genesis 5:32
5. Where Abraham lived, Genesis 15:7
7. A prophet, Matthew 24:15
8. Sister of Moses, Numbers 26:59
10. Where the ark was carried, 1 Samuel 5:8
11. A city where Paul preached, Acts 23:11
15. Grandfather of Saul, 1 Chronicles 8:33
17. Used by Moses, Numbers 20:11
18. Son of Judah, Genesis 38:7
20. A pronoun

A Fair Weather Friend

By Alice Whitson Norton

When days are bright and sunny,
As strange as it may be,
I have a little shadow friend
That comes to play with me.

But when by chance the raindrops fall,
I think, beyond a doubt,
He must be of the croupy band
Because he won't come out.

Yet every night on stroke of eight
When I start up the stairs,
My shadow friend walks by my side
And by me kneels for prayers.

But what perplexes me the most,
When I snap off the light,
He's gone! and no one seems to know
Just where he spends the night.

(Baptist Press Syndicate, publishing rights reserved.)

000

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "When your religion gets into the past tense it becomes pretense."

Answers

D E N
 W O M E R R
 F E L
 E A R H E N
 I M I I
 N A H O R N
 M I R N A G
 R I M G A D
 M A R G A D
 H U H O N

(Sunday School Board Syndicate, all rights reserved)

The Baptist state paper is regarded by many pastors as an "associate pastor." Send it every week to every church family.

5,000 CHRISTIAN WORKERS WANTED

to sell Bibles, Testaments, good books, handsome Scripture mottoes, Scripture calendars, greeting cards. Good commission. Send for free catalog and price-list.

George W. Noble, The Christian Co.
Dept. D, Pontiac Bldg., Chicago, 5, Ill.

A Smile or Two

A WOMAN REMINDED her husband that on the morrow they would have been married 20 years, and then suggested: "Why not go out and kill a couple of those young chickens?"

"Why should I," he replied. "It wasn't their fault."

A MAN SIX feet eight inches tall applied for a job as a lifeguard.

"Can you swim?" asked the official. "No, but I can wade like everything."

SHE: "You're wearing your wedding ring on the wrong finger."

2nd She: "Yes, I know. I married the wrong man."

"HAVE ANOTHER slice of cake, my dear?"

"Oh, my goodness, no! I've already had three!"

"Four," corrected her hostess, "but who's counting?"

LEFTY: "That means fight where I come from."

Hefty: "Well, why don't you fight?"
Lefty: "Because I ain't where I come from."

THREE QUARTERS of the earth's surface is covered with water, and only one quarter with land. This proves that a man should spend three times as much time fishing as he does plowing.

DR. ALBERT SCHWEITZER was playing host to several European visitors at the hospital at Lambarene in French Equatorial Africa.

"The heat is unbearable," one visitor moaned. "What's the temperature?"

"I don't know," Schweitzer said: "We don't have a thermometer here." "No thermometer?"

"No," replied the doctor. "If I knew how hot it is I don't think I would be able to endure it, either."

THE OLDER generation thought nothing of getting up at five o'clock in the morning. And, to tell the truth, the younger generation doesn't think much of it, either.

SENSE OF HUMOR: The ability to laugh when someone else takes your best joke and improves on it.

—Charles Ruffing

"WHAT A PITY we cannot exchange our problems. Everyone knows exactly how to solve the other fellow's."

CHILD PSYCHOLOGISTS say the modern child treats his parents with awe. This confirms our own observation. It's always, "Aw, why can't I have the car?" or "Aw, why can't I have bigger allowance?"

—David Gordon
In Quote

Nehemiah, Consecrated Statesman

By DR. RALPH A. PHELPS, Jr.
President, Ouachita College

September 29

Nehemiah 1-2; 4; 6:15; 13

IN LEADERSHIP and godly statesmanship, few men in history compare with one who appears on the scene near the end of the Old Testament story. Son of Jewish captives living in a foreign land, Nehemiah emerges as one of the most dignified leaders God's people ever had.



DR. PHELPS

Little is known of the background of Nehemiah, whose name means "comforted of Jehovah." We are told simply that he was the son of Hacaliah; and when he first steps on the stage he is in Shushan, the capital of Artaxerxes, king of Persia. Nearly 150 years have elapsed since the fall of Jerusalem.

Nehemiah, a descendant of the group carried from their homeland to Assyria by Nebuchadnezzar, held a post of trust and responsibility, that of cup-bearer to King Artaxerxes. It was his duty to taste that which the king ate or drank to be certain that no one was attempting to poison the monarch. He obviously is held in affection and respect by the ruler — a real tribute to a "foreigner" in the Persian court. As the story unfolds, several sides of this remarkable leader become apparent.

Man of Concern

When Hanani, his brother, returned from a visit to Jerusalem and described the dilapidated state of the Jewish sacred city, Nehemiah sat down and wept, mourning for days. The report that the walls were broken down and that the city's gates had been burned filled him with deep depression.

Although he as the king's cup-bearer "had it made," to use modern parlance, and could well have shrugged off the report about his people's homeland with a casual "tough luck" comment, Nehemiah was not the type of man who could enjoy personal comfort and luxury while others were in need. Obviously he had been properly trained as a child to be sensitive to the needs of others, to be patriotic in the highest sense of that term, and to respect the traditions of his people.

So deep was Nehemiah's concern that it showed on his face. When he appeared before Artaxerxes, the king noticed his grief and asked, "Why is your face sad, since you are not sick? This is nothing else but sadness of the heart."

Man of Prayer

It is noteworthy that the first thing Nehemiah did upon learning the state of things in Jerusalem was to go to God in prayer. Nehemiah 1:4-11 contains

his beautiful, heartfelt prayer to God as he asks for forgiveness and mercy for his people. He makes no attempt to justify their conduct but in a spirit of genuine repentance cries, "We have dealt very corruptly against thee, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments, which thou commandest thy servant Moses." His example might be a good one for America to follow.

Nehemiah also prayed for God's direction in his personal life. When the king asked him why he was sad, he prayed to God before answering. He realized the importance of the right reply, and he acknowledged his need for divine guidance in his choice of words.

Yet another example of his praying is seen as he later directs rebuilding of the wall. Faced by obstacles which seemed almost unsurmountable, he cried, "O God, strengthen my hands."

Despite the fact that he was a man of exceptional ability, Nehemiah did not try to walk in his own strength alone. He rightly recognized the source of his power.

Man of Action

While genuinely prayerful, Nehemiah did not leave all of the work up to God but embarked upon a course of action that almost makes us gasp at both its magnitude and audacity. Given the opportunity, he asked Artaxerxes for a leave of absence and for permission to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. This request could well have led to his execution by the all-powerful monarch, for the walls had been destroyed in order to crush the military potential of the Jews. The request could have been construed as a desire to rebuild the military might of a subject people.

Impressed by the earnestness of the request, the king granted it; and immediately Nehemiah asked him for letters of authorization and recommendation in order to facilitate his work. He even asked for a letter to Asaph, keeper of the king's forest, directing him to supply timber for rebuilding the fortress. Artaxerxes amazingly granted all of the requests, and Nehemiah humbly explains his success thus: "The good hand of my God was upon me."

With permission to proceed, Nehemiah went at once to Jerusalem and embarked upon a program which was to result in reconstruction of the walls. The first thing he did was to survey the city — this at night without fanfare, since he was interested in getting a job done and not in gaining glory for himself.

Satisfied that the work could be done, he next called the people together, outlined his plan, and challenged them to build. His own enthusiasm for the task

was contagious, for although the job must have seemed well-nigh impossible with the resources at their command they shouted, "Let us build up the wall of Jerusalem, that we be no more a reproach."

Work started immediately, and chapter three of Nehemiah's book is as splendid an example of a cooperative program as the world has ever seen. The work was divided so that all had a responsibility, and they plunged into the work with a vengeance. One can almost hear the ring of the axe, the thud of the hammer, the blow of the chisel, the heave of exertion as lumber is cut, trimmed, lifted into place, and fastened securely. A city is lifting her once proud head from the rubble heap which has entombed her.

Man of Determination

Nehemiah, like nearly every person who has ever tried to lead out in a building program or anything else, soon encountered opposition which did its best to derail the project. But he was not a man easily discouraged; perhaps he recognized that the only people who do not have opposition are either the dead or the living-dead who are attempting nothing. One by one he overcame the things which tried to thwart the work.

First there was a threatened armed invasion by Sanballat and Tobias, two unruly and uncooperative neighbors. This Nehemiah met by dividing his forces into two groups, one working while the other held swords, spears, bows, and shields in instant readiness for fighting should the enemy descend on them as threatened. Each of the builders had his sword girded by his side while he worked, signals were arranged in case of attack, no man removed his clothes when he slept or took his hand off his weapon. In and out among the people moved Nehemiah, challenging them, "Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your homes." Thus they worked and watched, "from dawn until the stars came out."

Next there were taunts and jeers. Enemies despised and derided the people, and Tobiah ridiculed their efforts by saying that if a fox were to jump up on their stone wall he would break it down. All great projects have their carping critics, some of whom feature themselves as great wits but are only half right.

Then followed lying rumors. Sanballat for the fifth time sent to Nehemiah a letter saying that he had it on good authority that the Jews were planning to rebel and that Nehemiah had ambitions to become their king. No calculated lie could have had in it more potential evil than this, for had the rumor reached the ears of Artaxerxes he would doubtless have been more than a little disturbed by the possibility that his trusted servant was about to lead an uprising against him. Nehemiah flatly denied the rumor, telling his antagonist, "You are inventing these things out of your own mind."

The next matter with which he had to cope was a threat of assassination. Nehemiah was told that at night they were coming to kill him. Obviously the intent of this story was to scare the leader into running away, for he replied, "Should such a man as I flee?" He was not frightened and continued his work.

As a result of his determination and ability, with God's help, to overcome opposition in its many forms, Nehemiah pushed the project; and in the unbelievable time of 52 days the walls were rebuilt. The accomplishments were such that even his enemies stood in open-mouthed amazement.

Man of Reform

Nehemiah was not a man who was satisfied with material accomplishments alone. Having accomplished external renovations, he set about to institute social and religious reforms as well. He appointed the officers necessary for good government; had the people instructed in the Scriptures, about which they were woefully ignorant; put a qualified leader, Ezra, in charge of religious instruction; prompted a great revival among his people; celebrated the Feast of the Tabernacles; observed a national fast, at which the sins of the people were confessed and a new pledge to Jehovah made; persuaded the people to avoid marriage with the heathen; promoted Sabbath observance and support of the temple; and provided for defense of the city.

There is no doubt that Nehemiah, God's volunteer for a great task, succeeded because of his dedication to and dependence on God. The world is crying for more such men in places of civil leadership.



Executive Board STATE CONVENTION



Ralph Douglas, Acting General Secretary; 100 Baptist Building, Little Rock, Ark.

Total Commitment

SOMEONE HAS said, "Life is commitment." Those of us who are Christian would add to that and say, "Life is total commitment to God." But having said that, we might have different opinions as to what constitutes a life totally committed to God. To some, total commitment to God means that an individual joins a Church, where he can get all his ideas and attitudes individually wrapped, scientifically handled, and religiously presented and spiritually sterilized. That kind of a church member becomes a robot without the freedom of choice. He will ultimately be manipulated as the chess player manipulates the little plastic men on a chess board.

To others, total commitment to God means — the walking of a long aisle, giving the preacher a hand and being baptized and after that getting a name added to the church roll.

And yet, there are others who know that total commitment to God means not only repentance from sin and faith in Jesus Christ but also partners with God in carrying the Gospel to all the world. As Christians, these people, totally committed to God, are seeking to obey the command of Jesus when he said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." To these, totally committed children of God, the world without Christ is a world without sense. Therefore, they are inextricably participating in the collective enterprise of winning and enlisting people, through a church, to Jesus Christ.

The Work of the Church

THE FIRST WORK of the Church is to preach the Gospel, make disciples, baptize them, gather them into churches and lead them into the knowledge of Christ. This is following the instructions of our Lord as recorded in Matthew 28:19-20. (Each part of this commission has its definite place. This definite place has been determined by Christ.)

The Gospel, in its first announcement, was the way of life through Jesus Christ. Jesus declared that he was "The Truth, The Way and The Life." Commitment of life to Christ means that a new quality has entered the life. Paul put it this way, "If any man be in Christ he is a new Creature." Teach-

ing them to observe all things means, among other things, that Jesus wants his disciples to make a spiritual response in all Kingdom relationships. Of course, this includes stewardship. Without total commitment of life which means total control of life by Christ there cannot be total control of a disciple's means by Christ.

For the last few years many churches have been promoting world-wide missions, but because the gospel of stewardship has been neglected, our denomination gave less money, percentage-wise to World Missions in 1957 than in 1947. Many of our Baptist people are willing to touch everything with the gospel except the pocket book. This simply means that much of our evangelism has not touched stewardship at all. But it is high time for us to start mixing a life-wide gospel with our world-wide emphasis. Our people should be told that something should happen to "theirs" because of what happens, by God's Grace, to them.

Our churches and our denomination are trying to put on a world-wide Mission Crusade through the Cooperative Program with only \$2.34 of every \$10 tithe. This means that our people keep \$7.66 of every \$10 tithe. In other words, here we are with a world-wide program hindered and retarded by the lack of life-wide stewardship on the part of many Baptist church members. Consequently, the proposed Arkansas Baptist Convention Cooperative Budget for World Missions next year is \$1,500,000, which is less than Arkansas Baptists will spend for tobacco.

A Program of Commitment

WE MUST ALL agree, this picture does not prove that our approach to the stewardship problem has been successful. Our leaders have made speeches, the churches have promoted study courses, for credit, stewardship revivals, for money, and departments have been organized for promotion. The non-tithers have been stigmatized, criticized, and ostracized, but all of these things have not produced the desired results — "Every Baptist a Tither." Our churches need money, of course, but they need much more. Our people need a new spirit of loyalty, backed up with sacrificial devotion. So, any stewardship approach must be spiritual in its objective.

After many approaches, Southern Baptists are on the right track again. The Forward Program of Church Finance is a step in the right direction. Through this plan a campaign is con-

ducted that begins on a spiritual level and ends on a spiritual level. It is not primarily a plan to raise money, but a way to help God raise his children.

The churches that have used the plan have experienced a great awakening. They have increased the tithers by 87.38 per cent, the amount of money to church budgets 62.15 per cent. It is based on the doctrine that stewardship is more than dollars and cents and far more than mechanical gadgets and psychological gimmicks. Its aim is to produce dedicated finance by deepening the spiritual lives of the givers.—Ralph Douglas

Cooperative Program Receipts

THE TOTAL Cooperative Program Budget for this year is \$1,497,771.95. Through August 31, first eight months of 1957, the Treasurer had received \$904,610.04. The budget requirements are \$998,514.56 for this period. So, beginning September 1, we were short \$94,104.52 or 9.5 per cent. We have a balance of \$593,161.91 to be given during September, October, November and December. This means that our churches must give an average of \$148,290.47 per month. Considering the fact that the churches have averaged only \$113,076.25 per month, through the Cooperative Program, for the first eight months, it may seem fantastic and absurd to expect an increase of 31 per cent or \$35,214.22 per month for these next four months. But somewhere back in life we were told to "trust the Lord and tell the people." We are doing that now, hoping that Arkansas Baptists can and will meet the challenge.

Really, this task is not insurmountable. If Baptists in Arkansas will average giving fifty cents per month per member, through the Cooperative Program, between now and January 1, we can wipe out the deficit, satisfy all the budget needs and glorify our Christ. Is it expecting too much of God's people, called Arkansas Baptists, to do that? In the light of what God has done, and is doing for us, the answer is "No."

There are a few essential elements in meeting this worthy objective: constant and continual prayer for guidance, invincible determination, united effort in enthusiastic approach, careful planning, combined with a willingness to try. Let's really be cooperative Baptists during the next four months! What do you say?!!!!—Ralph Douglas



DR. DOUGLAS

N 22-A-B
 MRS T A SPENCER JR
 210 BELMONT DR
 N LITTLE ROCK ARK